

Zhou Documents

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Project Introduction: Sky Painting Project

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Z GALLERY



Sky Painting Project

The *Sky Painting Project*, by Chinese artist Niu Bo, was first performed in 1992 in Japan. The works on display here include photographs of his sky painting performances in America in 1995. This project entails creating a series of paintings in the sky over historical features which have specific meaning to people all over the world.

Sky Paintings are drawings in the sky ; an airplane leaves a visible formation up to 4000 meters in its trail, by mixing a special oil to absorb the natural light. Niu Bo uses given elements such as the sun, the moon, the clouds, important historical features and architecture to collaborate with his artistic composition. It is site specific art work and it occurs in a public space to recall in people the connection of the contemporary world to ancient longings.

The *Sky Painting Project* reminds people of what they have forgotten in modern times and where their dreams can still lead them.

Sky Painting is ephemeral; after a few minutes, the picture will disappear into the atmosphere; Niu Bo believes that all in this world belongs to the great cosmos; all things born or created will return to the cosmos; in this temporality, he feels a great beauty. So the picture can be enjoyed for as long as it remains visible.

The *Sky Painting Project, New York City* was performed on October 12, 1995 above the Statue of Liberty. It was performed in Boston on November 6, 1995 above Feneuil Hall, Market Place.