

Fig.169 Screenshot of a month of air quality. On my website the data is visually simulated changing the transparency of a white frame over a period of 12 minutes; the higher the value the darker this frame gets. In my memory theater the data is coupled to a microprocessor which activates a smoke machine; the higher is the value the longer it is activated.

POLLUTION 01

Every morning I grade the overall air quality I experienced the previous day. In order to do so I use the following values: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12 corresponding to 0%, 20%, 40%, 60%, 80%, 100% of what I perceive to be the level of pollutants in the air. These values are just an estimate of what I have perceived to be my exposure with pollution throughout the day. In this respect it is not a scientific picture of this exposure but rather an indicator of daily peaks. Only the higher peak is reported; if throughout the day I have not been exposed to any pollution but in a period of 20 minutes I was out in a lot of traffic, what gets reported is the level of pollution I have experienced in this latter part. The values are later recreated in a physical context sequentially and for 30 seconds each by a smoke machine; the higher the value, the more smoke gets emitted. In this sense the smoke acts like the incense given out by a priest, yet it is odorless, translating visually the level of pollution which I have been subjected to in the course of my life project. Giving these daily grades I became like an old fashioned teacher reading students' essays and coming up with grades without any assessment guideline to assist in the grading. In other words I became confident in knowing what the level of pollution I was exposed to was.