

TampaPublicArt



Project Title: *Slurb*
Artist: Concept/ direction/animation: Marina Zurkow; Music by Lem Jay Ignacio
Year Completed: 2009
Materials: Animation, christie projector, blue ray DVD + player
Commissioning Agency: City of Tampa, Public Art Program, and Friends of Tampa Public Art for Lights On Tampa 2009
Location: St. Pete Times Forum, www.tampagov.net, www.lightsontampa.org, www.tampabay.com/nie/lights/



Marina Zurkow's installation was one of several commissioned for Lights On Tampa 2009. Lights On Tampa is a biennial program of the City of Tampa, Public Art Program whose mission is to bring free access to artistic excellence. Artists were selected from an international call to artists from a jury that included writer and cultural critic, Dave Hickey; Anne Pasternak, Director of Creative Time; and Jerry Saltz, Art

Critic for *New York Magazine*. During its 3 week run, nearly a million people experienced Lights On Tampa.

For Lights On Tampa, *Slurb*, the 18 minute animation loop with soundtrack, was projected onto a blank wall of the St. Pete Times Forum with the final projection approximately 33' high x 60' wide. The soundtrack, with lyrics containing scientific names of jellyfish species, was pumped into the outdoor plaza of the

Forum for viewers to enjoy. *Slurb* also has a strong online component with the animation permanently available on the city of Tampa's website, the St. Petersburg Times News In Education website and www.lightsontampa.org. Zurkow also produced *Slurb* as a single-channel animation for use on the City of Tampa Television station which runs periodically on CTTV.

The animated, carnivalesque tailgate party of *Slurb* loops

and stutters, like a vinyl record stuck in a groove. In *Slurb*, people have been forced to move onto the water, where the jellyfish now have dominion. This animation recalls the satirical illustrations of J.J. Grandville's where animal-headed humans tell social narratives; and J.G. Ballard's prescient 1962 novel *Drowned World* where inhabitants of a flooded world feel the tug of the sun, and dream of a return to their amniotic past. For more on *Slurb*, visit www.lightsontampa.org.

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