**Orbi**, ecological landmark

My work was included in the exhibition: *Transcapes, Artificial Nature I, Digitally mediated environments*, UTS Gallery, Sydney, 31 October - 23 November 2006. The exhibition focused on the use of digital technologies as creative tools for rethinking art. It was co-ordinated by the Centre for Digital Design: a research centre focusing on the study and development of dynamic immersive information systems and the creative use of digital media. Additionally, a symposium on the subject of digitally mediated environments was organised simultaneously to highlight recent trends in digital design, art and architecture.

Transcapes provided the opportunity to be exhibited with renowned architectural practices including: OceanD (UK/USA); PTW Architects + Arup + CSCEC (AUS/PRC); Chris Bosse (AUS/DE).

*Orbi*: Design, 3D, Animation by Frank Minnaert.

This practice-based research project was developed for an international architectural competition organised by Central Glass Co. Ltd - Shinkenchiku-sha Co. Ltd in Japan interested in architectural investigations regarding new types of landmark.

Internationally renowned landmarks have either been the expression of myth, religion, technology or power. *Orbi* is an ecological landmark of a new kind, flying geostationary above cities. Its morphological characteristics are derived from the properties of water, air and the living organisms they generate. The morphological changes are synchronised with the variations of water (tidal levels) and air (wind, atmospheric pressure). Through its cyclical transformations *Orbi* could be seen either as a positive award or a negative utopia, an ecological mutant or the embodiment of the ecological threat.
SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Images from the video (3D animation) displayed in the exhibition:
TRANSCAPES
ARTIFICIAL NATURE
DIGITALLY MEDIATED ENVIRONMENTS

Opening Tuesday 31 Oct 6-8pm

AandU Studio
James Angus
Chris Bosse
Michael Davis
Ernest Edmonds
Dale Jones-Evans
LAB
Lev Manovich
Jon McCormack
mDa. Lab
Minimaforms
Frank Minnaert
OceanD
PTW+Arup+CSCEC
studioWSH
Young & Popadich

31 OCTOBER - 24 NOVEMBER
MON - FRI 12-6PM

UTS: GALLERY
Level 4, 702 Harris Street Ultimo
02 9514 1652  utsgallery@uts.edu.au
www.utsgallery.edu.au

Transcapes exhibition is curated by Steve Hatzellis on behalf of the Centre for Digital Design, contact steve.hatzellis@uts.edu.au
Catalogue of the exhibition:

**Front Matter**

- Title: Catalogue of the exhibition
- Date: 2000
- Publisher: UTS Gallery

**UTS Gallery**

- Address: University of Technology, Sydney
- Contact: gallery@uts.edu.au

**Exhibition Details**

- Title: Digital Landscapes
- Date: 1995
- Location: UTS Gallery, Sydney

**Entry for Digital Landscapes**

- Title: Landscape Architecture and the Computer
- Artist: [Identification]
- Date: [Date]
- Description: [Description of work]

**Exhibit Entry for Digital Landscapes**

- Title: Virtual Landscapes
- Artist: [Identification]
- Date: [Date]
- Description: [Description of work]

**Additional Entries**

- Title: [Further entries as per catalogue]
- Artist: [Identification]
- Date: [Date]
- Description: [Description of work]

**Conclusion**

- Title: [Conclusion of catalogue]
- Artist: [Identification]
- Date: [Date]
- Description: [Description of work]

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**Additional Notes**

- Contact: For further information, please contact the UTS Gallery. 
- Venue: UTS Gallery, University of Technology, Sydney.
Postcard of the exhibition:

Photo of the exhibition (Steve Hatzellis pictured)

Link to UTS:Gallery archives:
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leads him on this path. Once a project crosses his desk, his creativity springs to action. "While I am gathering a maximum of information about a project, I am flooded and bombarded by ideas, concepts, images, references, meaning, forms, materials, memories, visions, sensations, colours, music and words. One could think the process is to go step-by-step, adding one idea after another, but I have the feeling that I go the other way around. It is more like reorganising something unstable and chaotic in order to reveal what the project is," he enthuses.

Minnemietz won his job as selecting and processing the gems from this jungle of information in order to find the most relevant idea for the design process. As can be clearly seen with the award-winning Nimby, he looks for places, people and means to form part of his design answers. Following his win last year, Minnemietz is determined to build on his success and slowly create a reputable and inventive design firm. This year his firm will focus on small-scale projects, such as houses and commercial projects based in Australia as well as other design projects. Minnemietz himself will focus on enjoying his new country. "I have a lot of different expectations and I could fill the page with them," he says. "But spontaneously I would say that I am looking forward to finding people who share my way of thinking and with whom I could work on larger projects, such as public spaces, or creating in situ art installations, writing scripts for TV and, quite unexpectedly, camping. I discovered camping in Australia, which led me to develop a new concept about the question of camping. Maybe I should enter the next IDEA Awards competition with this project?"

In 2007, the IDEA Awards will add another category. So if you are inspired by Minnemietz's dedication to concept, you might consider entering this new category of Designer/Designer Practice of the year. This category publishes and awards conceptual and prototype Australian designs for products of relevance to the interior. Previously unpublished work developed and completed between January 2006 and June 2007 within Australia, will be accepted for entry. Ideas will be awarded in this category; however, unlike the purely conceptual category, the judges will also be looking for practical manufacturing potential.

For more information on Frank Minnemietz and his work, or to get in contact with him visit www.frankminnemietz.com.

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Left: Ooli - Ecological Landmark: The morphological characteristics of Ooli are derived from the properties of water, air and the living organisms they generate. The morphological changes are synchronised with the valence of water and air.

Right: Ooli - Ecological Landmark: Through its cyclical transformations Ooli could be seen either as a positive asset or a negative utopia, an ecological mutant or the embodiment of the ecological threat.