

# STEPHEN WIRTZ GALLERY

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JESUS AGUILAR

*No Entropy*

Exhibition dates: February 15-March 24, 2007; Opening reception for the artist, Thursday, March 1, 5:30-7:30 PM

Stephen Wirtz Gallery presents *No Entropy*, an exhibition of video installations by Jesus Aguilar.

Aguilar's video works investigate the existence of human codes within the digital realm, revealing how contemporary technology renders information and knowledge omnipresent yet fleeting. Through naïve inspections of the tools of technological presentation, such as subverting the prescribed function of a computer screen, Aguilar questions the status of traditional forms of communication in contemporary culture, where technology increasingly mediates our experiences.

The centerpiece of the exhibition is a large video projection titled *Dante's Inferno in 8 minutes 34 seconds*, which presents the entire first cantica of Dante's *Divine Comedy* in a rush of scrolling, nearly indecipherable text. By showcasing this iconic work compressed into ungraspable digital space, Aguilar examines how technology is changing the way we relate to our history and heritage, while also questioning how simple marks can become an epic poem. Other works in the exhibition include Aguilar's artist statement, scrolled letter by letter on a small monitor, and *ABC, 123*, a recording of his handwriting on the surface of a computer screen. *I Mean What I Say* simultaneously projects a computer screen and the artist's hands as he methodically types the title phrase using alternate finger positions on the keyboard.

Jesus Aguilar was born in San Lucas de O'Campo, Durango, Mexico, and currently lives in San Jose. He received his MFA in video, multimedia and photography from Mills College in 2006 and his BFA from San Jose State University in 1999. In 2006 he received the MFA Studio Residency Award from the Headlands Center for the Arts and the Herringer Prize for Excellence in Studio Art. This is Aguilar's first exhibition with Stephen Wirtz Gallery.

Stephen Wirtz Gallery is located at 49 Geary St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl., San Francisco, CA 94108, (415) 433-6879, Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 9:30-5:30, Saturday 10:30-5:30.

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