

Autonomous InterGalactic Space Program

Discussing space exploration to reflect on the lacks and emergency situations on earth, from the point of view of indigenous communities



Visible Award 2013 - Longlisted Rigo 23's proposal is to investigate ideas of future and progress by working with marginalized Indigenous communities that have survived for centuries within dominating narratives that have arrived from afar. Narratives created by nation-states and their history producing apparatuses, which crush the pre-existing narratives, and with it, the sense of place the survivors have in their own future and past. The project entitled Autonomous InterGalactic Space Program (AISP), aims to talk about Space Exploration "the ultimate frontier" from the vantage point of those who lost so much right here on Earth, to Space Travellers of past centuries. Not just land and sovereignty, but also contact with their own collective memory. Their scholars killed, their languages made illegal, the knowledge of previous generations taken away through war, disease and pillaging. AISP is a cultural forum in which some of these suppressed histories "of the past and future" are placed at center stage, contributing towards a better understanding of the present. There are two social spheres in this project "the people and histories at its development, conception and fabrication phase; and those who encounter the resulting art exhibit, talks, articles, photographs and news items resulting from, or included in the exhibition. AISP takes the form of a corridor with small side environments leading to a larger space housing a Planetarium. This planetarium consists of a large corn shaped space ship, a satellite, a moon and a sun, dozens of paintings and embroideries, video and audio recordings "all produced in close collaboration with Mayan painters, weavers, carpenters, singers and activists from the Southern Mexican state of Chiapas. The project development that is proposed for the Visible Award consists in bringing the AISP to the autonomous Maori territories of the Tuhoe, in the central high mountains of New Zealand's North Island. AISP has the potential of contributing to the ongoing struggle towards Indigenous Sovereignty "taking place also in the poetic realm. Given the contemporary condition of eroding Citizen rights in our nation-states, we stand to learn from the kind of citizenship envisioned by contemporary Indigenous leaderships around the world.

Project author or developer:
Rigo 23

Where:
MX / Mexico / Tuxtla Gutierrez

Website:
www.visibleproject.org/blog/award/award-2013/rigo-23/

