New Media
Earthworks

Study Guide

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How to study

- Create your own study guide version without text....use the PPT version online at the portal or online.

- Know artist, title, and decade for each work
Land Art

Andy Goldsworthy’s leaf installations near streams
(1980s-90s)
Robert Smithson

Robert Smithson, Asphalt Rundown, Rome, Italy, 1969 (see QT video online also)
Robert Smithson, Partially buried woodshed (1970)

Smithson: ...I took 20 cartloads of earth and piled them on this woodshed until the central beam cracked. There was a problem from one of the local papers. They didn't really see that as a very positive gesture, and there was a rather disparaging article that went under the heading "It's a Mud Mud Mud World."
Spiral Jetty, Robert Smithson, 1970
Location: Great Salt Lake, Utah.
Materials: local black basalt rocks and earth.
Surrounded Islands

Christo and Jean-Claude, Surrounded Islands, Miami, FL, 1980-83.
Running Fence, 5.5 meters (eighteen feet) high, 40 kilometers (twenty-four and half miles) long, extending East-West near Freeway 101, north of San Francisco, on the private properties of fifty-nine ranchers, following rolling hills and dropping down to the Pacific Ocean at Bodega Bay, was completed on September 10, 1976.
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Richard Long, England 1968, lines made by walking–
http://www.richardlong.org/
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James Turrell, Roden Crater, AZ (1995–present)
Jackie Brookner,  
Prima Lingua  
1996-2002

Prima Lingua (First Language/First Tongue) is a monstrously large tongue that licks the polluted water in which it stands. The mosses, liverworts and other plants that live on the surface are a fascinating microcosm that help clean air as well as filter the water. Mosses are extremely efficient biochemical filters that are capable of absorbing even heavy metals, while the porous concrete substructure physically removes particulates. Fish, snails, and plants live in the water that is pumped over the tongue. The piece is a visible image of transformation, revealing decay as part of creation.
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Andrea Zittel, Various AZ Six Month Seasonal Uniforms, "1992-95."
Theo Jansen

-imaginary wind-powered animals, Ars Electronica 2005
Esther Polak, Ieva Auzina und RIXC - (Latvia/Netherlands), MILKproject (2004)
Eduardo Kac
Free Alba, 2001-2002
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Ackroyd and Harvey

Left: church with grass interior, right: Photosynthesis (Testament), 1998
One tree (2000)

OneTree is actually one hundred tree(s), all clones of a single tree. These clones were originally exhibited together as plantlets at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, in 1999. This was the only time they were seen together. In the spring of 2001, the clones were planted in public sites throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.
Joseph Beuys

Joseph Beuys, 7,000 Oaks, "Documenta 7" (1982)
Free Range Grain
Critical Art Ensemble • Beatriz da Costa • Shyh-shiun Shyu

Free Range Grain, Installation view, Schim Kunsthalte, Frankfurt. Free Range Grain is designed to be a live, performative, conceptual art project designed for a European audience. CAE’s first goal in this project is to examine the relationship between commodity and borders in a global economy. The EU is often perceived as both open and yet locked down (“Fortress Europe,” as it is often called). Our position is that the EU tends toward the global (smooth space). Since processed corn and soy products are being imported into Europe in large quantities, we are quite skeptical that the EU will be able to maintain its borders against the “contaminated” commodities.
Mierle Laderman Ukeles

Touch Sanitation was completed in June 1980. It involved more than 8,500 workers in the New York City Department of Sanitation. The performance itself lasted for a duration of eleven months. Her intention was "to face and shake hands" with each one of the 8,500 sanitation works while saying the words: "Thank you for keeping New York City alive."
Title: Ocean Landmark
Materials: 17,000 coal fly-ash blocks
Date: 1980
Location: Atlantic Ocean, 40 miles from the New York Harbor
Mel Chin

Revival Field Pigs Eye Landfill, Saint Paul, Minnesota, (1990–93)
Sustainable (2004), by David Birchfield, Kelly Phillips and David Lorig) is a dynamic, autonomous, robotic installation that is comprised of a network of seven independent water gongs.
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Credits
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