

MASKING THE ALLEY

Machiyo Fujii + Daniel Jost + Heli Ojamaa
+ Patrick Pirtle + Dian Zhang

**Re-imagining graffiti removal,
from gray to PLAY!**

Today, Seattle's alleys are a graffiti war zone. After decades of battle, they're covered with gray scars - - making them gloomy and uninviting. When graffiti is associated with gang activity, there is a good argument to remove it. But must the process of painting over leave the city so bleak? What if the city used a more colorful palette of paints to remove the graffiti? Our alleys would become abstract paintings and graffiti removers would become artists themselves. This installation confronts that idea by using different colored masking tape to re-envision these gray scars. The public was given the authority to take back the walls of the alley by creating what they felt would be appropriate as a response to the graffiti removal using the colorful tape.

More photos at:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/104131007@N03/>



Image: Dian Zhang

Date night - forget the movies!



Image: Patrick Pirtle

Testing hatch pattern technique



Image: Daniel Jost

Messing with the Stranger



Image: Daniel Jost

View of alley intervention entrance



Image: Dian Zhang

Taking his art to the streets



Image: Daniel Jost

Tape runs with paint



Image: Daniel Jost

Beautifying the post office



Image: Daniel Jost

First installation exploration

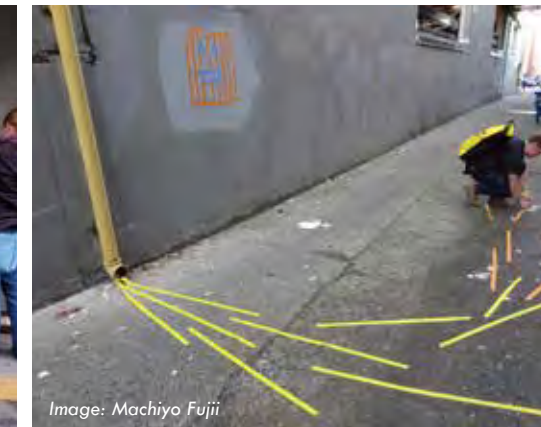


Image: Machiyo Fujii

Matt's masterpiece

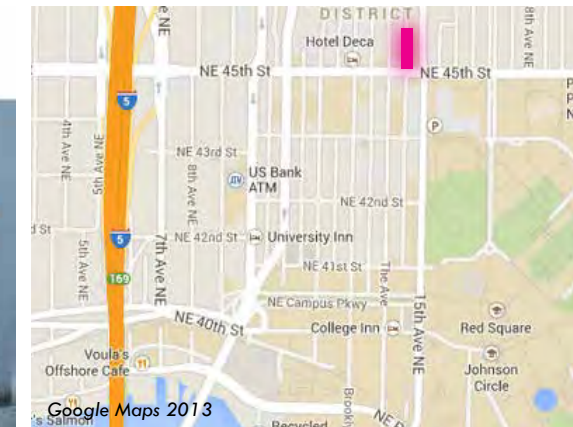


Image: Heli Ojamaa

3D participant signature



Post intervention - the installations continue



Google Maps 2013

■ SITE: Alley btw University Way & 15th Ave NE