

HECTOR CANONGE



August 5th - September 3rd, 2010

58 Gallery

58 Coles Street
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(PATH Train to Groove St. 10 min walk on Newark Ave.)

Opening Reception: Thursday, August 5, 7-12 pm

"**epistolar**" is a new-media project that explores notions of memory and story telling in the creation of a challenging archeology of family and history. Through various narratives extracted from personal letters, found footage, and photographs, the interactive installation intertwines myths and facts, stories and histories, visuals and text to re-create an account about life during and after the dictatorial regimes in Latin America.

The installation consists of three identical photo albums. Each album is labeled with a corresponding image of the father and mother of the artist, and the artist himself. The albums contain similar sets of picture reproductions with corresponding barcode tags adjacent to each page. Audiences are invited to open any album, in any order, flip through the pages, and scan the tags to trigger a visual text narrative projected on the screen. As visitors spend some time with the piece, they realize that there are three narratives, three different points of view, that compliment, add, and sometimes contradict one another based on the story behind the picture.

Hector Canonge lives and works in NYC where he studied literature, filmmaking and Integrated Media Arts. His work incorporates the use of digital media, commercial technologies, physical environments, cinematic, and performance narratives. His projects have been exhibited at the Queens Museum, Jersey City Museum, Bronx Museum, and at NY Studio Gallery, Exit Art, Peter Fingesten Gallery, Y Gallery, Topaz Arts, Gallery Aferro, Paul Robeson Gallery, Bronx Blue Bedroom Project, and El Taller Latino Americano. He has been commissioned by NYC Department of Transportation, Queens Council on the Arts, Queens Museum, Artists Unite, Association of Hispanic Arts, and has received funding awards from

NYSCA, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council –MCAF Program, JP Morgan through Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance, and the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone. Canonge has been the recipient of Harvestworks Scholarship Program, a visiting media artist at New Jersey City University, and resident artist at Atlantic Center for the Arts, AIM 27 Program at BXMA, Newark New Media at City Without Walls, and Dyson College of Arts and Sciences at Pace University. His work has been reviewed by the NY Times, ART FORUM, NY Daily News, Manhattan Times, Queens Chronicle, Queens Tribune, El Diario, and on online publications like NYRemezcla and Turbulence. Canonge has taught multimedia at New York City College of Technology, CUNY; Web technologies in the Film & Communications Program at the New School University; media production at Brooklyn Community Access Television, BCAT; and Stop Motion Animation at Bronx River Arts Center. As part of his community initiatives, he started the monthly Queens' LGBT film program CINEMAROSA, the collective A-Lab with its monthly Forums, and is the co-founder of QMAD, Queens Media Arts Development, a non-profit arts organization.

More information about the artist: www.hectorcanonge.net

Gallery hours and information: www.fifty8.com