Spotlight on the Airport Art: Living Lenses

by Sacramento Metro Arts Commission on Wednesday, November 23, 2011 at 11:08am ·

LIVING LENSES: "Your Words Are Music to My Ears," Interactive sound installation, Concourse

Shaped like a French horn, the sculpture by Living Lenses (Louise Bertelsen and Po Shu Wang) stands approximately 8 feet high and is made of polished stainless steel. A small shelf jutting out of the sculpture holds a computer. Passengers are allowed to use the computer to send messages. When a message is sent, the text is converted to music that emanates from the sculpture. Part free Wi-Fi terminal and part musical instrument, the artwork allows web-serving passengers to entertain close by passengers with an instant literary—



based musical composition. The content of the artwork is a never-ending evolution of musical compositions that is never the same twice.

About Living Lenses (Po Shu Wang & Louise Bertelsen): Artists Pho Shu Wang and Louise Bertelsen have collaborated as Living Lenses since 1999. Their goal in Public Art is to invite the public to become co-creators of the artwork content. Most of their works, therefore, are tangible mechanisms that allow active participation and are capable of evolving with time. They have installed permanent public art pieces in many locations, including: The Calabasas Branch Library, San Jose CA; Little Sugar Creek Greenway, Charlotte, NC; EV Park, San Diego, CA; and the 7th Avenue Light rail Transit System, Calgary, Canada.