



**THE LONG DIVISION**

## The Long Division

Kevin Cooley and Phillip Andrew Lewis

The Long Division, a multi-channel video installation, reconsiders the New York skyline by producing a 180 degree live view of the sky above 55 5th Avenue. Eight CCTV cameras mounted on the roof look outward to trace a line between the Freedom Tower and Empire State Building. Eight monitors in the lobby receive a distinct channel of the larger interconnected sweeping view. Simultaneously looking both north and south, The Long Division reorients the viewer within Manhattan and creates a new, yet impossible, view of this well-known path.

The absurdity of the technical and physical feats needed to accomplish this installation is not lost on the artists; a viewer could simply step outside the lobby to see nearly the same skyline. However, the lens of each camera frames the sky, allowing the artists to tune into a specific view. It removes the clamor of New York City from the equation and creates a situation in which one can concentrate on a single thing, a rare moment in New York. However, this rare, focused moment comes per the mediation of a screen. The feed is live but will not be recorded, rendering each moment on screen as ephemeral and fleeting as those in the sky.

The Long Division takes its title from the standard method for dividing multi-digit numbers by hand. It also references the North-South and East-West divisions of New York. Both the mathematical exercise and the urban mapping allows for an easier, more basic understanding of a larger sum or space. The Long Division continues Cooley and Lewis' collaboration In the Valley of the Sun, presented at Sonoma State University in California. In the Valley of the Sun used CCTV cameras and flat screen TVs in the shape of an arch to create a simulation of daylight by tracing a 180 live view of the sky from sunrise to sunset.

The Long Division is the sixth solo exhibition by Kevin Cooley and Phillip Andrew Lewis and their first in Manhattan. The two artists met and began collaborating together while Artists-in-Residence at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Art (Omaha, NE). Their first collaborative commission, Through the Skies for You, won the 3-D Award at ArtPrize 2013 (Grand Rapids). Their work has been shown at Kopeikin Gallery (Los Angeles), Zeitgeist Gallery (Nashville), Pierogi Gallery (Brooklyn), Sonce Alexander Gallery (Los Angeles), Kendall College of Art and Design (Grand Rapids), and Sonoma State University (Rohnert Park).

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The Long Division also exists on the Internet. To view the live feed, visit the project's website: [thelongdivision.net](http://thelongdivision.net)



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**Time Equities Inc**

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### **The Long Division**

eight 39-inch flatscreen TVs  
displaying live video from eight roof  
mounted closed-circuit cameras

2015





**The Long Division**  
details from gallery  
2015



### **The Long Division**

eight 39-inch flatscreen TVs  
displaying live video from eight  
roof mounted closed-circuit cameras

2015





**The Long Division**

detail: cam 4 on 5.14 @ 12:51pm

2015



## The Long Division

detail of cameras mounted on the  
building's roof

2015



**The Long Division**

detail: cam 2 on 6.27 @ 5:44pm

2015







## The Long Division

detail: cam 1 on 6.27 @ 5:42pm

2015

