

**Team Asterisk**

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# Inter-Island Communication

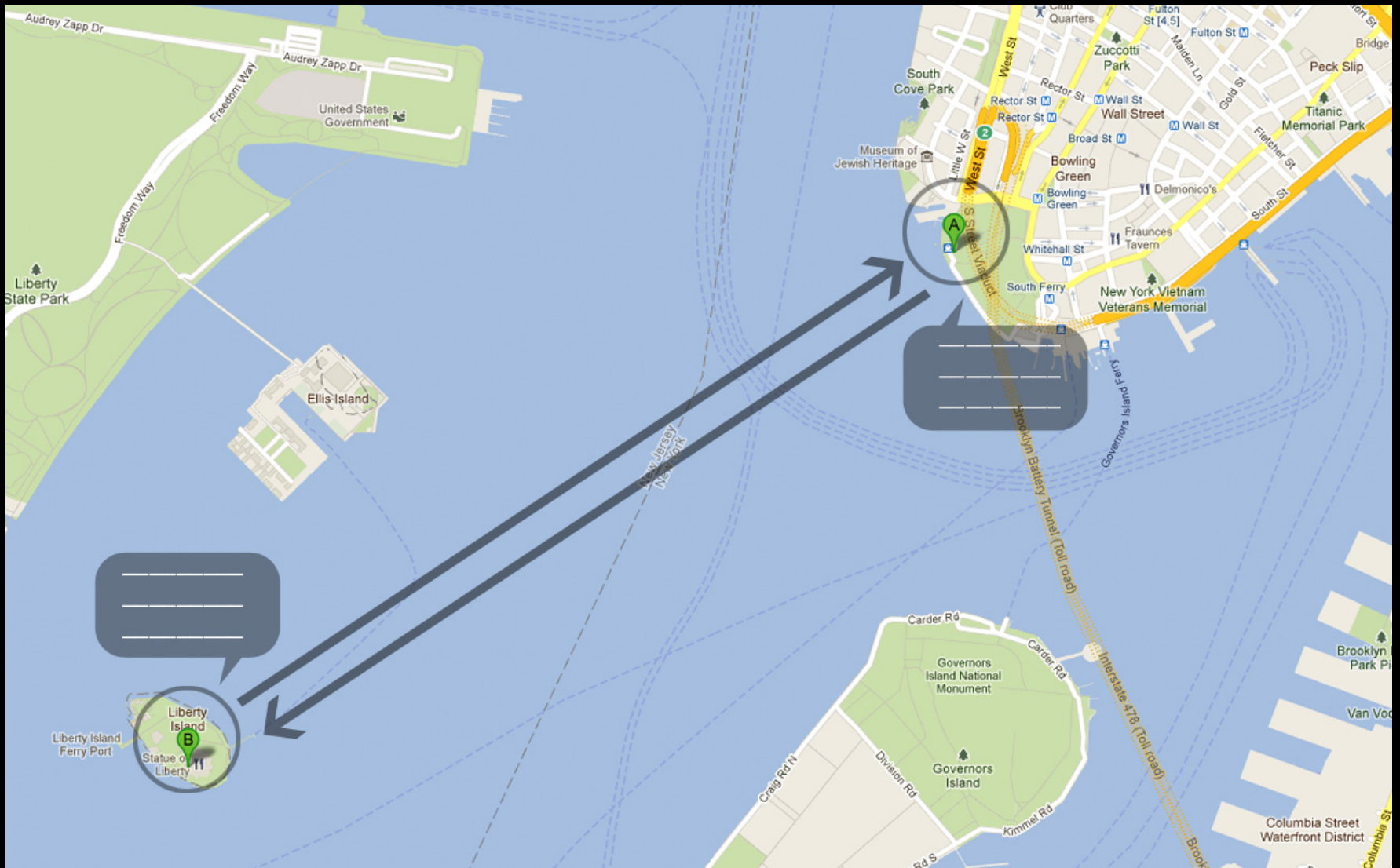
## Concept:

Inter-Island Communication Project explores non-digital ways of communication in our highly digitalized culture. While in today's society we rely on instantaneous loop of communication, our project aims to reject these highly digital methods and brings time and space back in the equation.

## Method:

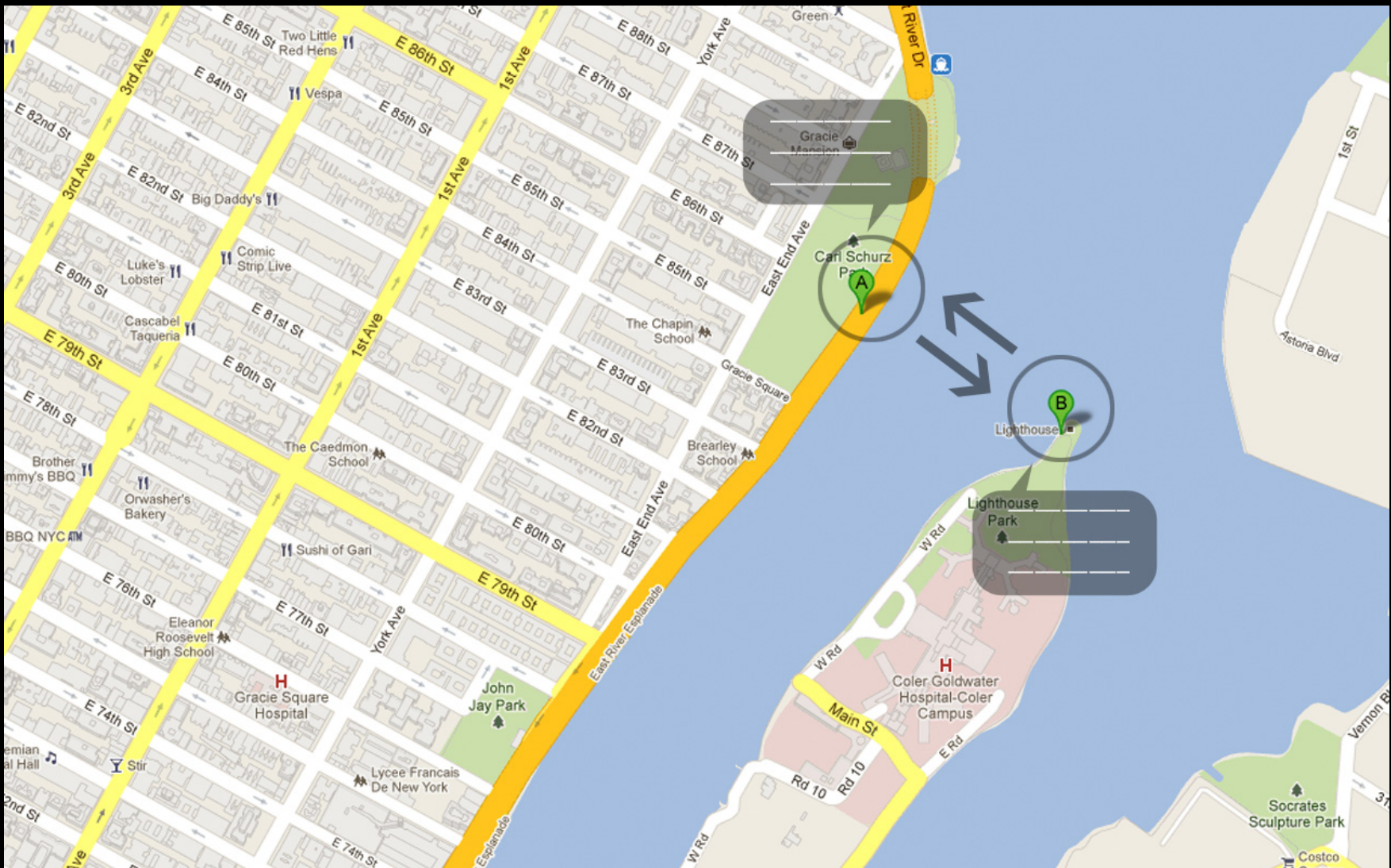
Using two telescopes on either side of the East River, on Pier 17 and Brooklyn Bridge Park, we initiated a conversation between strangers on each island. The first message came from an Afghani woman on Pier 17 that stated "New York is Beautiful." The rest of the conversation was based on that initial comment. The conversation lead to an unexpected multi-cultural dialogue.

# Location #1: Liberty Island / Battery Park





# Location #2: Carl Schurz Park/ Roosevelt Island (Lighthouse)



# Location #3: Pier 17/ Brooklyn Bridge Park (Dumbo)



# Precedence #1

## Morse Code

Beginning in the 1930s, both civilian and military pilots were required to be able to use Morse Code, both for use with early communications systems and identification of navigational beacons which transmitted continuous two or three letter identifiers in Morse code.

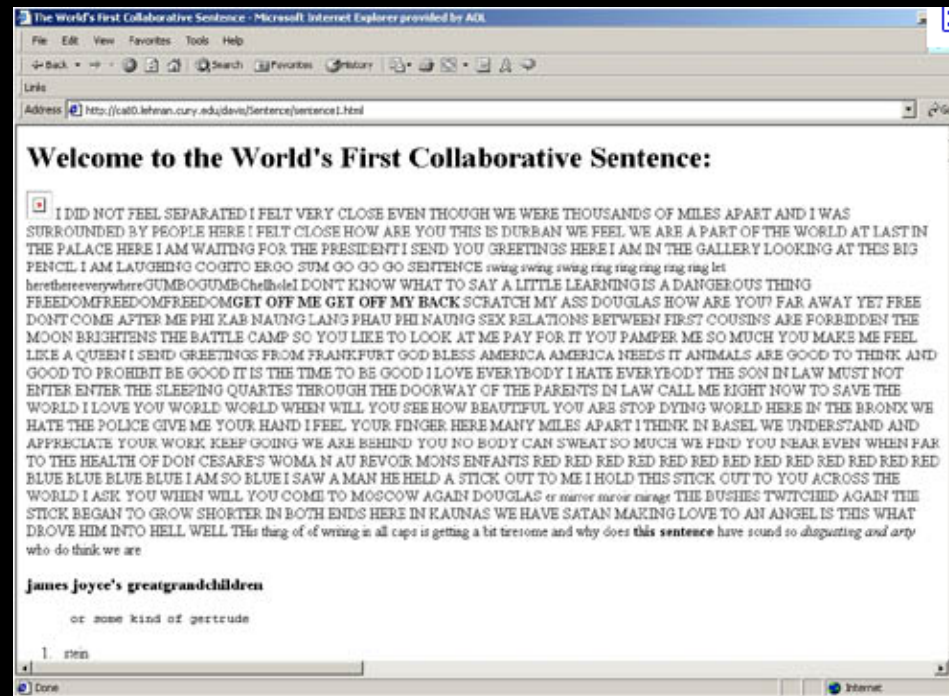
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| A | • —     | U | • • —     |
| B | — • • • | V | • • • —   |
| C | — • — • | W | • — —     |
| D | — • •   | X | — • • —   |
| E | •       | Y | — • — —   |
| F | • • — • | Z | — — • •   |
| G | — — •   |   |           |
| H | • • • • |   |           |
| I | • •     |   |           |
| J | • — — — |   |           |
| K | — • —   |   |           |
| L | • — • • |   |           |
| M | — —     |   |           |
| N | — •     |   |           |
| O | — — —   |   |           |
| P | • — — • |   |           |
| Q | — — • — |   |           |
| R | • — •   |   |           |
| S | • • •   |   |           |
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# Precedence #2

## Douglas Davis—World's first collaborative sentence.

It began in December 1994, when the Lehman College Art Gallery and its director, Susan Hoeltzel, commissioned The World's First Collaborative Sentence as part of "InterActions," a survey of Douglas Davis' early work (1967-81) in a variety of media, from drawing, printmaking, and photography to performance, videotapes, and live satellite television broadcasting.





# Research

## **Distance calculations:**

We had to find the right telescope for the distances between the islands for maximum visibility.

## **Locations:**

Once we were denied boarding to the Statue of Liberty we had to research other feasible locations.

## **Equipment:**

We had to find proper and affordable telescopes, thick markers that would make text visible. Sturdy, large boards to hold the messages.

## **Participation:**

Testing people's willingness to engage with our art project.

# How is our project different?

World Wide Web changed the way people communicated, making it easier to interact with minimum effort over long distances. At the time artists showed great enthusiasm to explore the capabilities of this new medium neglecting older ways of communication.

Inter-Island Communication Project brings back the basic way to interact with one another. This project differs from our precedence because we take communication is a concept and taking it out of the high tech context, providing the audience with an alternative means of communication. The project puts more emphasis on the notions of time and space

# Participant Feedback

We found out that the telescope was very intriguing and on many occasions triggered curiosity and participation.



# Dialogue

N.Y. IS  
BEAUTIFUL

BUDAPEST  
IS ALSO  
BEAUTIFUL!

ALSO THE  
BUDDAH IN  
BAMYAN

THE DANUBE  
IS BLUE IN  
MUSIC BY  
STRAUSS

DANUBE  
IS BLUE  
HUDSON  
IS BLACK

WHERE  
IS  
DANUBE?



IT BEGINS  
IN AUSTRIA  
IT'S NOT BLUE



# Results



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# Conclusion

Stepping out of the digital realm, it was very difficult to interact using this system of communication. We still relied on our cell phones for quick back and forth correspondence. As participants of the projects, we became impatient for an immediate response and relied on new technology. Our experiment revealed how attached we are to modern ways of communication.