

Morgan Joseph Hamilton

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Project Proposal

Retroscope2000® is an opportunity you can't afford to pass up! Artist Morgan Hamilton has been awarded the Flagship Grant by Replibitex™ Corp in order to create and maintain an American identity in contemporary art. He has partnered with Replibitex™ Labs to create a one-of-a-kind product that will allow users across the globe to look back at the Good Old Days, when white picket fences and summer cocktail parties were the American dream. Not American? No problem! With Retroscope2000®, you can peer into the past and conjure a nostalgia for a time gone by, when problems were miles away.

Morgan Hamilton is an international artist who has been awarded the Flagship Grant by Replibitex™ Corp and represents the very best of Artwork Americana. He works closely with scientists, designers, marketers, and PR representatives at Replibitex™ in order to reflect the quality and standard of American craftsmanship and ideology. The Retroscope2000® line is in its prototype phase and can be understood best while looking at the user manual attached to this application.

We hope to use Five Years' space as a showroom to display our latest models and innovation. Alongside the actual prototypes of Retroscope2000®, Replibitex™ Corp will produce and provide promotional video material in order to inform the public on its scientific breakthrough as well as its cultural virtue. Artist Morgan Hamilton has agreed to contract an instructional "tutorial" on the Retroscope2000® creation, maintenance, and use. All of these will be available as video files and links for ease of access within your institution as well as at home or on one's mobile device.

As part of Replibitex™ Corp's Flagship Grant, Artist Morgan Hamilton is expected to engage with the public and discuss our values and products, this can be expressed in any way you choose, however a live video interview has been the most successful platform. He has a wide range of skills including writing for and designing minor publications, this falls in line with your company's mission to produce an "art book" based on the performative project. Morgan Hamilton would be happy to create a catalog that investigates the relationship between user and product, past and present, fake and real. Our artist is at *your* disposal.

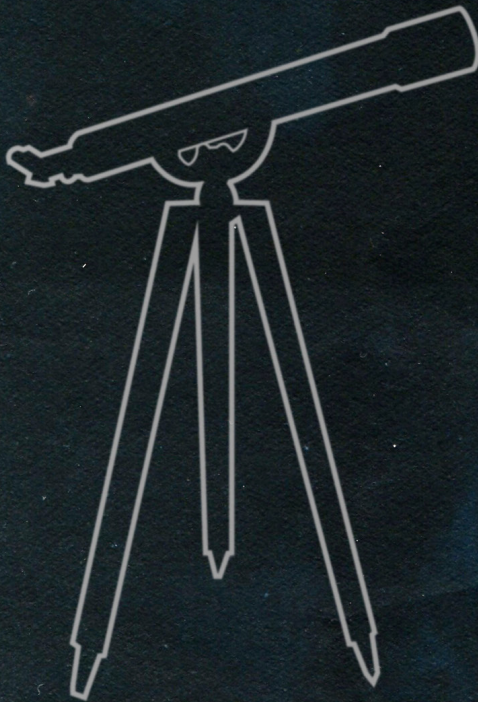
Please consider displaying the latest Retroscope2000® product line in your space. The partnership with art galleries and spaces across the globe is integral to Replibitex™ Corp's cultural mission. On behalf of the artist, thank you very much, and we look forward to discussing the endless possibilities for collaboration.

BY

REPUBLITEX™

OWNER'S MANUAL

The *Retroscope2000*® by REPUBLITEX™ makes myopic antiques of traditional telescopes, this instrument allows its operator to view all strata of society and behold the scale of our species' achievements.



RETROSCOPE2000

RETROSCOPE2000[®]

We The Peep Hole![™]

Retroscope2000[®] instruments allow you to see different places and times, right here in America, in real-time. Look into its viewfinder and you could be looking at a man mowing his lawn to the tunes of Elvis Presley, a woman waiting for the bus in 1960s New York, a boy playing ball just miles from the first nuclear bomb test. This sophisticated device renders conventional telescopes myopic antiques and makes its user virtually omnipresent. Come see the Replibitex[™] prototype showcase of the Retroscope2000[®] at Five Years in London!

I propose to make two to three telescopes complete with tripods that will be placed around the space at Five Years. Each telescope will be a different “type” or model of telescope by my fictional brand Replibitex[™], reflector, refractor, catadioptric, etc. This exhibition within an exhibition will be a sort of a Worlds Fair-esque product Expo for the Retroscope2000[®] line.

I’m making these out of PVC, fabric, felt, and found objects, and each one will be a mix of hard and soft sculpture with functioning eye-pieces. Each telescope will have a viewfinder or lens through which the visitor peers, and instead of seeing through a series of lenses at a distant object, the viewer will see pre-composed video of different scenes. A small LCD screen inside the tube of the telescope that is magnified by the viewfinder’s lens will create the illusion of a telescopic view.

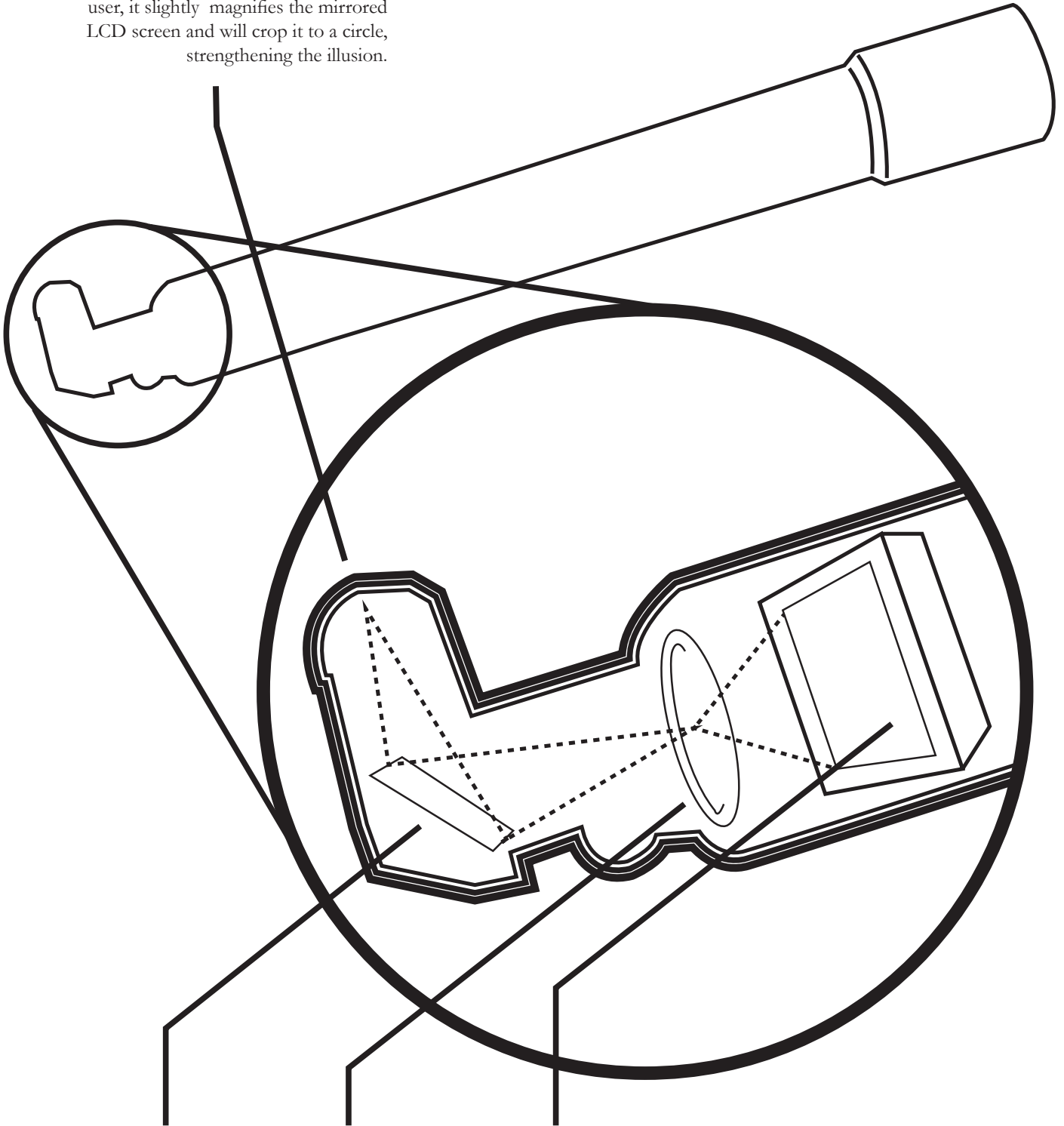
Each telescope will “see” a video that I create. I will collect birds-eye surveillance video of mundane scenes of streets in different cities of the North East, I will create found video collages of every-day life from the 50s to the 80s and investigate what actually Makes America Great Again.

Aside from the physical object installation, there will be an accompanying Replibitex[™] website page that links to the Five Years exhibition and publication that “advertises” the Retroscope2000[®]. It will serve as a contextual backdrop and landing page for curious visitors, and can connect people from all over to Five Years. My aim is to blur verified virtual presence with physical evidence and to confuse visual perception and expectations of my audience all while questioning the voracity of the fallacy of “America First” policy. I want the presence of Replibitex[™] and a sponsored artistic experience will raise red flags and scream “Fake News!”

My projects are heavily research and experience based. The structure of the telescopes and their function will not change, however, the finished video/viewing material within the telescope may vary from my proposal as inspiration in my future changes the course of my topics. I hope to keep this project contemporaneous and relate the viewer to our 2018 zeitgeist.

FUNCTIONDETAIL

EYEPIECE is the view port for the user, it slightly magnifies the mirrored LCD screen and will crop it to a circle, strengthening the illusion.



MIRROR reflects the magnified LCD screen to the viewer's eye piece

LENS magnifies the LCD screen making the moving images appear larger and farther away.

LCD SCREEN miniature LCD screen connects to media player stored in tube of telescope and displays a variety of videos.

Retroscope2000® Materials

Retroscope2000® Main Body

- PVC, copper pipes
- Felt and stuffing
- Spray paint
- Aluminum
- LCD screen, media player
- Diopter lens
- Mirror
- Telescope found objects
- Electrical cord

Retroscope2000® Body Housing

- Aluminum couplings
- Steel plates
- Screws
- Oak planks
- Chains

Retroscope2000® Media Variations

From above:

- Man mowing his lawn
- City streets
- A woman waiting for a bus

Far away:

- Desert testing grounds
- A casino
- City construction

Other:

- The White House
- An Airplane in flight
- Quiet subdivision

Installation Details

Installation should be very straightforward and non-laborious.

I will construct a series of Retroscope2000® instruments and mail them ready-to-install to Five Years.

I would like to brand the installation as specific to my Replibitex™ brand. I will construct a plaque for each telescope with a statement and artwork information.

I aim for these to be a moment for visitors to reflect on their expectation of and readiness to engage in voyeurism and to question toxic nostalgia, and in turn, initiate a thought process that questions “dog whistle” talking points like “the good old days” and “make America great *again*”.

CONSTRUCTIONEXAMPLES

Objects From *Welcome To Nastroism*



This light box is constructed from wood, aluminum sheeting, plexiglass, transparent prints, and LED lights. It is a hinged box and it can be folded for “on the go worship” of *The Nastroism*



This is a shrine made from wood, aluminum, paint, gold leaf, plexiglass, telephone receiver, photographic print, LED lights, and a home-made astronaut glove.



This scripture locket is constructed from nickel, brass, copper and precious stones.

These three examples show the range of my skills and ability to construct functional objects from fine to broad detail.

Artist Statement

I have to meet someone in their delusion and, with them, walk along it (to convince them it's just a story they were told and that they are retelling), while remembering not to fall for my own. Some artists try to make state-of-the-art, I want to make art of the State. My work is public, it is federal, it is philosophical, and it tends to be procedural. Procedure as a distortion of the practicality of an institution. Though I make individual performances, videos, and installations, they are all united: part and parcel of an expanding realm that I am in the process of creating. I create facsimiles of everyday experiences: web pages, newspapers, flags, even people. It is a parallel narrative of the American experience, of a personal experience.

Artist Bio

Morgan Hamilton is a visual artist from Pensacola, Florida. He currently resides in Delaware and is an adjunct professor at The University of Delaware where he received his MFA. He is also the Associate Curator at The Delaware Contemporary. Hamilton received his BFA from Florida State University where he was exposed to artists like Laurie Anderson, Stan Douglas, and Mary Reid Kelley, all of whom influenced his approach to video in art. He worked for several artists groups and collaborated with a local gallery on behalf of his Alma Maters. His work ranges from performance and video to sculpture and installation, regardless the material, his projects orbit future realms whose bedrock is in our present experience. Hamilton has exhibited internationally and at home from sea to shining sea.

We hope you enjoy your Retroscope2000®.
Republitex™ brand is committed to bringing you closer
to your fellow man, using this powerful instrument
will do just that. Peep into the potential of unlimited vision.