

Streaming Dimensions

PROJECT: CTY

James Powderly

AUDIENCE: General Web Audience

DESCRIPTION: This is the story of Icarus meets Ziggy Stardust set upon the inverted stage of Dante's *Divine Comedy*. A story like this could only happen in New York City.



The city in CTY is NYC of course!

SYSTEM

The Web interface is designed in Flash and HTML. The content consists of Quicktime movies, both sound and images, that are streaming from the Quicktime server. VRML in the Flash movie and pop-up windows enable another dimension of navigation and story-telling. The Quicktime movies were created with dioramas and puppets, which were then chroma-keyed with digital video using a Videonics mixer. The VRML was created in CosmoWorlds and Swift 3D. All music, video and everything else by James Powderly.

OVERVIEW

CTY is a web-based piece that takes the viewer from the skies above New York City and the heights of fame, to the depths of a busker's hell in the New York City subway. Some of Icarus's highlights during his journey between extremes include: his rise to stardom in the New York Post, a short-lived love affair, a farewell concert in the East River Park Ampitheater and a subway ride under the East River.

PROTOTYPE

Starting with Michel De Certeau's idea, in "Walking in the City", of the "Icarian Fall", I found an analogy between the city's "readability" and rock and roll stardom. From afar, New York City reads like a text of success, a singular idea of urban fame. But the artist finds himself in a more complex world as he moves down, deeper into the streets and below. Some musicians navigate the complexities and obstacles of overnight stardom. This is the story of one who does not. I plan on creating more chapters in the story of Icarus, adding more video clips and songs.



*"He took it all too far but boy could he play guitar"
--David Bowie*