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Space as an Artistic Medium (4)

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ETHEROSPERMIA: THE SKY-SEEDING PROJECT

Abstract

This paper presents my artistic practice with a space nanomaterial and also its potential use for cultural utilization of space. Since 2001 my Art&Science projects are based to the space nanomaterial silica aerogel, which I consider a personification of our wounded sky. For humanity, the step towards space is a real “bridge moment” analogue to this one where organisms sorted from water to earth. For this space era, humans need to develop new organs and new skills. Or, they need to cultivate new skies. *Etherospermia* (εθεροσπερμια) is an invented word from *ether* and *panspermia*. *Etherospermia project* is targeting to the creation of new atmospheres on other planets. Imagine an astronaut who, during his space walk, will seed fragments of my silica aerogel *Skies* in the space. As if these sky-spores could grow as new atmospheres on other planets and thus make them habitable, (references: skyforsale.com, michalous.com and <http://www.flickr.com/photos/michalous/>). Our paper will develop the general public outputs of this idea by presenting seven artworks: *Portable Sunset*, *A piece of sky in between your fingers*, *My first time I touch a cloud*, *Bottled Sky*, *Bottled Cloud*, *Bottled Sunshine* and *(L)imited sky*.