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Arts

Friedman brings 'Slippery Slope' to Wold Center

By **Jenna Salisbury** - Jan 14, 2016

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On Friday, Jan. 8, 2016 Boston-based artist Georgie Friedman held an Artist Talk & Reception in Wold Center.

As the third featured artist in Mandeville Gallery's Art Instillation Series, Friedman's exhibition, entitled "Slippery Slope". will be on display underneath the stairs of Wold Atrium.

The site-specific video installation piece features footage of a waterfall in Plotter Kill Nature Preserve and is programmed on a six minute loop.

'Slippery Slope' is meant to express the relation between art and technology, embodying Wold Center as a center of interdisciplinary study and innovation.

Friedman said, "I typically try to trigger meditation or thought in my audience when they view my work. Some of my installations may be perceived as uncomfortable at first, but I try to get viewers beyond feeling just uncomfortable and make them think about not only how the piece makes them feel, but why they feel that way. This piece is more of me using the architectural space to draw people's attention to an area that is often overlooked."

Friedman continued, "I am interested in the digital representation of nature and how it changes our perception of nature. I enjoy playing with natural barriers. For this piece, I filmed the waterfalls in different ways at different angles. The angle of this display reminds me of the waterfalls depicted on ancient Chinese or Japanese scrolls."

Friedman's pieces focus on the phenomenon of natural elements and how they contrast with "human fragility."

She explained, "We often build things to shield us, but when they are knocked down by nature it kind of shocks us. But, when someone decides to build a house on the beach, what do you expect? You're building upon a foundation of sand near a huge body of water. Of course it will get knocked down. And I think those experiences humble us."

Friedman's work has been featured in museums and galleries all over the country, including a two site-specific outdoor video installations titled, "Under the Icy Sky," displayed at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass.

Her work has also been featured in noteworthy publications such as The New York Times, The Boston Globe, The Atlantic and many others.

"Slippery Slope" will remain on display at Union for one year.

Friedman currently teaches video art and installation in the Fine Arts Department at Boston College and Massachusetts College of Art and Design.