Chris Sollars
I AM TRASH - Proposal
The New Children's Museum
Trash Exhibition

Location in Museum:

First Choice: First Floor Gallery (current Apex Chariots Roman de Salvo Room)
Second Choice: First Floor Lobby

I AM TRASH VIDEO SCULPTURE INSTALLATION
Project Description:

I Am Trash is composed of a short narrative video showing children as trash, progressing from their home to landfill to be viewed in a padded dumpster play-set; with printed images of the Miramar Landfill; and on-site trash cans animated by children around the New Children's Museum.

Building upon my previous works of *Street Clean* 1997, washing trash and putting it back; and *Pile of Trash* 2002 and 2006, in which individuals or groups of people dressed in black garbage bag outfits get up, walk, and sit down as piles of trash. These previous works are site-specific performances that use play and humor to show conflicts with trash. *I Am Trash* will utilize these same strategies.

For NCM's *Trash* Exhibition, I will make a new work set in San Diego and whose characters are the NCM children audience. Instead of having adults be the trash, I want the children "to be the trash." In the video children will transform into trash bag people and will journey as their trash from their home to San Diego's Miramar Landfill. The trash people are my own character invention and can be easily referenced to Sesame Street's Oscar the Grouch. For NCM I've created a hybrid Pile of Trash person combined with the simplicity of Oscar's can and my previous Southern Exposure education performance with walking *Boxes* 2006. Children will see other children as these trash characters in the video, recognize the trash in themselves, and will be inspired to become trash too. Children viewers will have their own chance to wear these trashcan outfits that enable them to walk and sit down around the First floor of the NCM gaining the point of view of trash.

Miramar Landfill was to initially close in 1995, but due to recycling and new technologies delayed its closure until 2019. In 2019 once the landfill is full, will Miramar Landfill become a playground similar to one of three former San Diego landfill sites Balboa Park? A landfill becoming a playground is further mirrored in the *Dumpster Play-set Sculpture*. With each video I develop a sculptural form for viewing, specific to the content conveyed in the video. I want to the dumpster to act as container for content and a play structure for the children. The dumpster will also act as a weighted visual anchor that all objects will gravitate towards. Due to the content of the *Trash* exhibition, I am concerned with my material waste after the exhibition. This is a determinate factor in wanting to use previously used objects from the city, objects made from recycled materials, or renting equipment that can be used again later as material.

Video Trash Narrative:

video loop estimated time 10 min or under:



Short narrative video showing children going to bed, dreaming and waking up as trash, and progressing from their home to landfill; with the landfill transforming into park that they play in.
3-5 boys and girls from a local school or members of NCM with age demographic of NCM.
Filming would be with permission and accompany with Parent guardians.
Sound recordings of locations, bags on ground, trucks, bulldozers, and children playing.
(worse case scenario if children can't shoot on street or dump, young adult volunteers would be asked to be the trash people)

Scene 1 Children's Home (this could be a set if need be):
- Shot 1: Children go to bed
- Shot 2: Dreams of Trash falling on top (POV of Trash Can)
- Shot 3: Children wake up as Trash Bag People

Scene 2 NCM streets:
- Shot 1: Children in Trash outfits sitting, walking down San Diego sidewalks.
- Shot 2: All 3 or 5 join up as a pile, hopefully near or around dumpster.
- Shot 3: Children crawl into waste truck (or shot of worker tossing black trash bags into truck)

Scene 3 Miramar Landfill:
- Shot1: Children as Trash outfits walk around outskirts of trash dumping
- Shot 2: Children form a pile.
- Shot 3: Children outfit bags get buried in dirt and fades into aerial shot of Landfill.

Scene 4 Balboa Park:
- Shot 1: Miramar Landfill aerial shot transforms into Balboa Park, turning green.
- Shot 2: Methane Pipes showing trash off gassing.
- Shot 3: Same Children playing in Balboa Park.

*Balboa Park used to be Arizona Landfill one of three previous San Diego Landfills from 1952-1974, the landfill as playground.

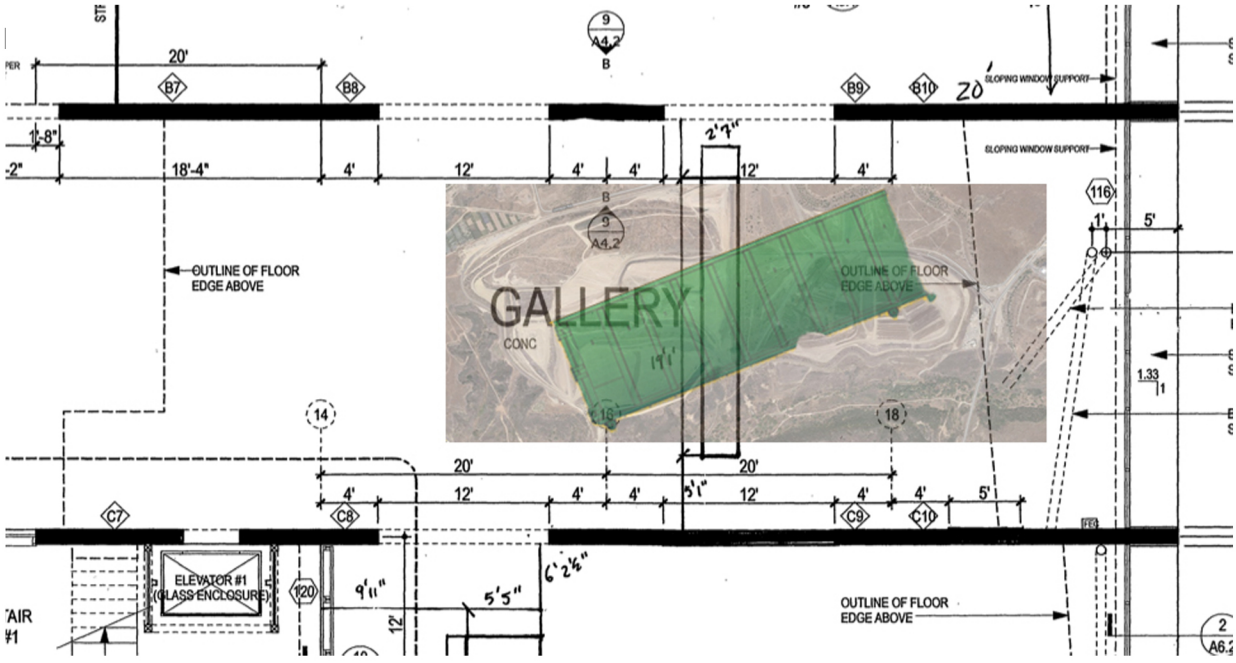
Loop starts over with Scene 1 after tired from playing.

I am Trash Installation:

Dumpster Playset East First Floor Gallery:



Dumpster as Playground installation is to be located on the ground floor so that the dumpster, trash can sculptures, and outfits could sit or lay next to it as a street scene. The dumpster is a freestanding sculpture, container for the narrative video, and a visual anchor. The dumpster doors are open on one side for easy entry as cargo net rope ladders allow for entry over the lip with a garbage chute slide as an exit.



I am Trash Installation:

Dumpster Playset East First Floor Gallery:



Installation Components:

Dumpster Used (hopefully donated or rented)

- 30-Yard Open-Top container 5' H, 8' W, 22' L* or shorter
- Dumpster will enter on the north 12’ roll door at street side of museum
- there will be 4’ of clearance at each door or NCM passage
- rented fork lifts and operator to lift and carry dumpster through 12’ doorways
- padded interior floor for sitting
- any edges filed and painted
- Large Screen new or used TV (mounted on interior) playing Trash narrative
- Dumpster door will be open to enable children and parents to enter it.
- Dumpster will have a rope ladder attached and garbage chute slide for play use
- padded floor on exterior of dumpster around ladder and slide if necessary

Dumpster Vinyl photo of Miramar Landfill wide or aerial shot, or San Diego trash street scene

- Vinyl Billboard Banner Material with grommets and hooks
- or Photographic vinyl car adhesive for attatchement to the dumpster directly,

Aerial floor print of Miramar Landfill to fill area possibly only if not on dumpster;

Trash Can Falling video sculpture

- Ideally same Models and specs as San Diego concrete square cans
- video monitor would be mounted/bolted under can lid.
- Trash can door removed to allow entry.
- interior padded for head
- children and parents would laydown and look up through the interior hole of the can watching Trash Falling from the POV of the can.
- These would be too Heavy to move or slip under or next to children.

Trash Can Outfits and Trash Can Video Sculpture of outfits

- Described on next pages.

Trash Can Video Sculpture:



Outside looking in Trash Can video sculpture, with monitor inside trashcan playing video of scenes of artist in trash can outfit around the NCM interior.

Ideally same Models and specs as San Diego cans

Prefer to get a used city one donated

These would be too Heavy to move or slip under or next to children.

Blocks if necessary on side of can to stand and look into

Children would see video of the artist in a trash can outfit in different scenarios around NCM.

Ex. Scene 1: Near entry walk by and sit down.

Ex. Scene 2: inside office getting up, walking, and sitting down watching.

Video would show how to get into and use outfit, give the POV of being in the outfit, and would emphasize that trash moves slow and doesn't talk

Trash Can Outfits:



Children watch other kids transform into trash, watch video of cans moving around museum, and get the chance to walk and sit in the cans around NCM. These cans will gather and sit against the dumpster, looking like a street scene.

Trash Can outfit will allow children to walk and sit around museum as a trash can.

Variable sizes/dimensions of cans to accommodate age and body size.

Can may be metal or rubber to be lighter for smaller children.

Ideally the cans will be from recycled trash cans.

Bottomless outfit allows walking and squatting

Lid would act as a hat and will attach to can

It can sit on the can or lift up with head movement to allow child to see.

Instead of green like Oscar the mask will be made out of a black mesh to allow for breathing, vision, and make it wipe able.

Cans will have a basic backpack straps harness to allow child to lift can.

Ideally from recycled or used backpacks from schools.

Bottom of any can surface will have rubber to not make loud noises.

Chris Sollars - *I AM TRASH*
Project Budget: with Comprehensive Materials List
Budget Total $16,530.00

Artist fee

Planning and Production	**$5000.00**
video shooting cinematography	
video capturing logging editing	
dvd production	
video installation	

Video Trash Narrative Filming Costs:

Transportation:	
Van Rental to carry equipment 2 day shoot	150.00
Child transportation (adult supervisor gas cost)	100.00
Food:	
Breakfast and Lunch 10 per meal per person per day	
5 kids or adult actors + 4 adults = 9 people	400.00 two days
Permit for	
Downtown sidewalk filming	? (donated)
Miramar Landfill Filming	? (donated)
Hired/donated cinematographer:	$400.00 two days
Tape stock:	$25.00
Trash Outfits (trash bags, duct tape recycled newspaper):	$30.00
	======
	$1105 SUBTOTAL

Installation Materials:

New or Used Dumpster

30-Yard Open-Top container 5' H, 8' W, 22' L* or shorter	‘	
(Rented) No drilling into structure all items removable		
Used Broken- could be missing a side	**$3000**	**Purchase or Rented 19months**
Dumpster modification	$900	
(all edges would be ground and filed, welding, or wood construction)		
Dumpster modification materials (plywood subfloor)	$ 700	
Dumpster Floor lining dumpster Black/Gray		
SoftTiles 2x2 Foam mats 5/8” thick foam 5.80/tile	$300	per (44plus extra) interior
1” 10/tile	*($440)*	per (44plus extra) interior
SoftTiles 8’x8’ Foam mats 5/8” thick foam 5.80/tile	$200	per (16plus extra) exterior
Children Playground cargo net ladder	$500	
Children’s Garbage Chute playground slide		
5’ height of dumpster Metal or recycled plastic		
possibly fabricated out of old cans	$700	
Dumpster delivery small Fork lifts and operator	$500	
	==========	
	$6800	**SUBTOTAL**

Wall print or Eco vinyl print of Wide or aerial shot of Miramar Landfill		
or San Diego Dumpster Street scene 20' x 5'	*$1000*	per 2 banners
or		
Vinyl fence Banner 6' x 20' with grommets every 2'	*$1000*	per 2 banners
or		
Aerial photograph floor mat of Miramar Landfill to fill area;	*$1000*	
or		
Preferred Car photographic vinyl	**$1500**	**SUBTOTAL**

Falling Trash Video Sculpture		
Concrete Rubbermaid 3975 Landmark Series Classic Container		
Container 50 U.S. gal 26" Sq. Dia. x 46.5" H – Black	*$579.15*	NEW (want used)
Rubbermaid 4004 Aggregate Panel for 3975		
($207.90 per/side)	*$623.70*	3 sides NEW (want used)
	=======	
	$300	Used or donated

Trash Can Video Sculpture Street Can		
Ideally same Models and specs as San Diego Cans		
(http://www.rubbermaidtrashcans.net/outdoor-containers-category-29.html)		
Rubbermaid 4020 WeatherGard® Series Container 20 U.S. gal		
27.25" Dia. x 27.5" H – Black	*$ 900*	NEW (want used)
	$600	Used or donated

Trash Can Outfits:		
Trash Cans metal or rubber		
(Ideally the cans will be from recycled trash cans)	$300	(per 10 new cans / want used)
Black mesh masks to attach to cans	$200	
Backpack straps harness	$200	
(Ideally from recycled or used backpacks)		
Hardware	$100	
Fabrication	$200	
Sewing	$200	
	======	
	$1200	**SUBTOTAL**

MEDIA		
dvd players 4 x 50 =	$200	(2 as backup or use NCM stock)
LCD tv monitors (use NCM TV's?)		
Dumpster TV monitor		
New 32" lcd TV with bracket	$450	(could be Old SD TV encased)
19" screen under POV trash fall trash can lid	$150	**NEW**
19" screen outfit to fit inside trash can	$150	**NEW (want used)**
Video Cables and extension cords	$90	
Mounting hardware	$90	
	======	
	$1130	**SUBTOTAL**
	==========	
TOTAL COSTS	**$16,530.00**	

Chris Sollars - *I AM TRASH*
Project Budget: with Comprehensive Materials List
The Timeline of the project would include:

Pre-production (Feb-April):
NCM will help artist to coordinate
- group of children for the Narrative Filming
- any permits if necessary to film on sidewalks within a 3 block radius of NCM
- permission and coordination with Waste management to film pov & Garbage truck shots
- permission and coordination with Miramar Landfill to film on location shots of
  - A-roll of children or adults in trash outfits out of harms way
  - B-roll (location shots, trucks, piles)

NCM will help artist to coordinate
- Locate used dumpsters for donation or rental 19 months
- Location and fabricator to make adjustments to dumpster
- Locate used street Trash cans for video sculptures
- Locate used cans for outfits

Production (May, June, July)
My spring teaching semester ends May 21 and would be available to begin production:
Commitment to Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Bay Area Now Triennial opens July. I will find out more about install and which works they are interested in next week Dec 9.

Week long stay in San Diego for duration of scouting and shooting material searching
- Location Scouting: (1-2 days in San Diego)
  - Homes (3 homes)
  - NCM neighborhood
  - Miramar Landfill
  - Balboa Park
- Meetings with Waste Management: (1-2 days in San Diego)
- Filming B-roll without children at Miramar and on Truck
- Meeting with volunteer Crew and Child Trash People
- Meet with Child cast and parents
  - Take measurements for Trash outfits
- Make Trash outfits for filming and stuff outfits

Shooting Day1: Alone or with one Cinematographer
- Garbage Truck shots 1 hour in the city
- Garbage Truck shots Miramar Landfill
- Balboa Park shots and pipes

Shooting Day2:
- Rehearsal of movements
- Release forms
- Filming children characters going to sleep and in trash outfits at Homes
- Filming children in Balboa Park playing
- Transportation:
  - Donated through Parents
  - Car Rental

Shooting Day3:
- Filming with adults or kids on sidewalks around NCM
- Miramar Landfill

Shooting Day4:
- Filming with tripod scenes around museum and offices in trash can outfit.

Fabrication Material Gathering
- Talking to Printers
- Coordinating gathering cans and materials.
- Talking to Dumpster modification people

Video Post Production & Outfits (July & August)

Video Post production
- Video logging and capturing
- Editing
- burning dvd

Outfit Parts and assembly

INSTALL (SEPT 17 – OCT 1):

I teach Fall 2011 starting approximately Sept 2 but will take a week off from school for install.

Installation approx Sept 17 – 25
- Dumpster Delivery
  - All components can be delivered inside of dumpster (slides, cans)
- Application of Vinyl Prints
- Attachment of components
- Placement
- Wiring of media equipment and testing
- Bolting of parts

Want to be complete by this time but will come back a day or two early for
Installation finishing details Oct 5-6

Maintenance October 2010 - 2012
- DVD or DVD player swap out
- Outfit Repairs and cleaning
- Tile repair or swap outs