

## JENNIFER AND KEVIN McCOY

### ***Scary Things 1***, 2006

mixed media sculpture with 10 cameras and live video output  
24 x 24 x 40 inches, video output on 50" plasma screen, unique



***Scary Things 1*** is inspired by the language and themes of childhood. The images come from simple elements of nature that can be frightening to children. The sculpture consists of a platform with lights and ten small video cameras focused on different sections of a miniature terrain; each shot includes a word in acrylic letters. On a screen, live images of the ten scenes and their words are rapidly intercut, creating new sentences and shifting meaning. Although the sculpture contains only ten words, over a hundred (128) sentences are created, forming a reduced poetry of fear\*

In 2002, the McCoy's showed a series of works in which video clips from television shows were archived into categories and presented in suitcases. These works, like *Every Shot Every Episode* which created a database of material from *Starsky and Hutch*, dissected the genres of popular culture. In more recent work such as the *Traffic* series or *Dream Sequence*, miniature scenes and small cameras use genre as a reduced narrative language. *Scary Things* represents a new step in which the database contains both narrative and linguistic elements, examining the shifting

equilibrium between images and their names.

**\* WORDS and SENTENCES in *Scary Things 1***

1. birds
2. are
3. children
4. fighting
5. lost
6. see
7. hiding
8. scary
9. things
10. dogs

Dogs are fighting.  
Dogs are lost.  
Dogs are children.  
Dogs are lost children.  
Fighting dogs are lost children.  
Dogs are scary.  
Dogs are hiding.  
Dogs are hiding, fighting, lost.  
Dogs are hiding, fighting, lost things.  
Dogs are hiding birds.  
Dogs are scary birds.  
Dogs are scary things.  
Dogs are lost things.  
Dogs are things.  
Dogs are fighting.  
Dogs are fighting children.  
Dogs are fighting things.  
Dogs are fighting scary things.  
Dogs are hiding things.  
Dogs are hiding scary things.  
Lost dogs are hiding.  
Lost dogs are fighting.  
Lost dogs are fighting birds.  
Lost dogs are scary.  
Hiding dogs are scary.  
Dogs see birds.  
Dogs see children.  
Dogs see things.  
Dogs see scary birds.  
Dogs see scary children.  
Dogs see scary things.  
Dogs see fighting.  
Dogs see scary fighting.  
Dogs see lost things.  
Dogs see lost birds fighting.  
Dogs see scary birds fighting.  
Dogs see children fighting.  
Dogs see things fighting.  
Dogs see lost children.  
Dogs see lost children hiding.  
Hiding dogs see children.  
Hiding dogs see scary birds.

Hiding dogs see children fighting.  
Things are scary.  
Things are lost.  
Things are hiding.  
Lost things are scary.  
Scary things are fighting.  
Lost things are hiding.  
Scary things are hiding.  
Lost scary things are hiding.  
Things are fighting.  
Scary things see fighting birds.  
Scary things see fighting children.  
Hiding things see lost children.  
Hiding things see fighting children.  
Children are scary.  
Children are lost.  
Children are hiding.  
Children are hiding things.  
Children are hiding scary things.  
Children are fighting things.  
Children are fighting scary things.  
Children are fighting,  
lost children are scary.  
Lost children are hiding.  
Hiding children are scary.  
Hiding children are lost.  
Fighting children are hiding.  
Fighting children are scary.  
Fighting children are lost.  
Lost scary children are hiding.  
Children are hiding birds.  
Children are lost birds.  
Children are lost things.  
Fighting children are scary things,  
Hiding children are scary things.  
Children see scary things.  
Children see scary birds.  
Children see hiding birds.  
Children see things.  
Children see scary things.  
Children see hiding things.  
Lost children see scary things.  
Lost children see scary birds.  
Lost children see hiding birds.  
Lost children see things.  
Lost children see scary things.  
Lost children see things hiding.

Birds are scary.  
Birds are lost.  
Birds are hiding.  
Birds are hiding things.  
Birds are fighting,  
lost birds are scary,  
Scary birds are lost.  
Fighting birds are scary.  
Hiding birds are scary.  
Fighting birds are hiding.

Hiding birds are fighting.  
Birds are scary things.  
Lost birds are scary things,  
Hiding birds are scary things.  
Birds see things,  
Birds see scary things.  
Birds see children  
Birds see hiding children.  
Birds see fighting lost children.  
Birds see scary children.  
Lost birds see things,  
Lost birds see scary things.  
Lost birds see children  
Lost birds see children hiding.  
Lost birds see scary children.