

(June 14 – 15)

2 — The Front Room

JAN ESTEP



Minneapolis-based artist and philosophy scholar Jan Estep creates text-centric images, hand-embroidered linens, scripted narrative video, and critical essays about other artists, all which investigate the function and power of language. For her two-day project in the Front Room, Estep presents recent video work. Filmed in the high deserts of southeastern Utah, *Ad Infinitum* (2005) explores the philosophical journey of an optimist and a skeptic as they make their way through the desert. The Sisyphean video *Endless Day* (2006) captures the Midnight Sun above the Arctic Circle in Norway. For her current project, *Doing Time, Nothing But Time* (2008 – ongoing), Estep travels to a close-security prison in northern Missouri, where she collaborates with inmates in scripted readings of “time”-centered proverbs. On the occasion of her exhibition in The Front Room, Estep delivers a public talk on the poetics and paradoxes of language.

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Jan Estep was born in West Virginia, and she currently lives and works in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has exhibited at Art in General, New York; Franklin Art Works, Minneapolis; and Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis, among others. Since 1998 she has published over 70 critical essays in exhibition catalogues and art magazines including *Afterall*, *Modern Painters*, *Frieze*, and *New Art Examiner*. From 1997-2002, Estep was an editor of *New Art Examiner*, serving as senior editor from 2000-2002.

Image:

Ad Infinitum, 2005

Production still

Courtesy of the artist

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