Pitfall: Specification Document: V1.0 27th June 2013

TITLE: Pitfall (An Opportunistic, Cultural Survey)
DATE: 2013
ARTISTS: Keith Armstrong + Luke Lickfold
THANKS: ANAT Synapse Art-Science Residency with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy
MEDIUMS: Infra-red lighting, luminous landscape forms, mapped projections, dual wall projection, 5.1 three dimensional audio soundscape, custom and proprietary software and interfaces.

OVERVIEW:

Pitfall is a new media installation created in light, media, object, text and multi channel 3D sound. It builds upon ideas and cross disciplinary processes developed during a recent ANAT Synapse Art Science residency in collaboration with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy.

The AWC have instigated radical approaches to conservation in order to stem the rapid decline of Australian small mammals across our landscapes, with species-focused recovery programs and the use of large-scale feral proof fencing techniques. An extensive use of scientific trapping, tagging, measuring and counting processes allows the AWC to demonstrate net gains. One frequently used technique involves the use of pitfall tube traps to catch small mammals and other invertebrates.

During a 'ground truthing' residency in Kalamurina sanctuary (North of Lake Eyre in SA) I began to reflect upon the cultural and ecological ideas of a 'pitfall' - as an unapparent source of trouble or danger; a hidden hazard. Indeed our very presence out there searching for rare and endangered species suggested we had both fallen into some form of trap, and yet believed/conceived some viable ways out. I was profoundly torn between concern, hope and fear for truly exquisite species in crisis, the astonishing almost gone .. and I, we, had barely even heard of them.

This love, loss and lack inspired me to devise and conduct a playful opportunistic 'survey' of my own for the tightly-knit scientific team, working together for a short time at that location. As the surveys were undertaken and returned to me I then 'ran the numbers' through my own custom artistic processes – in order to conceive 'Pitfall' - an artwork which references the rich diversity of ideas contributed by this highly focused group of scientists on some very big, and very little, picture topics. Pitfall is both heartfelt and wide ranging - and yet it presents a very simple, potent message straight from the conservation 'coal face' for species past, present and future (including our own).

http://embodiedmedia.com/homeartworks/pitfall
http://armstrong2012.blog.anat.org.au
http://www.anat.org.au/synapse
http://http://www.awc.org.au

EMBODIED MEDIA
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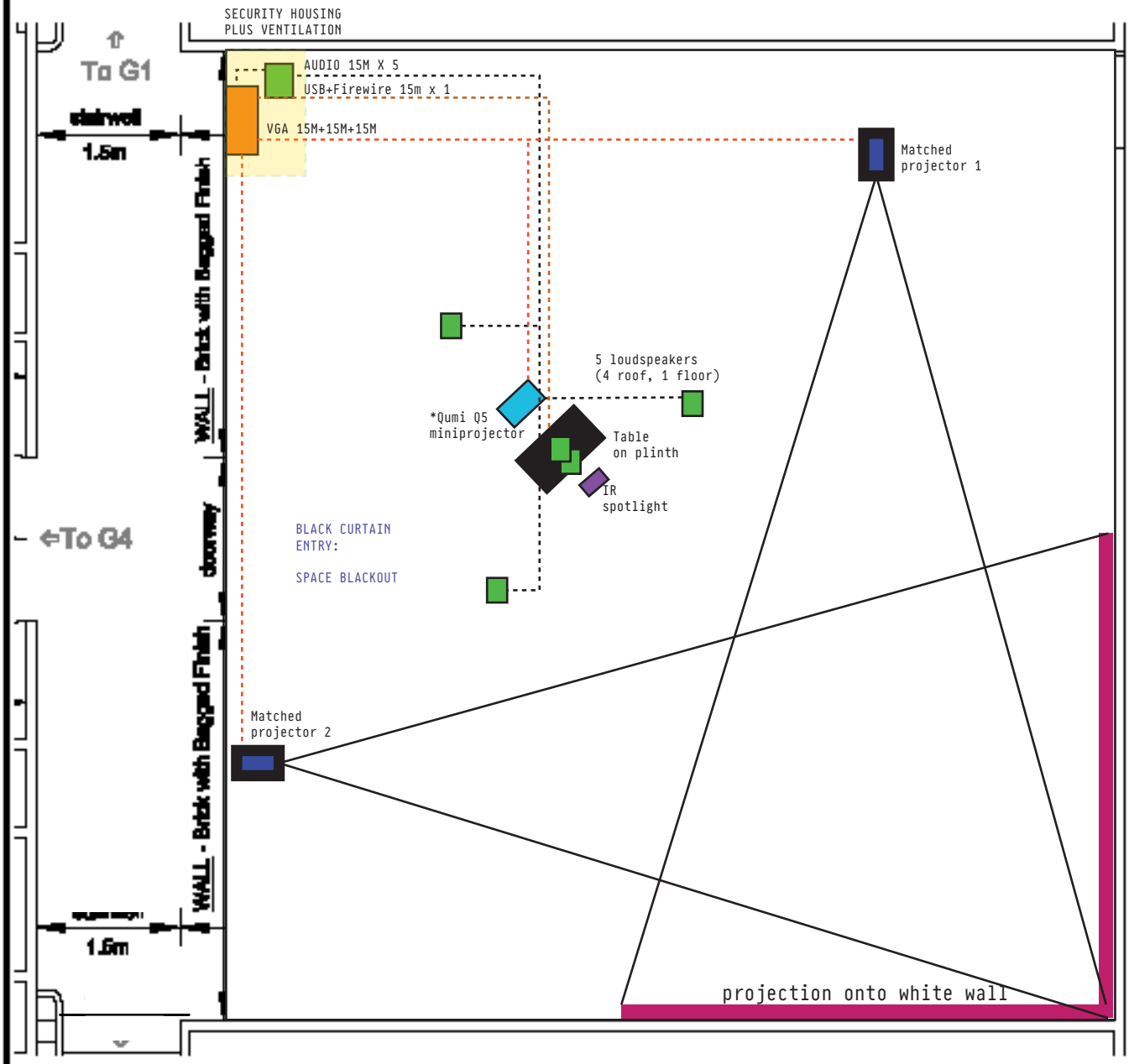
MILDURA ARTS CENTRE - Gallery 3 (G3)
Dimensional Plan



0 1 2 3 4 5

Scale of metres

Running Wall measurement for Gallery 3 = 38.9m

Drawing:- MILDURA ARTS CENTRE.dwg, Layout:- G3 Dim - A4

Updated:- 08.07.04

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TECHNICAL OVERVIEW:

Technical Equipment:

We supply:

Macintosh MacPro Tower
Matrox TripleHeadtoGo
Qumi Q5 mini projector
Projector mounting bracket
B/w Firewire IR camera, and zoom lens
20m Firewire cable
15m USB cable

Translucent Night Vision Table incorporates:
Arduino Interface and custom circuitry
IR lighting strips
IT spotlight
LED lighting

Fibreoptics/LED light engine
Motu forewire interface
Logitech Z5500 5:1 Audio system
DMX control systems and hardware
Cabling

Supplied in rolling roadcase: 1460x640x640, approx 50kg

Gallery Supplies/Alternate Sourcing:

3x 15m VGA cables
RGB computer monitor to plug into Macintosh - approx 20 inches or larger for setup - can be replaced by smaller opertor only monitor ok during show run + VGA or DVI cable
2 matched data projectors: 2500+ ansi lumens (must run 1280x720/720i)
roof mounts for 2 supplied projectors
lightweight wooden subframe for miniprojector/camera
hooks/hanging points for Lightweight speakers
plinth for table (exact height to be specified)
security cabinet with adequate ventilation for computers
blackout gallery space
black curtaining over entrance way
cable management
install assistance
dor to door insurance - value $15,000 AUD

desirable
DMX dimmer - 8 channel, low power frenels with barndoors

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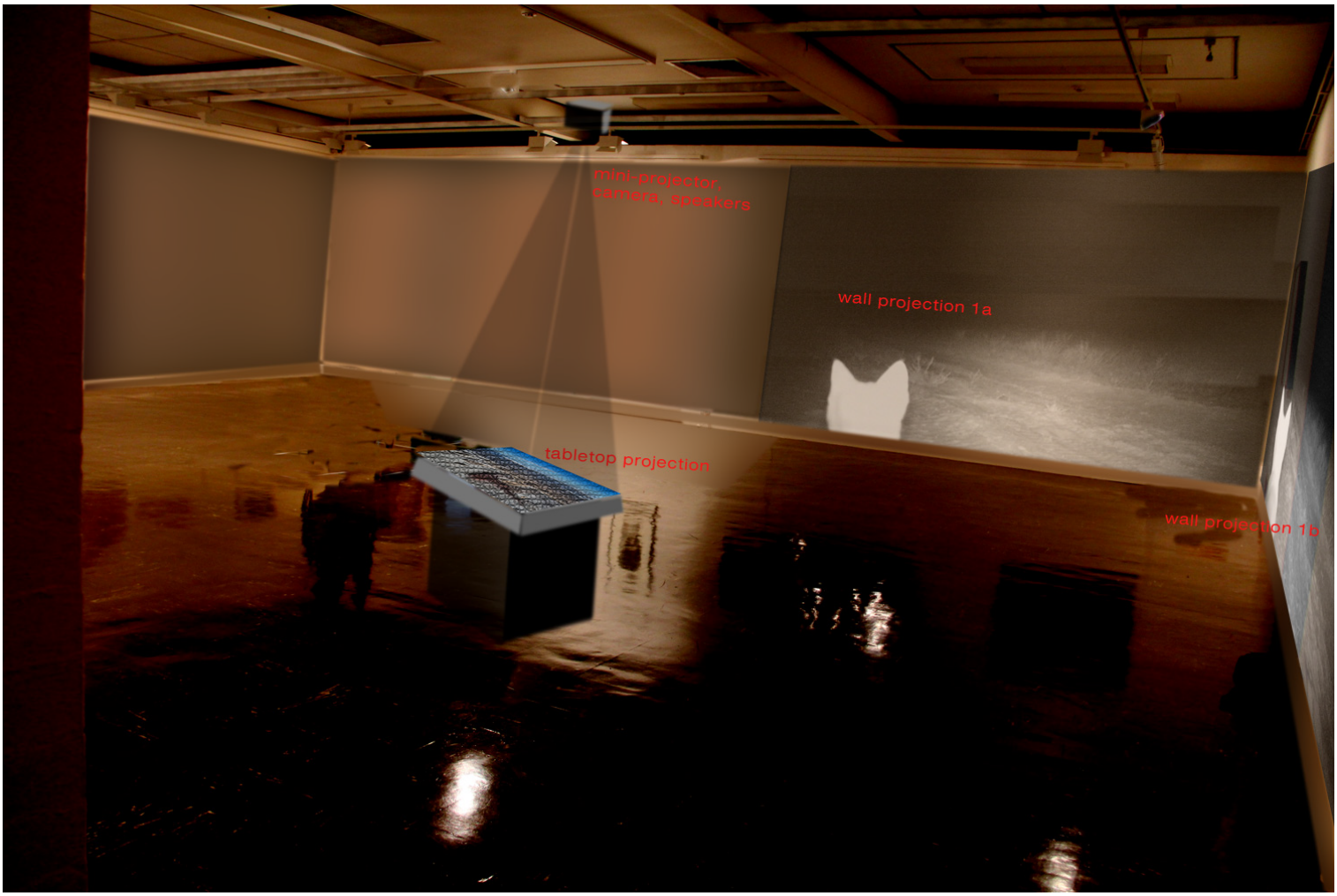

Mini projector mount at approximately 2.45m off ground

Small Logitech loudspeakers hung from roof, sub on floor

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