

Futel: Telephone Calls From The Future

Description

Futel is a network of six public telephones, providing free calls, interactive audio art, human interaction, and links to services. The goal of the project is best described as a Situationist-inspired combination of urban public art and social services.

We propose to install a Futel payphone in the unoccupied payphone enclosure at the Sou'Wester Lodge. This installation will showcase a new interactive audio project, Telephone Calls From The Future, as well as access to the existing Futel network features, including the Payphone Shotgun, the Wildcard Line, direct links to all existing public Futel telephones, and of course free telephone calls.

Telephone Calls From The Future will incorporate the manipulation of current and previous user input by both machines and human curators. Like other Futel projects, Telephone Calls From The Future will use office technology and the human desire to communicate and find meaning to leverage the creative ability of its operators and artists.

Links To Related Media

Oregonian, April 5, 2015

http://www.oregonlive.com/multimedia/index.ssf/2015/04/futels_free_phone_service_give.html

OPB/NPR/All Things Considered radio segment, June 17, 2015

<http://www.opb.org/news/article/old-hardware-a-new-twist-the-no-pay-phone/>

Video of Curiosity Club presentation, April 7, 2015

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jw5OtRhOwO0>

Duration

The installation will remain operational on site for one year.

Proposed Location

The public facing installation will occupy the payphone enclosure and pad between the front parking lot and maintenance building of the Sou'Wester Lodge. IT equipment and other nonpublic parts will be installed in the maintenance building. A telephone line will be buried or strung between the enclosure and building. Note that this proposal has been approved by the Sou'Wester.

Budget

\$250 Payphone

\$100 Wiring, conduit, hardware and supplies

\$50 Router, VOIP, and other IT hardware

\$100 VOIP and other IT resources for 1 year

Artist's Website

<http://futel.net>

Artist's CV

Karl Anderson

Futel

August 2014 to present

Futel is a telephone company and audio art installation, with installations at several publicly available locations. As director, I do everything that needs doing, including creative direction, content creation, project management, development, operations, outreach, and fundraising.

Installations:

Sidewalk, SE Clinton Street, Portland, June 2014 to present.
Right To Dream Too, NW Third and Burnside, Portland, January 2015 to present.
Sidewalk, NE Ainsworth Street, Portland, February 2016 to present.
Sidewalk, SE Taylor Street, Portland, November 2016 to present.
Alley, NE Killingsworth Street, Portland, January 2018 to present.
Alley, Pearl Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan, March 2018 to present.
Sidewalk, N Interstate Avenue, Portland, February 2016 to July 2016.

Exhibits:

Futel Interactive Installation, Teardown, May 2018
Futel Interactive Installation, ToorCamp, Orcas Island, Washington, July 2016.
Futel: Communication From Beyond The Veil, AFRU gallery, February 2016.
Futel Interactive Installation, ToorCamp, Neah Bay, Washington, July 2014.

Presentations:

Futel: The Payphone, Devolved, The Circle Of HOPE, July 2018
Futel: A Technology So Advanced We Leave It Out On The Street All Night, Teardown, May 2018
Futel: Telecommunications Colossus of the Modern Age, DonutJS, February 2018
King Solomon's Mines: The Greatest Salvage Treasure Revealed In The Vault Of The Payphone, Decon + Reuse '17, September, 2017
Futel: The Network We Deserve, Open Source Bridge, June 2017.
Futel: An Immobile Phone Company, i3Detroit, October 2016.
Futel Activity Report, ToorCamp, June 2016.
Interview, Karaoke Research Council season 1 episode 3, January 2016.
Futel: Operators Are Sometimes Standing By, Portland Creative Coders, August 2105.
Futel: The Telephone Of The Future, Curiosity Club, April 2015.
Futel: The Future Of The Past Of Telephony, Open Source Bridge, June 2014.

Audio Publications:

Wildcard Line Episode 4, participatory audio, June 2017.
Wildcard Line Episode 3, participatory audio, November 2017.
Wildcard Line Episode 2, participatory audio, May 2017.
Wildcard Line Episode 1, participatory audio, November 2016.

Print Publications:

Party Line #3, pamphlet, March 2018.
Party Line #2, pamphlet, March 2017.

Party Line #1, pamphlet, March 2016.

Major Grants:

Twilio.org Impact Access, March 2018.
Personal Telco Project Hardware Grant, May 2017.
Free Geek Hardware Grant, May 2017.
Awesome Ann Arbor, June 2017.
Precipice Fund, December 2016.
Regional Arts and Culture Council, December 2015.
Awesome Portland, September 2014.
ToorCamp Art Grant, July 2014.

Church Of Robotron

2012 to 2015

The Church of Robotron is an ongoing collaborative series of immersive, interactive multimedia installations which present a cautionary message about machine superiority and human error. Effects include kinetic sculptures, whistles, percussion, vibration, ozone generators, electrical discharges, simulated fires, and projected video of the current and previous participants.

Exhibits:

XOXO 1010 Art Show, September 2015.
AFRU Gallery, February 2015.
Diode Gallery, September to October 2014.
ToorCamp, Neah Bay, Washington, July 2012.

Publications:

Doctrine And Documentation, pamphlet, 2014.

Presentations:

The Church Of Robotron, Dorkbot PDX, 2013.

Major Grants:

ToorCamp Art Grant, July 2012.

C.H.U.N.K. 666

1992 to present

C.H.U.N.K. 666 turns salvaged bicycles into working human powered vehicles and then destroys them in public gladiatorial contests. As cofounder and ongoing participant, I have led creative direction, fabricated custom vehicles, built sets, organized public events and festivals, created content, and led outreach and fundraising.

Events:

Mutant Bike Proving Grounds, Vancouver, BC, 2008.
Chunkathlons, Portland, yearly 1999 through 2005.
Mutant Bike Construction Workshop, Brooklyn, NY, 2003.
Chunkathlon, Brooklyn, NY, 2003.
Mutant Bike Construction Workshop, Portland, 2002.

Presentations:

Aquachoppers of C.H.U.N.K. 666, Curiosity Club, April 2013.
Aquachoppers of C.H.U.N.K. 666, Dorkbot PDX, October 2011.
Aquachoppers of C.H.U.N.K. 666, Research Club, September 2011.

Publications:

Taking The Lane (story in anthology), edited by Elly Blue, 2014.
Nowtopia (interview in anthology), edited by Chris Carlson, 2008.
C.H.U.N.K. 666: To Head The Moronic Dictum, pamphlet, 2001.

C.H.U.N.K. 666: Heat Shield of the Celestial Chariot, pamphlet, 1999.
C.H.U.N.K. 666: Preparing for the Carmageddon, pamphlet, 1997.