

This slippy map project narrates a virtual journal and the sense of place in art venues in downtown Chicago during Covid-19 lockdown. Such experience and feeling are represented through four stages of scenes across zoom levels.

#### Phase 1

This stage provides an overview of the entire globe using satellite map images, conveying a strong sense of realism. With the zoom-in process, the ocean color turns lighter, indicating a transition from night into daytime.

#### Phase 2

Imaginary objects of daily lives in 3D realistic style emerge and proliferate when zooming in. These objects portray our mundane lives during Covid-19 lockdown. Confined within the domestic setting, we spend most of the time eating and drinking. Teapot and cup symbolize bored-ness and a simple lifestyle. Despite this, we are keeping eyes open to gather information and long for the end of the pandemic. A big eyeball expresses this feeling. Moreover, while staying at home, we have lost the sense of time. A melted and distorted clock symbolizes the distorted scale of time.

#### Phase 3

During the covid, we access most places through networks, internet and inter-personal networks in particular. This map design flags a strong black-white contrast between the landcover and road networks. The latter symbolizes a general idea of all kinds of networks to art venues, which addresses one key component in the title of this project: “network of art.”

#### Phase 4

From zoom level 10.7, the slippy map transitions from black landcover into bright yellow applying the artistic style of Giorgio de Chirico’s My Surrealist Room in 1930. Bright yellow streets, white buildings, black shadows and deep blue surrounding constitute the primary color schemes. This also creates a unique sense of place – being isolating, absurd and surreal – inspiring the audience to think about how covid has changed our urban surrounding.