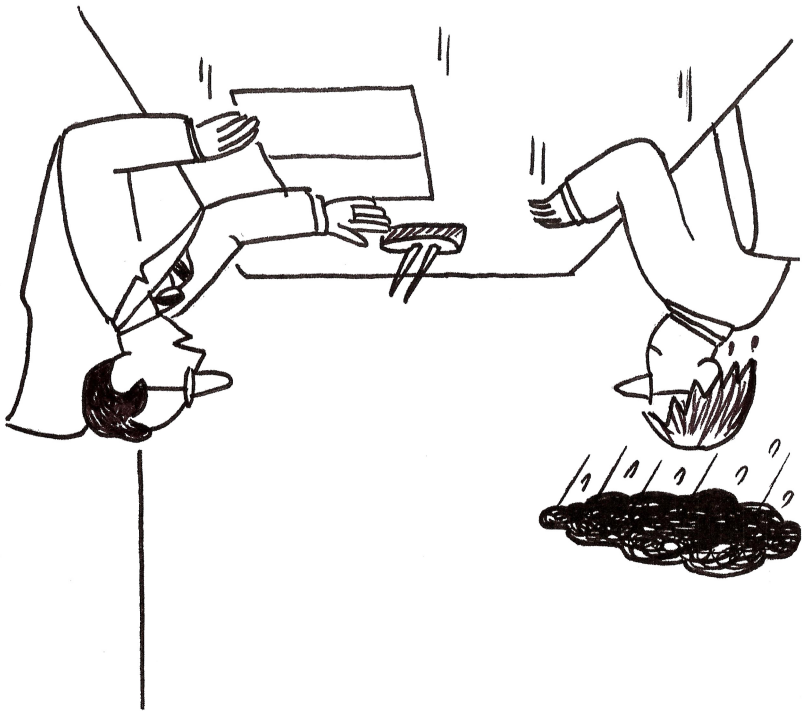
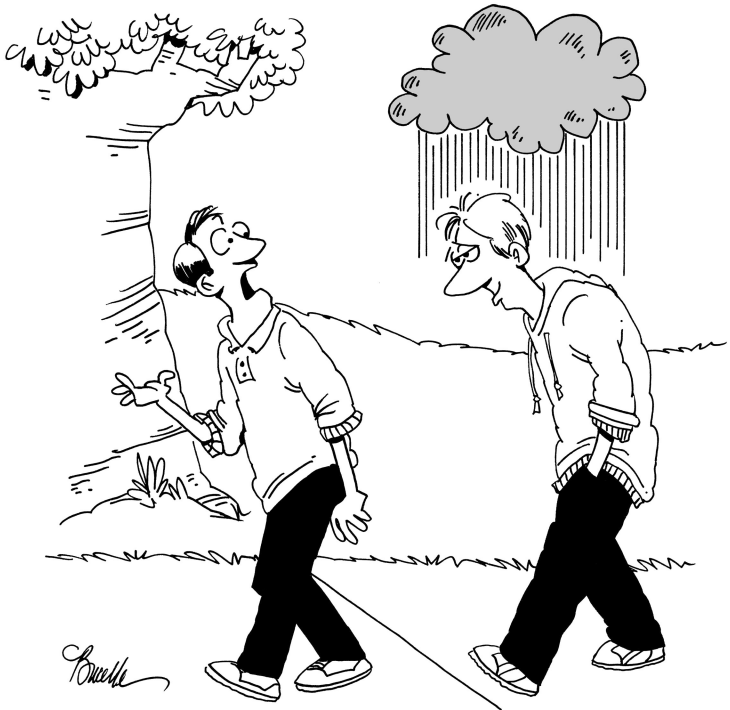


WI-FI

# LA NUBE OSCURA

A project of **Beta-Local**, San Juan, Puerto Rico and **Kadist Art Foundation**, San Francisco, California



**L**a Nube Oscura is a mobile video program of contemporary artworks, curated (and carried) by Joseph del Pesco. The program is accessed via wi-fi and viewed on whatever device you have with you: smartphone, laptop or tablet. The contents of the program continue to change and evolve, so log-in to see what's currently on view. Please note that headphones are highly recommended for video viewing.

*How to connect:* First, you must be within 100 feet of Joseph del Pesco (and the wi-fi signal). Open your wi-fi device and choose "LaNubeOscura" from this list of wi-fi signals. It's an open wi-fi connection, and requires no password. Once you've connected, wait a moment, and then open a web browser app, like Safari or Chrome. Go to the address: **nubeoscura.com** to find the images and description of the video artworks. Click or tap each image to view the video.

There has been some confusion about a variety of new terms recently developed to help us understand parts of the internet that are not findable using search engines like google. These names have appeared because recent estimates suggest these ‘unfindable areas’ account for more than half of the internet’s total content. Most of this content is inaccessible by the public for security reasons. These include websites that store—for example—your personal banking information, or retain messages sent to your web-based email account. These websites are accessible only through password, and are now called **Deep Web**.

There are other parts of the internet that use sophisticated encryption (such as “Tor”, used by Wikileaks and others) which anonymize the location and identity of a given website and its users, and allow for things like the illicit selling and buying of drugs or the leaking of classified information. This zone, called the **Dark Web**, is only accessible when using the same encryption software as is used by the host website. There’s a third zone, called the **Dark Internet**, which is less understood, and is not accessible through the primary network pathways of the internet. It’s either been removed from public access, hacked into invisibility, or contains large amounts of raw data, which are indecipherable by standard internet protocols.

**The Cloud** is another metaphorical term used to describe how data is stored online—spread out across multiple servers and accessed (by you) using multiple devices. With this project, I’m comparing this virtual cloud to the ethereal and personal one of a wifi signal.



**L**a Nube Oscura uses the same system that connects us to the internet and uses the same format as a web site, but it isn’t directly connected to the internet. Using a small computer called a Raspberry Pi, a wifi-transmitter and a long-life battery, La Nube Oscura is a mobile zone of presentation that utilizes the growing yet invisible database of video artworks uploaded by artists onto sites like vimeo.com—specifically those that are only accessible with a password.

Artists routinely share links (and passwords) to these online artworks with each other and with curators interested in their work, making the barrier to content a porous one. One might suggest that the sheer number of online videos has led to a de facto network of informal distribution. This project is a small window into this landscape of international artistic production, as an extension of the computer of J. del Pesco.