

2007

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FALL  
2007

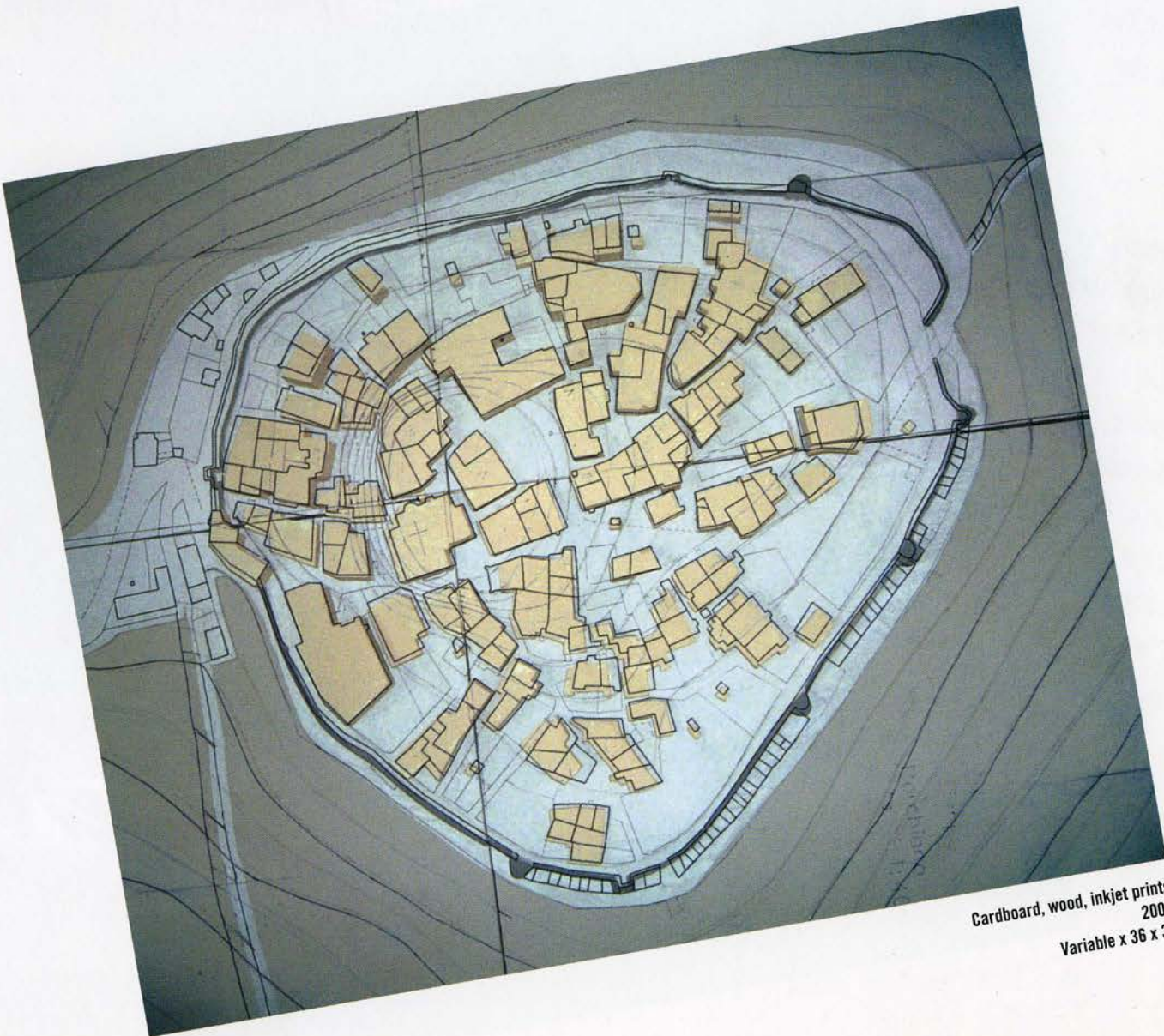
AUGUST 20 - SEPTEMBER 22

CSUN ART GALLERIES  
FACULTY/EMERITI  
ART EXHIBITION





# STUDY FOR PORCHIANO DEL MONTE



Cardboard, wood, inkjet prints  
2007  
Variable x 36 x 36







There is an edge in all collaborations where one sensibility butts up against another different sensibility, where one approach runs into another, where one technique encounters something else. In that contact, between two positions, the edge is implicitly felt as the point beyond one individual cannot push and therefore a process of negotiating to move the verge (con-verge-ence or di-verge-ence) to a new point of shared sensibility begins. For Cielo and I this moving of the verge (a negotiation) is first and foremost between us. How do we position the edges of our desires and ideas? Then it is with the constraints of the actual space. What can be done physically and where will gravity work for and against us? Finally, it is with the public who will be involved in our public art project. How will they interact with the work over time? Added to that, we have chosen as our site (now six years in the coordinating) a medieval walled city in Umbria (Porchiano del Monte) where all of the best places for siting public art are along the actual edge of the city wall. Small, buttressed remains of watchtowers (now empty) dot the wall along the perimeter of the town. Parks with stones set in the ground marking off where the townsfolk once danced on the periphery of the streets are left to collect dust. Courtyards bounding the rock houses are the thresholds of where communal activities once took place. These are the outskirts and edges where we have built up a handhold, or a finger grip with our public art projects. We are seeking to bring these sites back from the brink of disappearance and recover the sense of their frontiers within ourselves as members of a world we inhabit and not just move through in transitional tour visits.

**EDUCATION**

AA.BB., Accademia di Belle Arti DI Roma; M.F.A., University of Southern California.  
[www.4culture.org/publicart/registry/sites/default.asp](http://www.4culture.org/publicart/registry/sites/default.asp)

**RELATED ACTIVITIES**

Since 1980's, work includes installation, video, performance, sculpture, painting and drawing which come together as an investigation of objects and their significance to us. Creates studio art, public art; also art writing and does curatorial work. Collaborates extensively with architects, poets and other artists and considers travel and being bilingual essential to work as an artist.

**JOHN O'BRIEN  
 CIELO O'PESSIONE**

**Assistant Professor**  
**Courses Taught at CSUN (2001 - )**

Beginning 3-D Design; Sculpture I, II, III, IV and Graduate; Figure and Portrait Sculpture; Bronze Casting Sculpture; Studio Problems: Sculpture Graduate; Advanced Figure Study IV; Studio and Seminar Graduate.

