

Cleve Overton was born in New York City. He has exhibited nationally and internationally; his work is in private collections in Europe, Africa, and Asia.

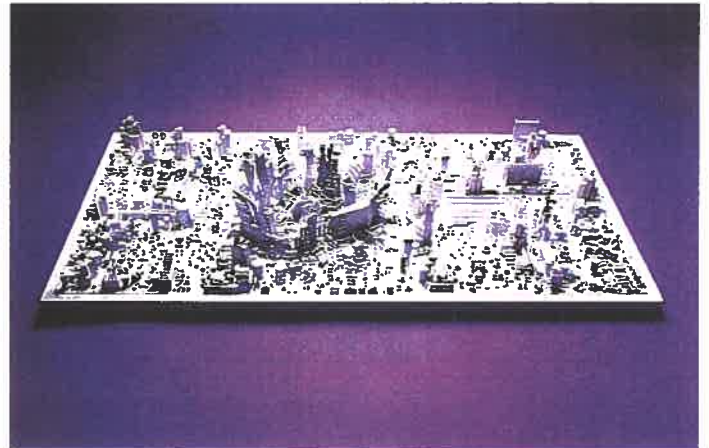


STATEN ISLAND MUSEUM

Staten Island Institute of Arts & Sciences

8:45 9-11-2001

Mixed Media
by
Cleve Overton



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Web Site <http://www.clevesart.com>

Books by Cleve:

In the Shadow of the Statue of
Liberty: A Memoir of a Black
American

&

Creative Recycling: Handmade in
Africa

On Exhibit

September 1 - October 29, 2006

Artist's Reception & Book Signing

Sunday, September 24, 2006

3 - 5 PM

at

Staten Island Museum
75 Stuyvesant Place
Staten Island, NY 10301

8:45 9-11-2001

This collage was part of a series done with recycled electronic material and other mixed-media. This piece, done to commemorate the tragedy in Manhattan, was exhibited at the Fitchburg Art Museum in Massachusetts and the Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia on the one-year anniversary.

The pieces in the series are both miniature representations of the urban and technological centers that produced them, and a reminder that we need an infrastructure for computer disposal.

Millions of computers, TVs, cell phones and other electronic equipment become obsolete and find their way to our landfills annually, or are exported to countries with less strict pollution laws.

They contain lead and other toxic materials such as chromium, cadmium, mercury, beryllium, nickel and zinc. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that approximately 40% of the lead in landfills originated in TV or computer monitors.

Articles in the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times* continue to report the exportation of electronic waste to developing countries in Africa and Asia, as well as to India and China. In many cases entire communities, including children, earn their livelihoods by scavenging metals, glass and plastic from the waste stream, while trucks must bring drinking water from miles away because the local supply is contaminated with heavy metals. Since the U.S. is the only developed country to decline to sign the Basel Convention, which limits export of hazardous waste, U.S. recyclers are not violating domestic laws when shipping computer waste to poor countries. The cost of dismantling and reusing/recycling the materials in a computer monitor is about 10 times as high as the cost of shipping it.

The Environmental Protection Agency offers information to consumers on recycling electronic items such as computers, TVs and cell phones. However, there is no national program, policy or regulation to address the problem. Some U.S. cities and States have initiated local programs while waiting for national guidance, and the conscientious consumer can find a way to recycle e-waste responsibly. Some companies are expanding their computer take-back programs in response to consumer pressure. See <http://www.computertakeback.com/> for more information on e-waste.