Upgrade! Boston and **Turbulence.org** *in partnership with* **Art Interactive** *present*

EXCHANGE 2006

A Performance of Resistance by Nancy Nisbet



Trade your Goods for Nancy's

PERFORMANCE: June 30 - July 2, 2006

in the *parking lot* opposite Art Interactive [corner of Bishop Allen Drive and Prospect Street]

PRESENTATION: June 29, 7:00 p.m.

Upgrade! Boston

Art Interactive





-http://turbulence.org/upgrade

EXCHANGE 2006 replaces the studio with roads, truck stops, border crossings and cities. For 6 to 9 months Nisbet's Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tagged and inventoried personal belongings are being hauled in a commercial shipping container to be freely traded throughout Canada, the United States and Mexico. The performance includes the day-to-day travel and activities associated with driving a commercial transport truck and the contact with people and communities along the way.

"At each scheduled stop on the route, the team parks the truck, lowers the ramps, unloads at least half of the crates and invites viewers to peruse the goods. If a person happens to find something that tickles their fancy, they take it to the "mini house," temporary tech centre that operates on wireless technology, where the customer checks out the item while checking in something of theirs to replace their "purchase." Each item is tracked using RFID technology and logged into a database. In addition to the object exchange, the customer also relays the story behind their giveaway object to the crew, which is saved as an audio file, and in exchange Nisbet tells them the story behind their newly acquired item, sort of like an anecdotal gift wrap."* (National Post, canada.com)

The trip and exchanges are being extensively documented and published at http://exchangeproject.ca.

Over time, and with the combined effort of exchange participants, resistance, solidarity, and artistic critique emerge: (i) *Exchange* engages in cross border, person-to-person, trade negotiations. It offers artistic resistance to international economic agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement; (ii) *Exchange* critiques and exposes RFID as a surveillance technology; (iii) *Exchange* questions and disrupts correlations between corporate consumer data and personal identity through the dispersal and exchange of personal belongings.

