

CHANNELERS: COLBY RICHARDSON

Flux Gallery 7 – 14 February 2017

A response by Beth Schellenberg

Colby Richardson's *Channelers* invites the viewer to worship at the altar of analog television broadcasting. The video-sculptures are crisp white simulacrum of temples crested with glowing gems that serve to transmit heavenly frequencies. These reimagined relics use the observer's body as additional antenna to reveal the constant presence of forgotten radio waves. The interference of the viewer's physical presence on the waves and the consequent effect on the screens prove that these mystical forces occupy a space beyond imagination alone.

Richardson's TV temples use iconography to explore the age-old human desire to tap into unseen powers, to connect and communicate with invisible forces. The show troubles historical conventions of how anachronistic technologies, both the structures resembling Mayan pyramids and the analogue emissions of broadcasters, are disposed of and/or memorialized by societies, questioning obsolescence and the temporality inherent in human invention.