RECORDING DEVICE- DRAWING (ON) THE CITY

The purpose of this assignment is threefold:
1. To develop conceptual skills through research and analysis.
2. To explore the depth of seeing, marking and recording.
3. To expand the vocabulary and tools that enable design production.

‘DRAWING DEVICES’

Each student is asked to conceive, design and fabricate a device and method for recording the city. The device must either augment, alter, distort, or re-configure an existing device for recording (ie. camera, video recorder, tape recorder, sketchbook) or invent a new means of documenting the experience of the city. The device must position an attitude about both the city and its representation.

Consider aspects of time, measurement, datum, movement and transformation. The devices must be portable and constructed to be utilized by you. The device must engage input as well as output, generating a record/mark/imprint on something external to the device itself, ie. film, bytes, or the actual site. These devices must create both quantitative and qualitative data that map the city in time and space. The device can be simple or complex, require one or many phases, incorporate or exclude other technologies so long as they fit the process and criteria listed below.

Considering what you have learned from the research presentations and the drawing exercise, think about the concept, design, methodology, fabrication and implementation of your device. Consider the body as already machine with multiple senses that enable an understanding of time and space. What aspect of are you interested in researching as a vehicle for ‘measuring’ space and time in the city? What is it that you wish to measure in order to gain an understanding of the site unavailable in a typical site plan? What are the aberrant conditions? How will your body be augmented, enhanced, extended in order to gain a new understanding of movement and context? How will you deploy your device? What manner will the recording of its deployment take? What will be the format of the documentation and how will it be displayed or understood by others.

REQUIREMENTS:
Your device must record the city in a new way. These markings must be in some physical form that is either a literal document or can be documented and brought back from the site, or imprinted on the site and recorded. The deployment of your device must render ‘data’ that will inform a mapping of the site on your return. Your device must be well conceived, well designed, well fabricated and well executed. Your device must be easy to transport and easy to carry. All materials, details and connections must be well considered and well crafted. You may use any materials at your disposal.