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Chance Encounters by George Legrady

An installation of computer-generated animations on the theme of passengers passing each other in the public space of the Los Angeles Metro Rail system. The installation is presented on television monitors mounted in various places on the Metro Red Line and Metro Blue Line platforms of the 7th Street/ Metro Center/ Julian Dixon Station from June to December of 2002. The artwork is presented in installments with variations introduced each month.

The first installment combines a sequence of personal names collected from the greater LA area set against 26 backgrounds or visual transitions. The transitions are used as a means to cycle through the sequences of names. Two names are presented together. The top name is alphabetically ordered whereas the bottom name is randomly selected by the computer. The combination of the two names implies a

connection: Are these two individuals on the platform or passing by each other as the trains come and go? Will they meet?

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