

*Cate McQuaid*  
Play. Witness. Create.

---

## Screen dream, or nightmare

Posted on March 22, 2012 by Cate





**Art on the Marquee**, featuring art on the 80-foot tall marquee outside the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center in South Boston, poses a challenge and an opportunity for video artists. They've got to design to the marquee, which is a wrap-around affair in the shape of an open book, with its spine facing Summer Street. There's a towering low-res vertical screen, then at the bottom a high-res horizontal screen that juts out beyond the sides of the vertical one. It's as much a sculpture as it is a screen (actually, it's seven screens).

The program features short videos by six artists in rotation with convention center info and ads for local restaurants and television shows. Jeffu Warmouth's "Falling," pictured above, is one of the best, especially in its witty use of the awkward configuration of the marquee. Men drop through the sky on the vertical screen, a little slower than they would in real life, and when they hit the horizontal screen, they're landing in a deep pool of water. They start swimming. Another highlight: John Slepian's "\*sigh\*" — in which eyes and a mouth appear on a glaring color-bar test pattern. The mouth opens, the eyes close, the figure sighs. The viewer breathes deeper, too.

This entry was posted in art and beauty, Boston Globe stories. Bookmark the permalink.

---

**Cate McQuaid**

*Proudly powered by WordPress.*