

ARTtalk

Letting Off Steam

Several public-art projects launching this month in Manhattan's TriBeCa make much out of light and air, from **Jim Campbell's** installation at Battery Park City to art collective **Sontext's** erasure of sound on Canal Street.

Campbell's piece, sponsored by Creative Time as the first of five pieces for "Art on the Plaza" near the new Ritz-Carlton downtown, consists of a large grid of 192 white lights that outline a moving silhouette, in effect capturing a shadow. And to celebrate the nonprofit Art in General's 20th anniversary, five artists colonize the city's chaos. Sontext provides an "aural escape" via a transparent, soundproof room at Canal's intersection with Sixth Avenue, where over 90 decibels are often registered. **Gustavo Artigas** lets off steam literally, releasing a yellow miasma along Canal and making postcards, for sale nearby, of the view.

-Carly Berwick



Jim Campbell's *White Circle*, 2001.