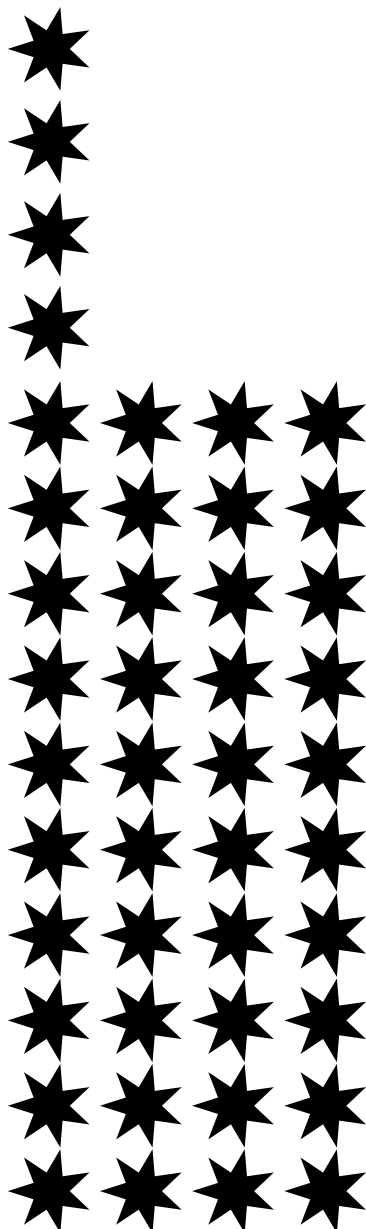


# Instant Coffee

Instant Coffee:  
no better than you.  
everyone@instantcoffee.org



>Envelope-to: mail@sparwasserhq.de  
>To: Sparwasser HQ <mail@sparwasserhq.de>  
>From: jenifer@interlog.com  
>X-Sender: jenifer@interlog.com  
>Subject: Re: Eröffnung/Opening "Old habits die hard"  
>Date: Sat, 27 Sep 2003 06:47:19 US/Eastern  
>  
>  
>hello Lise:  
>  
>Instant coffee is submitting "long beach led zep" by Kevin Schmidt,  
>2002. He is a  
>Vancouver-based artist. He is sending  
>the mini dv directly to you. you may already have it.  
>  
>Mercer Union is submitting "work" by Kika Thorne, 2000. She is a  
>Toronto-based artist.  
>We have a dvd that we are  
>bringing with us to berlin. I'm in london for the day and will be  
>berlin in just a few  
>hours. maybe we can meet up  
>tomorrow or monday?  
>  
>soon, jenifer

>Envelope-to: mail@sparwasserhq.de  
>Date: Wed, 17 Sep 2003 06:55:53 -0400  
>Subject: Re: Call for videos for Berlin ARC  
>From: jenifer papararo <jenifer@interlog.com>  
>To: <powell@intangible.ca>,  
> <mail@sparwasserhq.de>,  
> <everyone@instantcoffee.org>  
>  
>hello Lise & Heman: instant coffee will gladly participate. the deadline  
>is tight and so we may not be able to get you our most favorite video,  
>but  
>it will likely be the most favorite artist video we have in our collection.  
>do you have a courier account number?  
>  
>we really like this idea. maybe we could screen the results here as well.  
>kindly, instant coffee

# Instant Coffee

## Instant Coffee FAQ

What is Instant Coffee anyway?

Instant Coffee is a service oriented artist collective that initiates and facilitates the creation and execution of artist's projects.

What does Instant Coffee do?

sometimes we put shows together.

sometimes we promote other peoples shows.

sometimes we make stuff.

we talk about ourselves a lot.

as individuals we pursue different financially rewarding careers...or not.

we don't dress for the jobs we have, but for the jobs we want.

Do you consider yourself caffeinated or decaffeinated?

We like to think of ourselves as hyper-caffeinated.

I've heard that an IC show is really just a party with art around - is that true?

Capital 'A' Art is the key, we just like it to culminate in a party. But sometimes the party takes over.

What are these Instant Coffee mailing lists that I keep hearing about?

There's a lot going on; lots of openings, lots of showings, lots and lots to do art-wise. IC simply compiles a list of these and emails them to you, so you know what's going on. Also, for those ambitious art stars, we list calls for submissions from anywhere and everywhere.

How is an Instant Coffee mailing list better than what's already listed in the paper? Wouldn't you rather be where Instant Coffee is?

And is it really listed in the paper? And if it is, so what - the IC list is a compliment, not a competition. It's just more convenient to check email than to wait for the paper.

I'm psyched. How do I join a mailing list?

For the local Toronto list email us at [events@instantcoffee.org](mailto:events@instantcoffee.org). For the Halifax and Vancouver lists, email [halifax@instantcoffee.org](mailto:halifax@instantcoffee.org) or [vancouver@instantcoffee.org](mailto:vancouver@instantcoffee.org) respectively. We also have an inter/national list for those who don't give a shit if jack and jill are having a party this Friday in Toronto, and the email is [national@instantcoffee.org](mailto:national@instantcoffee.org).

We generally reserve this list for calls for submissions and other far-ranging things we're interested in.

Why do you run a Halifax and Vancouver list if you're a Toronto based group?

Because Halifax really needs us and because we like Halifax and because technology allows us to do these things. As for Vancouver, it's because we're nice.

Does anyone besides yourselves think instant coffee email lists are a good thing?

Yes. Here's some examples of feedback we've received, and in addition there's the silent praise of new list members signing up daily:

I never thought that I would like instant coffee so much! Although living in a small town is beautiful, you just don't get the news that you would like...

Edward Deary

Hi coffee folk,  
Thanks for mentioning the Inter-Arts office newsletter info and for this valuable service...  
Claude Schryer

Thanks for the prompt reply. Instant Coffee always provides good service!  
Ian

Dear InstantL  
I enjoy getting your posts - thanks.

Cliff Eyland

I notice the Instant Coffee website isn't updated every day. What's up?  
The website is more of an archive of events, and our online magazine Instant Coffee Saturday Edition goes up once a month.

How can I get involved - how do I submit a project?

Email [everyone@instantcoffee.org](mailto:everyone@instantcoffee.org), or talk to us at an opening. Check the profiles page to see who we are.

If I get involved with Instant Coffee, do I get a cool and sexy ID card?

You probably already have one in your wallet....

Does Instant Coffee have any ultimate goals?

We're too invested in immediate gratification to think about the future.

Does Instant Coffee have anything written down that makes it sound like they have their shit together?

Yes, here and there; here's an bio (not for reprint):

INSTANT COFFEE BIOGRAPHY (May 2003)

Instant Coffee is a service oriented collective of artists, writers, curators, designers and code writers. Together they have developed a practice that culminates in bringing together large numbers of artists, designers, musicians and other cultural producers under loosely themed events. They offer networking services that promote local, national and international activities and publish a monthly on-line magazine, Instant Coffee Saturday Edition. In conjunction with their events, they also publish bookworks, posters and other multiples. Instant Coffee's most consistent members are Cecilia Berkovic, Timothy Comeau, Jinhan Ko, Kate Monroe, Jenifer Pappararo, and Jon Sasaki.

Instant Coffee developed, in part, as a response to the division and exaggerated difference between studio and exhibition practice. It wanted to offer its community a public place of practice, where ideas, materials and actions could be explored outside of the isolated studio and away from formal exhibition structures, but still supported by a critical discourse or at least offer the potential for one. From the beginning this need for a public place of practice was extended to a variety of disciplines, such as design, music and writing. In creating a space about work outside conventional modes of production, Instant Coffee privileges the relations built on the stuff of work, while also moving the notion of work toward a discussion of the social. "Instant Coffee seems to be of the right stuff because it is a little tacky, all consuming and cheap. Yet it still holds enough allure, as contemporary products go, and it mimics the real thing."

Instant Coffee is alright; trust Instant Coffee.

[www.instantcoffee.org](http://www.instantcoffee.org) ([www.instantcoffee.org](http://www.instantcoffee.org) was first registered as a domain name to the Instant Coffee artist collective in May of 2000).

# “Long Beach Led Zep” Kevin Schmidt, 2002

Long Beach Led Zep is an eight-minute video, looped for installation purposes, in which I stand on Vancouver Island’s Long Beach and play Led Zeppelin’s 1971 “Stairway to Heaven” in its entirety. I play the song on an electric guitar through a Marshall amplifier powered by a gasoline generator. Landscape and overwrought rock sentimentality combine here to become beautiful, despite the clichéd natures of each component. In my artistic practice I am interested in reclamation of transcendent possibility, however fleeting and hopeless that might seem.