

Christo

Born Gabrovo, Bulgaria, 1935
Resident New York City

Ron Cooper

Born New York City, 1943
Resident Venice, California

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In November, 1968, Christo wrote to us:

I am very anxious to have a 5600 cubic meter package erected in the United States and my friend Bill Copley suggested that I interest you in this project.

I also send you two photographs of another project: 15 miles packed coast that could be realized simultaneously with the erection of the air package.

These two gigantic projects should be presented by the Los Angeles County Museum as an exhibition where the Museum's activities go beyond the usual Museum space.

Los Angeles artist Ron Cooper came to us in October, 1970 to discuss two proposals for environmental art works.

Cooper, consulting with various experts on his own, had satisfied himself that the projects as he conceived them would work technically, but needed financial and technical assistance.

One work involved projecting variously colored light from several points around the perimeter of a room so that the respective shafts would converge in the center, forming a white, cube-shaped configuration [1]; the second proposal entailed projecting colored light into a reflective pan of water on the floor, so as to direct mixed light beams from the water surface onto a wall, filling a rectangular area with white light. [2]

We were intrigued with the ideas as he presented them to us, and it happened that G.E., whose previous collaboration with Dan Flavin had ended unfulfilled, was still potentially available and willing to take on another artist. We therefore sent Cooper to G.E.'s Nela Park Advanced Lighting Division, where he presented his projects and consulted chiefly with lighting engineer Terry McGowan. Later, G.E. indicated that, although they were technically able to realize one or both art works, they would or could not expend sufficient funds to bring it to completion.