

# #9 Rafael Lozano-Hemmer: The Year’s Midnight (Shadow Box #5)

## Audio Description Script by Fred Brack

“The Year's Midnight (Shadow Box #5),” by Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, is certainly one of the most unusual exhibits. Kids will love it! The artist specializes in works of art which directly engage viewers, making them an integral part of the exhibit. This particular one is described as “disquieting, humorous, and transformative.” The museum has purchased this exhibit.

A five-foot-high by two-foot-wide flat-screen video monitor hangs on the wall. On the floor in front of the monitor is a one-foot circle with the words “Stand Here” written inside. When you DO stand there, your image appears in the monitor, and immediately the area around your eyes turns bright white and smoke starts pouring out of them! The smoke plumes upwards to the top of the screen, where it fans out to each side and then slowly streams down the sides, dissipating about shoulder height.

If you move sideways, the smoke continues to pour from your eyes. If you move backwards out of the circle, the smoke continues up to a point, after which it stops, and the image of your eyes falls to the bottom of the screen, joining the previous five visitors’ eyes. The viewer now becomes part of the exhibit, at least for a while!