

# COASTAL CALLS

>> SHIMA IUCHI AND SAKI MUROTANI

*Coastal Calls*, 2009, in collaboration with Jean Routhier

Iuchi and Routhier presented two videos comprised of Iuchi's animations with Routhier's sound compositions. Set on the top of the Vancouver Japanese Language School overlooking the port of Vancouver, *Coastal Calls* investigated ideas of memory, language and communication. Tracing the vocal and migratory patterns of transient Orca whales, the artists spoke to the duality of dislocation and communion that embodies cultural and linguistic migrations. While one video animated Iuchi's journal entries from her time in Canada, across the wall another video simultaneously animated her Japanese journal. Routhier accompanies Iuchi's animations with compositions of whale vocalizations, and English and Japanese speech patterns. At once dislocating and familiar, the sounds and visions expose the experience of cultural immersion and exchange.

