

THE I LOVE YOU PROJECT  
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# Press Release

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## THE I LOVE YOUR PROJECT EXHIBITION IN BERLIN, GERMANY

BERLIN, GERMANY MAY 17, 2013: THE I LOVE YOU PROJECT® which is an interactive social art project comes to Berlin, Germany during the 48 Hour Neukölln Festival June 14-16, 2013. The multi-media installation including video, sound, and photos will be on exhibit June 14-16 at Schillerpalais in Neukölln, Berlin. Photographers Debbie T. Davies and Julius Schön will videotape visitors saying “I Love You” in different languages during the Schillerpalais exhibition, and at La Pecora Nera restaurant. The videos and photographs on display include multi-cultural participants living in Barcelona, Frankfurt, and Giessen. Images were captured by New York-based Davies using a digital microscope camera; sound recording and music composition by Giessen-based Schön, and editing by New York-based Kendall Smith and Santina Amato. This exhibition is part a global initiative celebrating diversity and uniting people within communities by expressing love within the context of a visual art form. German artist Michaela Kirschning will also exhibit at Schillerpalais. Her project is titled The Blessing Tree. A sculpture will be fashioned of wood and metal to resemble a human form. This corpus will be populated with objects donated by Neukölln citizens of different ages and different cultural backgrounds.

### INFORMATION

Exhibition title: “THE I LOVE YOU PROJECT”

Location 1: “Schillerpalais” Schillerpromenade 4 Berlin, Germany 12049 Website: <http://www.schillerpalais.de>

Tel: 49- 030 6272 4670 [info@schillerpalais.de](mailto:info@schillerpalais.de). Contact: Klaus Eichner.

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Location 2: "La Pecora Nera" Herrfurthplatz 6 Berlin, Germany 12049 Website: <http://www.pecoraberlin.de>

Tel: 49 30 25013346 [info@pecoraberlin.de](mailto:info@pecoraberlin.de). Contact: Jana Meier Siemon

Festival: 48 Stunden Neukölln Karl-Marx-Strasse 131 Berlin, Germany 12043 Website: [www.48-stunden-neukoelln.de](http://www.48-stunden-neukoelln.de)

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Dates & Times.

- Schillerpalais: Videotaping during Friday June 14 7pm-10pm; Saturday June 15 & Sunday June 16 10am-2pm.

Exhibition runs from Friday June 14 7pm through Sunday June 16 7pm

- La Pecora Nera: Videotaping during Saturday June 15 & Sunday June 16 3:30pm-7pm.

Video will be displayed during these same hours.

Collaborators:

- Debbie T. Davies, Visual Artist [www.theiloveyouproject.net](http://www.theiloveyouproject.net).
- Julius Schön, Sound Artist [www.juliusschoenphotography.com](http://www.juliusschoenphotography.com)
- Kendall Smith, Video Editor.
- Santina Amato, Video Editor [www.santinaamato.com](http://www.santinaamato.com)

## DESCRIPTION

In March 2011 The I Love You Project was conducted in Raval, Spain. New York artist Debbie T. Davies used a digital electronic microscope camera to capture videos and photos of 82 people saying "I love you" in 18 languages for an exhibition in Barcelona, Spain. In summer 2012 she visited Frankfurt and Giessen in Germany and captured images of over 80 people representing 32 languages for the Hessen version of the project. The digital microscope camera creates unexpected images that play with skin tone, contrast, color, speed, and light in unexpected ways. Participants say "I Love You" into the camera in whatever language they prefer. German sound artist Julius Schön records voices separately and creates an original music soundtrack to include all participants. The result is a multi-media installation; an immersive experience sharing the diverse faces and voices of the people who live and work in these cities. Video edited by Kendall Smith, Santina Amato, and Debbie Davies, is projected onto screens and plays continuously. Photos are displayed connected to each other to form a large mosaic wall hanging. Through this project, the artists hope to unite residents, and show that change begins through love. This project is the part of an ambitious global initiative to reproduce this experience in other cities. In Berlin, during the 48 Hour Neukölln festival, Davies and Schön will record visitors in both a gallery [Schillerpalais] and restaurant [La Pecora Nera] setting. Due to the high immigrant population of the area, they hope to yield an enormous number of images and languages to become part of a future exhibition in Germany. Michaela Kirschning's "Blessing Tree" exhibition is also on exhibit in Schillerpalais, and will include photos of the objects contributed to the sculpture of a human form. Residents will comment on the significance of these objects. The Blessing Tree will bring people into conversation about these symbolic statements. This will encourage further inter-cultural and inter-generational dialogue.