Self-portrait as a wall divided proportionally between this black type representing life lived and the remaining white space representing life to come, based on statistical life expectancy.

Micah Lexier: A Portrait and a Self-Portrait, Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario, 2000
A WALL DIVIDED BETWEEN THIS
PRESENTING THE REMAINING
PRESENTING
SED ON EXPECTANCY
Some information about the artwork Self-portrait as a wall divided proportionally between this black type representing life lived and the remaining white space representing life to come, based on statistical life expectancy.

The artwork represents the ratio 37/75 (49.3% black type to 50.7% white wall).

The artwork has been presented thirteen times between 1998 and 2014.

Each time the work is presented, the exact same ratio of black text to white wall is maintained, even though the size and proportion of the wall change.

The artwork was originally made in 1998 for my solo exhibition at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre in Guelph, Ontario.

In the original version, the text was painted on the wall using cut vinyl as a template, but in all subsequent versions only cut vinyl applied directly to the wall has been used.

In addition to the original English version, there is also a French version (shown in Montreal in 1998) and a German version (shown in Berlin in 2005).

The first and only time the text was placed over more than one wall was in Vancouver in 2008.

The first and only time the ratio was updated to reflect my current age was in Toronto in 2013, as part of my solo exhibition at the Power Plant. The original version (ratio of 37/75) was shown on one wall, and the up-dated version (ratio of 52/81) was shown on an identically sized wall directly across from it.

The following is a list of the thirteen times the artwork was presented.


2. Micah Lexier: 37, Musée d’art Contemporain de Montréal, Montréal, Quebec, 1998.


Not Life