

45°36'48 N

Draw a line across the continent of North America, following the line of latitude. At two points this line encounters the shoreline, where the ocean meets the land. Miles apart, these two points are brought together by the grid of the map, the system that helps us understand where we are.

From Sea to Shining Sea makes physical the imagined connections between different and distant landscapes. I used the grid of latitude and longitude as a structure within which to explore the personal connections we develop to specific places. Having experienced some specific, fascinating landscapes on the east coast, I came west and imagined this literal connection between the two. I drew the line across the country and then went to the exact matching place to shoot video that would make the east and west coasts symmetrical. Fascinated by this area where land meets water, I found the various elements of the shoreline in both locations: sea and sand, fast moving water, tiny creatures on the shoreline. The video installation combines the footage from east and west coasts. On one wall is the east, on the opposite the west, and in the middle the two coasts merge into one landscape.

As the project continues, I will continue to match coasts by traveling to more latitude points, matching video footage at each location.

-Vaughn Bell