

Do you see me? / Me vois-tu?

Surveillance technologies have become an omnipresent feature of urban landscapes, with the all-seeing gaze of video surveillance cameras, biometrics, facial recognition software, and the opaque availability and purchasability of location-tracking data transforming public spaces into zones of hyper-visibility and control. The networks of surveillance and matrices of power these systems feed and perpetuate are as pervasive as they are invisible; we know they are there, watching us, but we cannot grasp them, see them, confront them.

Do you see me? reveals these invisible networks of power in Montreal by tracing and displaying the infrastructure of surveillance, represented in two cartographic forms. The first represents over a thousand surveillance camera locations in Montreal and generates speculative networks between them. The second hones in on the area surrounding our case study site, the plaza in front of Mont Royal metro, which is within the field of vision of multiple surveillance cameras and a site where the enforcement of 'order' has resulted in the exclusion and targeting of certain vulnerable public space users. This cartographic exploration illustrates zones of heightened visibility and corridors of invisibility in the area where the gaze breaks down. Stills from surveillance cameras at nearby intersections and point clouds of the case study site are used to see from the perspective of these technologies.

Drawing on this, *Do you see me?* proposes an installation and artistic activation that makes visible the infrastructure of surveillance of the monitored plaza, turning the gaze back onto itself. Four cameras line the installation, with the field of vision of each camera highlighted with cones of light to reveal to users the boundaries of capture. Live-footage from each of these four cameras will be projected onto curved screens, allowing users to interact with the projected footage and raising awareness about the systems of surveillance that surround them.



