Holographic Interstellar-Probe Message Plaques: an Opportunity for Grass-Roots SETI

C Bangs* and G. L. Matloff**

Bangs / Matloff Aerospace Consulting, 417 Greene Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11216, USA e-mail: gregmat@hotmail.com

*Also affiliated with SUNY Empire State College.

** Also affiliated with NYCTC, CUNY and Pratt Institute.

ABSTRACT

C Bangs curated "Messages from Earth" at a summer 2000 IAA symposium in Italy, where 35 artists presented visual messages to be affixed to future interstellar probes. We created in 2001 a prototype interstellar message plaque consisting of 6 multiplexed images on a Rainbow Hologram. Tests at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) revealed that holograms are radiation tolerant. About 300,000 images could be included in a well-designed holographic message plaque, which opens the field to wide grass-roots participation. This work was supported by MSFC contracts H-29712D and H-35191D.