

# SITE REPORT [part II: Tour Guide/City tourist] Sightseeing Bus



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## INTRODUCTION

I've observed that the guide on the tour bus is indeed a performer. The spectators are the people on the bus as well as the people on the street. I was also a spectator and photographer on the street.

## PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Before arriving at the site, I wasn't quite sure about what type of performance I wanted to capture. I know that I wanted something unique. I wanted something that no one in class would technically view as a performance. I originally wanted to photograph one of the caricature artist drawing someone as a performance. Both the subject and artist, I would have viewed as performers. I wanted to illustrate performance in an abstract perception. I knew that I didn't want to photograph the street performers and the "show time" performers in the subway.

## SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos/sketches)



The picture above shows a tour bus waiting for its passengers to board. The tour bus created a perfect atmosphere for performance. It's bright, unusual, and large structure draws attention from cars and pedestrians.



The picture above shows a tour bus in action driving up 8<sup>th</sup> avenue.

### QUALITATIVE SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. Description of the performance object, person, or technology (costume, media, text, props, sets, etc.)  
The tour guide is describing all of the signs and billboards around them. He's wearing a green company shirt and pointed to the different attractions. He was pointing to the red steps at the time, giving a brief history of how the red steps got to time square.
2. Choreography of performance

The tour guide pointed, smiled and stood in front of the bus. He also used a microphone so that all the people on the first level and top level could hear and understand what he was showing and explaining.

3. Description of performance limits (ground, walls, barricades, streets, buildings)

The tour guide was limited to the tour bus. He had to sit at times, especially when passing stop lights due to the potential of running into the actual light.

4. Description of audience (static, moving, direction of attention)

The audience looked at him briefly, however, their attention was mostly focused on what he was describing, taking photos, and looking at all the other things that were going on around them.

5. Description of audience (socio-economic, community identity)

The audience seemed to be tourist inside the bus. Outside the bus there was a mixture of businessman, pedestrians, street performers, and tourist.

6. Description of performer/spectator dynamics (engagement, morphology)

The performer was well spoken and friendly. He seemed to have paid great attention to detail. His demeanor was welcoming.

7. Other Observations

In order for this performance to happen, there are people working on the street to attract customers for the tour.

## QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Size of performance space	13 feet tall and 8.5 feet wide and 45 feet long
Size of spectator space	One the bus, it would be the same as the bus size. The space of the spectators on the street was unlimited.
Range of dynamic change	He traveled from the front of the bus to the back.
# of points of focus	4
Number of spectators (range)	4-infinity
Time period of performance	2 hours-2 days
# of repetitions	Depends on the amount of spectators
Cost of performance (if any)	\$36-\$79
Other data	

## QUESTIONS TO RESEARCH FURTHER

### QUESTIONS:

1. Are these tour buses safe?
2. What was the 1<sup>st</sup> tour bus company in NYC?
3. How much money do the sightseeing tour companies make per year?

### RESEARCH METHOD/SOURCE FOR EACH QUESTION ABOVE:

1. Question 1
  - a. <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/NYC-Doesnt-Track-Sightseeing-Bus-Accidents-270669911.html>
2. Question 2
  - a. N/A
3. Question 3
  - a. NA. However, NY plans on making 70 billion in tourism this year.

## SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

I enjoyed my search to finding a performance different from all the others. I found that the tour guide actually performed for not just the tourist on the bus, but also for the other people surrounding the bus at the time. He draws attention due to his brightly colored shirt and microphone. The bus itself is also an attention grabber.