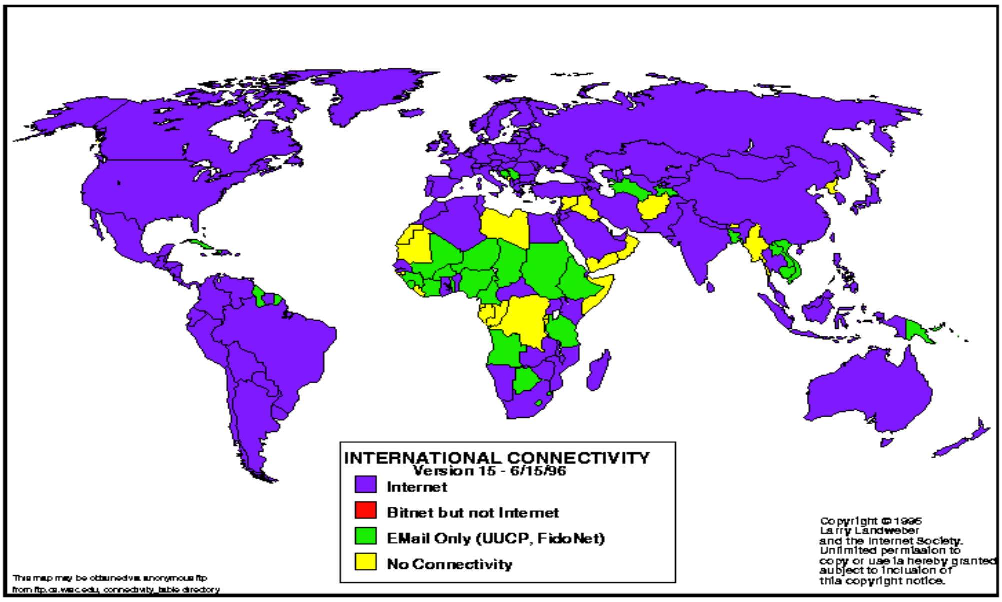
Since 800 BC transportation system has developed from taking the sea-routes and the use of various means of transport. Several works reinterpret the journey and stations of Odysseus in a contemporary way. Artists of our century were also inspired by thoughts of changing distances and significance of locations, an outstanding example is Walter Grond in his "Absolut Homer".

In 1992 Walter Grond created an enormous piece of concept-art in the field of literature. Using Christine Pellech’s theory of Odysseus journey as a Phoenician world tour as starting point, he encouraged young authors to visit the locations of The Odyssey between Sinai and the Lofotes, the Niagara falls and Tierra del Fuego, Australia, India and Arabia. The result is a contemporary literary work of traveling impressions.

Furthermore this journey constitutes an excellent metaphor for illustrating the theory of acceleration, the shrinking of the world to a global village. Instead of traveling along the sea-routes, Odysseus will go along the lines of the Internet.

a worldwide Theaterperformance

Oudeis - a world wide odyssey will be seen on seven stages all around the world. On every stage a real actor will not only perform but will interact with his virtual opponents coming from the stages that are combined by the lines of the Internet.



Oudeis - a world wide odyssey follows a tradition of mail art and fax art. The Canadian Robert Adrian X, who now lives and works in Vienna, was a pioneer of art using telecommunication tools. Speaking about his project "The World in 24 Hours" which was performed at the Ars Electronica in 1982 he already expressed the wish to build a world map out of the lines of telecommunication but was bound to some limits at this early date:

> The intention of The World in 24 Hours was to follow the midday sun around the planet - creating a kind of telematic world map. Of course the most noticeable thing about this map is that it includes only the capitalist industrial nations - 3/4 of the world is missing - which is a problem that will haunt all telecommunications programs for the foreseeable future.
> (Robert Adrian X: Elektronischer Raum. In: Im Netz der Systeme, Kunstforum International. Band 103, Sept/Okt. 1989)

There are still local limits to an artistic project in the field of telecommunication but the development of an international network can easily be seen.

the Venues

Europe:	Vienna / Messepalast
Europe:	Rom / Teatro Vascello
North America:	Chicago / Studio Z
South America:	Rio / Museum of Modern Art
South America:	Buenos Ayres / Complejo Teatral Margarita Xirgu
Australia:	t.b.a
Asia:	Hongkong / t.b.a.
	and every Computer with Internetconnection

The map of Odysseus' world tour is now redrawn to a world tour appropriate for the 20th century. From Austria, Italy, Illinois Odysseus goes south to Argentina and Brazil rounding the earth to Australia and is going north again to China. The eighth stage, which can not be seen on this map, is the stage found in the World Wide Web, accessible from every computer all around the world that is hooked on to the Internet.