“Structuring Somnolence: Sleep Science Technology as a Medium for Drawing with the Body at Rest” is an investigation into the fields of sleep science and art. By utilizing the tools and technologies of contemporary sleep research, a series of photographs were developed by artist Lisa Carrie Goldberg in conjunction with both SymbioticA, the art-science research centre, and the Centre for Sleep Science at the University of Western Australia. In December 2010, three volunteers participated in a two-week sleep study conducted by the artist in a sleep laboratory. It was through these nocturnal events that the process of employing the body and the mind during sleep as a means of art making was realized.
Lisa Carrie Goldberg is a multidisciplinary artist based in Toronto. Her artwork often takes the form of full-sensory installations that examine the realm of art and science. Past projects have covered topics in neuroscience, anthropometry and microbiology, as her studio practice is usually accompanied by field research in laboratories and academic settings. Through this process, her work involves collaborations with both scientists and other non-artists. She has a BFA in Interrelated Media from Massachusetts College of Art and Design and a Master of Science in Biological Arts from SymbioticA, the art-science research centre, at The University of Western Australia. Her thesis focused on the correlations between sleep science, art and architecture, an investigation which led her to conduct a series of experimental all-night performances held inside a sleep laboratory. Her artwork has been shown in Canada, United States, Europe and Australia and she is currently an Artist-in-Residence at The Art Gallery of Mississauga. Recently, Lisa founded Action Potential Lab, a hub for artistic and scientific research in Toronto. Email: lisa@actionpotentiallab.ca