

KINETICA ART FAIR 2011 PRESS CLIPPINGS

Timeout

31 January 2011

You are a visiting professor here in London, so are there any budding young prodigies out there?
I'm chair in performance art at Brunel University where I have some PhD students, take occasional classes and do my own research. I try to develop students' interest in performance, interactive media and digital arts but I encourage them to develop their own ideas, rather than imposing my practice on them.

Can you describe how your early 'Suspension' performances – in which you would hang your naked body at great heights, using just rope and meat hooks – were received at the time? Were they seen as self-harm or sculpture?
There were 27 body suspensions in varying positions, in differing locations and situations. Most of them were done in private; very few were public. I guess the "Suspension" performances were seen by some as self-harm, but I've had more medical problems playing squash. I do have a scar on my left leg from my knee to my ankle from when I awkwardly slipped over a concrete barrier at the Art Gallery of Vancouver. Art can be dangerous but in unexpected ways.

Stelarc: artist or cyborg?

Legendary sci-artist Stelarc tells Ossian Ward what happens when technology takes over the human body

In the name of art, Australian performer Stelarc has variously hung himself from buildings, built prosthetic robot arms, hooked his own muscle movements up to a computer program and swallowed a motorised sculpture that filmed his insides. This week, to open the Kinetic Art Fair, he will appear as an avatar in Second Life and as a computer-generated talking hologram. If that wasn't strange enough, he often refers to himself as 'we'...

When did you cease to be Stelios Arcadiou and become Stelarc?
I legally changed my name in 1972. So Stelarc has been on my passport, driver's licence and credit cards for the last 38 years.

You talk about the body being obsolete, but have you yet found a use for the extra ear you had implanted in your arm in 2006?

The "Ear on Arm" project is still a work in progress, as it's partly surgically constructed and partly cell-grown. The ear construct is firmly fixed in place and has its own blood supply but we

still need to grow a soft earlobe using my stem cells. During the second surgery we had a small microphone implanted, which had to be extracted after two weeks because of infection. The idea is to reinsert the mic and connect it to the internet via a wifi transmitter, so that the ear will become a hearing device for people in other places.

“The more performances I do the less I think I have a mind of my own”



How could the human body evolve to help it function better in our increasingly technological world?
Evolution, in the Darwinian sense

Was that the last time you did any real self-modification and how far would you go to experiment with your own body?
Well, these projects – "The Third Hand", "The Extended Arm", "Exoskeleton" – should not be seen as body modification, but as body augmentation. As for any limits of experimentation, it is not about simply transgressing boundaries but rather actualising ideas. Sometimes these ideas are physically difficult, sometimes technically challenging.

occurs over millions of years, with random mutations and with natural selection. The exponential development of computational devices, robotics, genetic engineering and virtual systems means the human body will be augmented and extended with alternative anatomical architectures in hundreds, rather than millions, of years.

How long before you are able to clone yourself? Would you prefer future Stelarc to be biological or robotic twins?
As an artist I'm only interested in plausible ideas so that I can experience them directly. Cloning myself isn't an option. Engineering an extra ear is.

For your performances at the Kinetic Art Fair you will be appearing simultaneously on stage and in virtual reality. How will we be able to interact with your self-portrait?
The audience will be able to interrogate the "Prosthetic Head". We are using the Musion 3D projection system to display the head as a floating hologram complete with facial expressions that are tagged to particular scripted responses.

How has the art world treated you? Has it taken you seriously?

It's not a matter of being taken seriously or not, but rather that you feel that you are meaningfully contributing as an artist. And that means generating unexpected ideas and images. I guess the Ars Electronica Hybrid Arts Award last year was an acknowledgement in media arts practice that some of what I do is interesting.

Is there ever a spiritual element to your work?

None at all. The more performances I do the less I think I have a mind of my own in the traditional metaphysical sense.

Who is your favourite on-screen man-machine hybrid? Terminator, Tetsuo, or the Six Million Dollar Man, perhaps?

Sci-fi cyborgs are just dystopian bodies with amplified human pathologies in catastrophic futures. I am much more enamoured with the replicants in "Blade Runner".

Stelarc will be performing 'Rotating Brains and Beating Hearts' on Thur Feb 3 and 'The Prosthetic Head' on Fri Feb 4 and Sun Feb 6 at the **Kinetic Art Fair**, which takes place at Ambika P3, Feb 3-6 (see Other Events).

www.timeout.com/art

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New York Times


2nd February 2011

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February 2, 2011, 6:00 AM 2 Comments

At London Show, Art Meets Science

By GARY MOSKOWITZ



Courtesy of Kinetica Museum

Cécile Colle and Ralf Nuhn's "Exit-Wall," part of the Kinetica Art Fair, is a modular installation comprising 200 exit signs assembled by means of permanent magnets.

Throughout the three-day [Kinetica Art Fair](#), fans of scientific specifics — robotics, wave forms, gravity — will grapple with more human, philosophical ideas — spirituality, relationships. The fair, which runs Feb. 4 to 6, is a place to witness artists “harnessing the powers of nature and cosmic energy as a means of expression,” according to event organizers.

Luminescent orbs, man-animal-machine hybrids, walking chairs, and sculptures made from material used by NASA to collect stardust are some of the items that will be on display. Performances, talks and events will focus on topics like quantum theory and harmonic resonance, ideas for a free currency, and hypnotic audiovisual experiences.

Put on by the [Kinetica Museum](#), the third-annual fair will take place at the Ambika P3 Gallery (35 Marylebone Road; 44-207-392-9674; [www.p3exhibitions.com](#)). The Fair will feature more than 400 works from galleries and art organizations across Britain and elsewhere, and exhibitors from 11 different countries.

The Kinetica Museum founders Dianne Harris and Tony Langford began Kinetica because they believed technological art was underrepresented in other museums, galleries and art fairs, according to Mr. Langford.

“In a time of recession and increased global awareness about climate change, artists are inspired to focus on harnessing the powers of nature and cosmic energy as a means of expression,” Mr. Langford said. “The works exhibited aim to increase awareness to the evolution of us as a species and expose

The fair has doubled in size since its inception three years ago, he added.

Independent

28th January 2011



3rd Kinetica Art Fair
 February 3-6
 Kinetica Museum
 London, UK

The Kinetica Art Fair bridges the gaps between science, art and technology. From kinetic sculptures to weird science experiments to artworks created hand in hand with cutting-edge technology, the Kinetica Art Fair encompasses all disciplines of new media art. This year's feature exhibition focuses on the evolution of man. The extensive events program features live performances by internationally renowned artists Stelarc, Holotronica, Photophonis and New Opera Hero. Similar events include the Ars Electronica Festival (September 2011) and MIT's Festival of Art, Science and Technology aka FAST (February 2011).

http://www.kinetica-artfair.com/?about_us/art-fair.html


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New Scientist

4th February 2011



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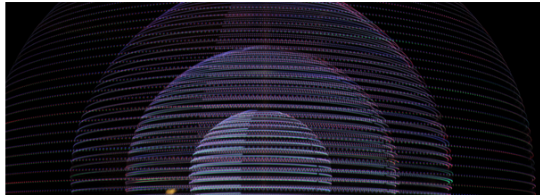



Angels, lemons and calculators at Kinetica Art Fair

12:14 4 February 2011

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Kat Austen, CultureLab editor

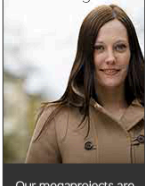


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03 Kinetica Art Fair 2011

February 3rd to February 6th 2011 | Exhibition | Other


A Wired reader wrote...

Kinetica Art Fair is the UK's only art fair dedicated to kinetic, robotic, new media, electronic, sound, light and time-based art and takes place from 3 - 6 February 2011 at the Ambika P3, Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5LS.

Now in its third year, the Fair has doubled in size and features over 400 artworks from galleries and art organisations across the UK and internationally. Work ranges in price from £60 - £35,000. Over 25 talks, events and performances will also take place.

For the first time, world-renowned performance artist Stelarc will appear at the Fair. The artist attracted global attention for his Ear on Arm project, which involved the grafting of an extra ear on his forearm, which in time will be connected to the Internet. At the Fair, he will perform a world first - performing both on stage and live in Second Life as he journeys through the human body. The Mursion Holographic System will bring Second Life avatars into the auditorium in 3D form to share the same space as the human audience.

Kinetica Art Fair brings together galleries, art organisations and curatorial groups from around the world who focus on universal concepts and evolutionary processes through the medium of kinetic, robotic, new media, electronic, sound, light and time-based art.



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Weird and wonderful at the 2011 Kinetica Art Fair

TONY LANGFORD
Kinetica Art Fair

4 February 2011 Last updated at 07:00

A futuristic zoo, an interactive sphere and a man with an ear growing out of his arm are all featured in the 2011 Kinetica Art Fair.

Now in its third year, Kinetica claims to be the UK's only art fair dedicated to robotic, new media, electronic, sound, light and time-based art.

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