

4-2012

Fall 2012 Visiting Researchers and Artists Series

New Media Department

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Cultural Affairs Committee
and
Distinguished Lecture Series
c/o Wanda Madden-Carr
200 Alumni Hall
University of Maine

May 10, 2012

To: Owen Smith

From: Melissa Mayard & Dan Sandweiss, Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Cultural Affairs Committee and Distinguished Lecture Series, it gives us great pleasure to inform you that your proposal, New Media Fall 2012 Visiting Researchers and Artists Series, has been awarded \$5059.40.

Please contact Wanda Madden-Carr at 1-1516 to discuss the procedures in place for the submission of financial expenses related to this award at your earliest convenience.

The following acknowledgement is required on ALL promotional material: ***This event was supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.***

Attached is a form for your use to summarize the benefits derived from this grant. This form should be submitted within 30 days after the conclusion of the event. Timely submission of your summary will be considered as part of any future funding requests.

The Cultural Affairs Committee members congratulate you and wish you much success on this project.

cc: Velma Figgins

CULTURAL AFFAIRS/DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES
GRANT APPLICATION

I. Applicant/Organization: Dr. Owen F. Smith/Department of New Media and Intermedia MFA Program

II. a. Responsible Organization Officer: Dr. Owen F. Smith

b. Title: Fall 2012 Visiting Researchers and Artists Series

c. Campus Address (include Email and Telephone):

University of Maine
5713 Chadbourne Hall, Rm 404
Orono ME 04469
581-4389
owen.smith@umit.maine.edu

III. Summary of program requiring funding (title; featured artist(s); speaker(s); scheduled date(s):

The New Media Department and Intermedia MFA Program are requesting funds to help support a fall lecture series. The following visiting artists will share their expertise in the following areas: an evening lecture with a question and answer period to follow, classroom visits, direct one-on-one student meetings and/or critiques and performances or other public presentations. The following artists have been selected because of the quality and engaging nature of their work. The artists' desire to interact with the students in a learning environment and to engender excitement about the arts on campus was another qualifying factor in their selection. The spring Intermedia Lecture Series has many benefits to the University of Maine and the local community. Some academic programs that will directly benefit from the lecture series include: Anthropology, Philosophy, Science, Music, Theater, English, Film Studies, Sculpture, Art and Performing Art. The contributions of the Visiting Artist Series include, but are not limited to, exposure to distinguished and contemporary artists, educationally beneficial engagement opportunities, and interaction with professionals from a variety of ethnic, cultural and critical backgrounds.

Shannon Rankin - (September 18 & 19, 2012)

Shannon Rankin creates installations, collages and sculptures that use the language of maps to explore the connections among geological and biological processes, patterns in nature, geometry and anatomy. Using a variety of distinct styles Rankin intricately cuts, scores, wrinkles, layers, folds, paints and pins maps to produce revised versions that often become more like the terrains they represent. These new geographies explore notions of

place, perception and experience, suggesting the potential for a broader landscape and inviting viewers to examine their relationships with each other and the world we share.

www.artistshannonrankin.com/home.html

Mafalda Budib - (September 25 & 26, 2012)

Aguascalientes, Mexico-based artist, Mafalda Budib, has been working for more than 20 years as an internationally recognized fiber artist. Her work often blends anthropological study with artistic vision and has worked very closely with Mexican indigenous peoples for more than 15 years. For many years Budib has directed and curated shows throughout the United States and Mexico. She recently curated a show in Qatar.

For information on her recent curatorial exhibition please visit:

www.eventful.com/houston_tx/events/qatar-narratives-echoing-/E0-001-017265067-7

Kelly Dobson - (October 16 & 17, 2012)

Long before implants, splicing, and cyborgs, people and machines co-evolved as companion species. Critical infoldings happen in the connections between people and machines, and my work in Machine Therapy investigates these engagements. The machines (some made by me, some found) have expressive engaging behaviors, strength of character, negotiative egos and neurotic propensities.

Working in the realms of art, design, engineering, psychology and society, Kelly explores the relationships between people and machines, and has received a Master of Science degree from MIT's Visual Studies Program and another from the MIT Media Lab. Currently, as a researcher and PhD candidate at the MIT Media Lab, she is developing a method of personal, societal, and psychoanalytical engagement termed Machine Therapy. Machine Therapy is in response to the overwhelmingly pervasive effects of machines in everyday life. Machine Therapy is tangentially about the parapaxis of machine design – what machines do and mean for people other than what we consciously designed them to do and be used for. In her current work Kelly combines research in digital signal processing and machine learning, technology and society studies, and art and therapy.

www.web.media.mit.edu/~monster

Ali Momeni – (October 30 & 31, 2012)

Ali Momeni is a builder, composer and performer interested in the poetics of gesture, affect and timing. His work makes use all manners of technology to explore the social lives of objects and their embedded performative qualities. His creative output ranges from kinetic sculptures and sound installations, to urban interventions and music theater performance.

Momeni was born in Isfahan, Iran and immigrated to the United States at the age of twelve. He studied physics and music at Swarthmore College and completed his doctoral

degree in music composition, improvisation and performance with computers from the Center for New Music and Audio Technologies in UC Berkeley. He spent three years in Paris where he collaborated with performers and researchers from La Kitchen, IRCAM, Sony CSL and CIRM. After four years as an assistant professorship in the Department of Art at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, where he directed the Spark Festival of Electronic Music and Art, and where runs urban projection collective called the MAW, Momeni begins teaching Carnegie Mellon University this year.

www.alimomeni.net

Jae Rhim Lee - (November 13 & 14, 2012)

Jae Rhim Lee is a visual artist, designer, and researcher whose work proposes unorthodox relationships between the mind/body/self and the built and natural environment. Jae Rhim's work follows a research methodology which includes self-examination, transdisciplinary immersion and dialogue, and diy design, ultimately taking the form of living units, furniture, wearables, recycling systems, and personal and social interventions.

In 2008, after working for the City of New Orleans Mayor's Office of Recovery Development and Administration, Jae Rhim founded and directed the MIT FEMA Trailer Project. The Project examined the environmental, social and political history of FEMA Trailers deployed in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and transformed a single surplus FEMA Trailer into the "Armadillo," a mobile composting center with vertical gardens and rainwater catchment system, permaculture library, and indoor multipurpose space.

Jae Rhim's current work, the Infinity Burial Project, proposes alternatives for the post-mortem body and features the training of a unique strain of an edible mushroom to decompose and remediate toxins in human tissue, the development of a decomposition 'kit,' and a membership society devoted to the promotion of death acceptance and the cultivation of decomposing organisms.

Jae Rhim studied psychology and the natural sciences at Wellesley College, received a Master of Science in Visual Studies from MIT, and holds a certificate in permaculture design. Her work has been exhibited in Europe and in the US. She is a recipient of a 2009 Creative Capital Foundation Grant, a 2010 Grant from the Institut fur Raumexperimente/Universitaet der Kunste Berlin, and a 2011 MAK Schindler Scholarship and Artist Residency in Los Angeles, CA. Lee is a 2011 TED Global Fellow and a Research Fellow in the MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology in Cambridge, MA.

www.zonezerozerostudio.com

Tristan Perich- (December 10 & 11, 2012)

Tristan Perich's (New York) work is inspired by the aesthetic simplicity of math, physics and code. The WIRE Magazine describes his compositions as "an austere meeting of electronic and organic." 1-Bit Music, his 2004 release, was the first album ever released as a microchip, programmed to synthesize his electronic composition live. His latest circuit album, 1-Bit Symphony (Cantaloupe, 2010) has received critical acclaim, called "sublime" (New York Press), and the Wall Street Journal said "[its] oscillations have an intense, hypnotic force and a surprising emotional depth." His award winning work coupling 1-bit electronics with traditional forms in both music (Active Field, Observations) and visual art (Machine Drawings, Interval Studies) has been presented around the world, from Sonár and Ars Electronica to the Whitney Museum and bitforms gallery.

www.tristanperich.com

IV. Budget Proposal

See attached for proposed budget.

Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund Budget Proposal Form

Applicant/Organization: New Media Department
 Responsible Officer: Dr. Owen F. Smith
 Event Title: Intermedia Visiting Artist Program
 Event Date: Fall 2012

Total Program Budget:	<u>\$ 10365.91</u>
Amount Committed by Applicant Organization:	<u>\$ 3006.51</u>
Total Amount Requested from Other Funding Sources:	<u>\$ 2300.00</u>
Please List Sources & Amounts below:	
<u>New Media</u>	<u>\$ 2300.00</u>
<u>MFA Program</u>	<u>\$ 3006.51</u>
Amount Requested from CA/DLS Committee:	<u>\$ 5059.40*</u>
Revenues, if any, expected (fees, ticket sales):	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

Budget Breakdown of Expenses and funds to be used:	CADLS	Other
Honoraria/Services (explain below)		
<u>Shannon Rankin</u>	<u>\$ 343.00</u>	<u>\$ 347.00</u>
<u>Kelly Dobson</u>	<u>\$ 343.00</u>	<u>\$ 347.00</u>
<u>Ali Momeni</u>	<u>\$ 343.00</u>	<u>\$ 347.00</u>
<u>Mafalda Budib</u>	<u>\$ 490.00</u>	<u>\$ 510.00</u>
<u>Jae Rhim Lee</u>	<u>\$ 490.00</u>	<u>\$ 510.00</u>
<u>Tristan Perich</u>	<u>\$ 343.00</u>	<u>\$ 347.00</u>
Travel		
<u>Shannon Rankin</u>	<u>\$ 56.48</u>	<u>\$ 58.79</u>
<u>Kelly Dobson</u>	<u>\$ 198.94</u>	<u>\$ 207.06</u>
<u>Ali Momeni</u>	<u>\$ 189.14</u>	<u>\$ 196.86</u>
<u>Mafalda Budib</u>	<u>\$ 349.37</u>	<u>\$ 363.63</u>
<u>Jae Rhim Lee</u>	<u>\$ 329.28</u>	<u>\$ 342.72</u>
<u>Tristan Perich</u>	<u>\$ 189.14</u>	<u>\$ 229.50</u>
Lodging/Meals		
<u>Shannon Rankin</u>	<u>\$ 199.92</u>	<u>\$ 208.08</u>
<u>Kelly Dobson</u>	<u>\$ 199.92</u>	<u>\$ 208.08</u>
<u>Ali Momeni</u>	<u>\$ 199.92</u>	<u>\$ 208.08</u>
<u>Mafalda Budib</u>	<u>\$ 345.45</u>	<u>\$ 359.55</u>
<u>Jae Rhim Lee</u>	<u>\$ 199.92</u>	<u>\$ 208.08</u>
<u>Tristan Perich</u>	<u>\$ 199.92</u>	<u>\$ 208.08</u>
Advertising	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Printing	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Supplies and Materials	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Other (must specify below)	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$100.00*</u>
<u>*Reception for Artists with students,</u>		
<u>community members, faculty</u>		

Total Expenses from CA/DLS funds: \$5059.40*
Total Expenses from other funds: \$5306.51
(These two totals should equal the "Total Program Budget" listed above)

*These amounts should be identical and should not exceed 50% of the total program/event budget. Please note that CA/DLS funds may not be used for receptions and do not normally fund UM employee wages. If an award is granted based on this proposal, reimbursement of expenses will not exceed the total CA/DLS request and will be limited to the types of expenditures outlined above.

Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Grant Report Form

Applicant Organization: New Media Department and Intermedia MFA

Contact Name: Owen F. Smith

Campus Address: 404 Chadbourne Hall

Phone: 1-4389

E-mail: ofsmith@maine.edu

Summary of Program for which grant funds were awarded, including a brief description, place where the program was held, and date and time:

The Intermedia MFA and the New Media Department received funds from CADLS to help support the Fall 2012 visiting artist lecture series. We offered a variety of public lectures, mini-workshops and we included our visiting artists in graduate MFA and undergraduate New Media classes and also afforded graduate students the rare opportunity to have their works reviewed and critiqued individually. These individual critique sessions between visiting artists and scholars have become very popular with Intermedia MFA students. Since the Intermedia MFA program includes students from a wide range of fields and experiences we chose artists and scholars who we felt could best represent the major ideas and skills that the current pool of MFA students are interested in. We are proud to say that this was our most popular series yet and has resulted in several exciting collaborations between students and the visiting scholars. The following is a specific list of the speakers and their activities:

A Tribute to John Cage

September 21, 23, October 16, 30, and November 15

In celebration of the centennial of the birth of John Cage, considered one of the most influential composers of the 20th century, the department offered performances and film screenings for students and the public and collaborated with the University of Maine in Farmington to organize these events in conjunction with an international celebration. The concert at both Farmington and Orono, featured Grammy-Award winning pianist Paul Sullivan, internationally recognized percussionist Gustavo Aguilar and the UMF Experimental Arts Ensemble, and the experimental music collective Les Trois Etoiles and presented a broad range of the John Cage works and were highly attended. Also offered were three documentary films about John Cage on October 16, October 30 and November 15.

Jae Rhim Lee

October 2 – 3, 2012

Visual artist, designer, researcher and TED Talk presenter, Jae Rhim Lee, gave a much-anticipated lecture on October 2, 2012 at 7:00 pm in Lord Hall followed by an enthusiastic question and answer period. Attended by over 65 faculty and both graduate and undergraduate students, Ms. Lee's presentation filled the room to capacity and was our highest attended for the semester. The following day, Ms. Lee met with five graduate students in their studios for

focused individual critiques. Lee's student meetings were in such high demand that she made additional time to meet with 6 grad students over lunch for an engaging conversation about her and the student's work.

Ali Momeni

October 11– 12, 2012

Ali Momeni, an artist and educator from Carnegie Mellon University, dynamically presented a public lecture on the evening of October 11, 2012 at 7:00 pm in Lord Hall about his installation work and projects he has done with students. The lecture was followed by many questions and was very successful, with attendance at 53 people total. The next day, Mr. Momeni visited a first year undergraduate New Media class and spoke more about the use of technology in his work as an artist and educator and was then followed by seven individual meetings with graduate students. We received great feedback from the students after the meetings in which the students mentioned how beneficial the time was with Mr. Momeni.

Sibren Versteeg

October 23 - 24, 2012

Multimedia artist Siebren Versteeg gave a public presentation on October 23rd at 7:00 pm in Lord Hall to an audience of over 40 students and faculty. He presented his digital sculpture, wall murals and collaborative performances including: *Own Nothing, Have Everything* (2007), *Spirit Tours* (2010), *History and Being* (2004) and *Daily Times* (2007). Versteeg focused his talk on the topic of computer programming and the dislocation, juxtaposition, and ever-increasing flow of digital images found in cyberspace. Many of our undergraduate and graduate students were particularly interested in Versteeg's algorithmically generated compositions as they demonstrated the skill set being taught in media classes at the University. In addition to his public talk and student lunch visit, Versteeg met with 12 graduate students for one-on-one meetings, which focused on the development of their personal research projects.

Robert Saunders

November 12 - 14, 2012

Assemblage and text artist Robert Saunders gave a very engaging talk on Fluxus artists and his life's work on November 13, 2012 at 7:00 pm in Lord Hall. Mr. Saunders transformed the lecture room into a small gallery by bringing his paintings, sketch books and assemblages to the lecture and inviting the audience to interact with them instead of just showing images on the screen. Along with conducting 10 graduate studio visits, Mr. Saunders also visited the permaculture design potluck and helped students with ideas relating to a design layout for a public vegetable garden. Mr. Saunders agreed to collaborate with one of our graduate students in a mail art project for the spring of 2013. Many students commented on Robert Saunders honest and open presentation of what it is like to work professionally as an artist.

Tristan Perich

November 27 - 28, 2012

The much anticipated Tristan Perich presented his visual work, musical instruments and compositions on November 27th at 7:00 pm in Lord Hall. The highlight of his presentation were his drawing machines which he invented to produce pen-on-paper drawings according to mathematical formulas. His interests in physics and math appealed to a large number of our students who have backgrounds in engineering and computer programming, which was evident in the long stream of post lecture questions presented by the students. Mr. Perich also conducted a guest lecture in Michael Scott's New Media 102 course in which the students were thrilled to have a successful role model demonstrate the possibilities of programming in the art world. The following day, Mr. Perich lead a hands on workshop for graduate students in how to incorporate computer programming and hardware into their work.

Joanna Malinowska

Tuesday Dec 4 - 5, 2012

Sculptor, video artist and performer Joanna Malinowska gave a dynamic talk on the 11th of December at 7:00 pm in Lord Hall, which covered her playful yet illuminating work that ranged from her Whitney Biennial presentation *Fieldwork* to her documentary on an Inuit Elvis impersonator. Students were particularly excited by her project *Les aventures dans le code § 120.45* which addressed music in an indirect and humorous way and focused on the figure of renowned Polish-Hungarian classical pianist Piotr Anderszewski. Over the course of her visit Malinowska met with 16 graduate students to work with them on the development of their own work. Malinowska generously gave her contact information to students and offered to continue a dialogue with students beyond her visit. We received fantastic feedback about Malinowska's one-on-one visits with students and we are looking forward to working with her again in the future.

How many people attended the event(s)? If possible describe the different audiences that this program served (i.e. UMaine Students, general community, teachers, etc.).

Since many of the visitors did more than one activity during their visit the attendance numbers have been totaled from all the activities that participated in. All the audiences, with the exception of the class visits were open to the public and attended by students, faculty and staff and members of the community.

A Tribute to John Cage – 73 total

Jae Rhim Lee – 95 total

Ali Momeni – 121 total

Siebren Versteeg- 119 total

Robert Saunders- 67 total

Tristan Perich- 108 total

Joanna Malinowska- 68 total

How was the event promoted? Please attach copies of promotional material.

All talks were sent to UMaine public relations, The Graduate School, The Graduate Student Government, listed in the Weekly MPBN calendar, the BDN, the Maine Arts Commission Events and on other calendar listings, sent out to our emailing list of 134 people and listed on First Class. All listings and mentions of the events were credited as being funded by The Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Fund.

Please describe any modifications to program or budget made after award:

At the time when we composed and submitted our grant we had confirmed dates with artists Shannon Rankin (from Maine), Mafalda Budib (from Mexico) and Kelly Dobson (PHD candidate at MIT Media Lab). Unfortunately health issues and schedule conflicts prevented us from bringing these extraordinary artists to the University of Maine. We worked methodically and creatively to seek out and attract artists who demonstrated Intermedia ideas in their work, push boundaries both creatively and critically and whom we felt would engage our particular students with their wide range of interests, research, and creative practices. We worked closely with Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, who also provided funds to support their visit, to find artists Siebren Versteeg and Joanna Malinowska. We ultimately decided to go with Robert Saunders, Jae Rhim Lee, Siebren Versteeg, Joanna Malinowska, Ali Momeni and Tristan Perich. We were also offered the opportunity to participate in the John Cage celebration which allowed us to invite Grammy-Award winning pianist Paul Sullivan, internationally recognized percussionist Gustavo Aguilar and the UMF Experimental Arts Ensemble, and the experimental music collective Les Trois Etoiles. This group of artists made this semester's fall Lecture Series a success and we had strong feedback from the students that this semester's talent was exceptional.

Please see attached the final budget for a reckoning of the full budget for the fall series.

UMaine Intermedia MFA Program Announces Fall 2012 Visiting Artist Series

Press Release
09/12/2012

The University of Maine Intermedia MFA program is pleased to announce the artists for the Fall 2012 Visiting Artist Series. Presenting this Fall are Jae Rhim Lee, Ali Momeni, Siebren Versteeg, Robert Saunders, Tristan Perich and Joanna Malinowska. Each artist will present a public lecture at the University of Maine campus in Orono, Maine.

The six artists for the Fall 2012 Visiting Artist Series will present on their diverse research and art practices that range from, but are not limited to, experimental sound, sculpture, social activism, computer coding and performance.

Jae Rhim Lee (*October 2*) proposes unorthodox relationships between the mind/body/self and the built and natural environment, which take the form of living units, furniture, wearables, recycling systems, and personal and social interventions. (*Correll Lecture Series*)

Ali Momeni (*October 11*) uses all manners of technology to explore the social lives of objects and their embedded performative qualities. The output of his research ranges from kinetic sculptures and sound installations, to urban interventions and music theater performance.

Siebren Versteeg (*October 23*) creates multimedia installations that employ computer programs that mine the Internet for images and then applies them to manipulated algorithms that guide the flow of information to create artworks that engage both choice and chance. (*Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture*)

Robert Saunders (*November 13*) creates work that achieves the effects of verbal communication through the use of intersecting or non-intersecting lines embellished with bold color and artistic abstraction.

Tristan Perich (*November 27*) couples 1-bit electronics with traditional forms in both music (*Active Field, Observations*) and visual art (*Machine Drawings, Interval Studies*). His research is inspired by the aesthetic simplicity of math, physics and code.

Joanna Malinowska (*December 4*) works with video, performance and sculpture-based projects inspired by the intersection of anthropology and art history. (*Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture*).

The University of Maine Intermedia department is excited to host this diverse group of artists, as they will undoubtedly appeal to a wide collection of interests of students, faculty and the local community. We invite you to participate in this lecture series to gain exposure to distinguished and contemporary artists, educationally beneficial engagement opportunities, and interaction with professionals from a variety of ethnic, cultural and critical backgrounds.

Individual press releases will follow announcing time and location.

These events are sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the Department of New Media, the University of Maine Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture and the Correll Lecture Series is sponsored by the Alston D. and Ada Lee Correll Professorships in Education, Engineering and New Media.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@maine.edu



The University of Maine
intermedia
 MFA

Fall 2012 Visiting Artist Series



Jae Rhim Lee

October 2, 7pm 100 Lord Hall

Jae Rhim Lee proposes unorthodox relationships between the mind/body/self and the built and natural environment, which take the form of living units, furniture, wearables, recycling systems, and personal and social interventions. (Correll Lecture Series)



Siebren Versteeg

October 23, 7pm 100 Lord Hall

Siebren Versteeg creates multimedia installations that employ computer programs that mine the Internet for images and then applies them to manipulated algorithms that guide the flow of information to create artworks that engage both choice and chance. (Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture)



Tristan Perich

November 5, 7pm 100 Lord Hall

Tristan Perich couples 1-bit electronics with traditional forms in both music (Active Field, Observations) and visual art (Machine Drawings, Interval Studies). His research is inspired by the aesthetic simplicity of math, physics and code.

Ali Momeni uses all manners of technology to explore the social lives of objects and their embedded performative qualities.

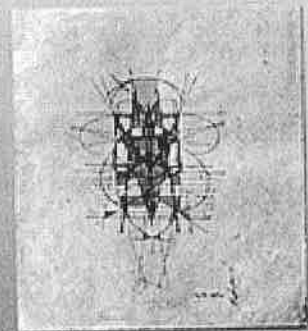
The output of his research ranges from kinetic sculptures and sound installations, to urban interventions and music theater performance.

Ali Momeni
 October 11, 7pm 100 Lord Hall



Robert Saunders
 November 13, 7pm 100 Lord Hall

Robert Saunders creates work that achieves the effects of verbal communication through the use of intersecting or non-intersecting lines embellished with bold color and artistic abstraction.



Joanna Malinowska
 December 4, 7pm 100 Lord Hall

Joanna Malinowska works with video, performance and sculpture-based projects inspired by the intersection of anthropology and art history. (Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture)



These events are sponsored by the Intermedia MFA program, the Department of New Media, the University of Maine Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture and the Correll Lecture Series is sponsored by the Alston D. and Ada Lee Correll Professorships in Education, Engineering and New Media.

A Tribute to John Cage: Free Concerts and Films

Press Release

9/12/12

The University of Maine Intermedia MFA program is pleased to announce A Tribute to John Cage, free concerts and screenings dedicated to the music and creative legacy of American composer John Cage. The concerts will be held on Friday, September 21, 2012, at the Emery Community Arts Center on the University of Maine at Farmington campus at 7:30pm and on Sunday, September 23, 2012, at Minsky Recital Hall on the University of Maine at Orono campus at 2pm. The film screenings will be held on Tuesdays, October 16, 30 and Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 7pm in 100 Lord Hall, University of Maine, Orono.

A Tribute to John Cage concert series is part of an international celebration of the centennial of the birth of John Cage, considered one of the most influential and controversial artists of the 20th century. The concert will present a broad range of this pioneering composer's work spanning 50 years. The concert includes performances by Grammy-Award winning pianist Paul Sullivan, internationally recognized percussionist Gustavo Aguilar and the UMF Experimental Arts Ensemble, and the experimental music collective Les Trois Etoiles. The films presented include the documentaries *I Have Nothing to Say and I Am Saying It* directed by Allan Miller on October 16, *John Cage: A Music Circus*, comprised of performances and conversations about the artist on October 30 and the composed film directed by Henning Lohner, *The Revenge of the Dead Indians: In Memoriam John Cage* on November 15.

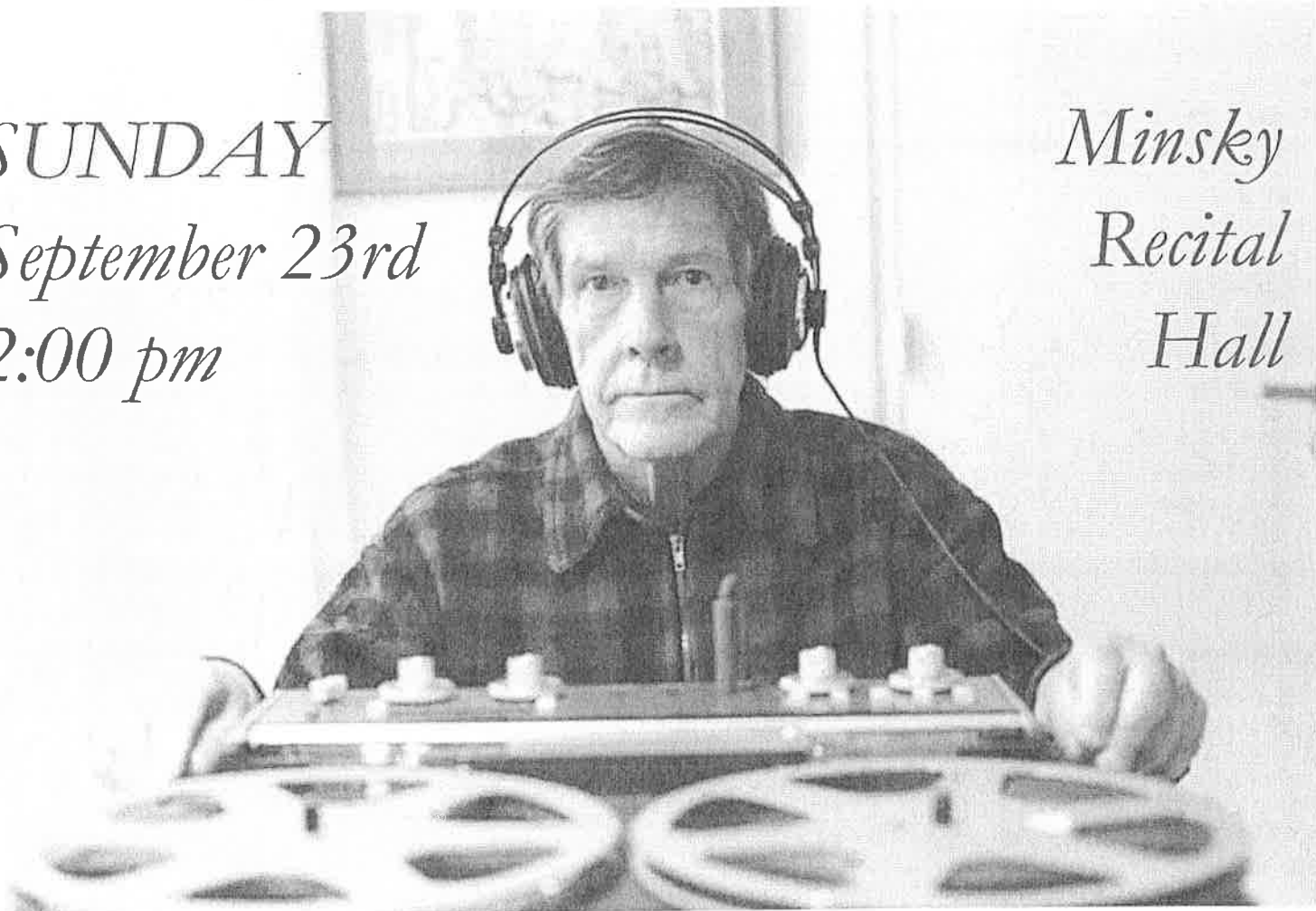
These events are free and open to the public. A Tribute to John Cage is co-sponsored by the University of Maine Intermedia MFA Program, the University of Maine at Farmington Department of Sound, Performance and Visual Inquiry and the University of Maine at Orono School of Performing Arts.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@maine.edu

free concert
UMaine at Orono
A Tribute To John Cage
Celebrating the centennial of the American composer's birth

SUNDAY
September 23rd
2:00 pm

Minsky
Recital
Hall



FEATURING: Grammy Award Winning Pianist Paul Sullivan
Percussionist Gustavo Aguilar
UMF Experimental Arts Ensemble
Les Trois Etoiles

Generous support was provided by the University of Maine Intermedia MFA Program and the University of Maine at Orono School of Performing Arts.

For more information please contact Bethany Engstrom bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

A Tribute to John Cage

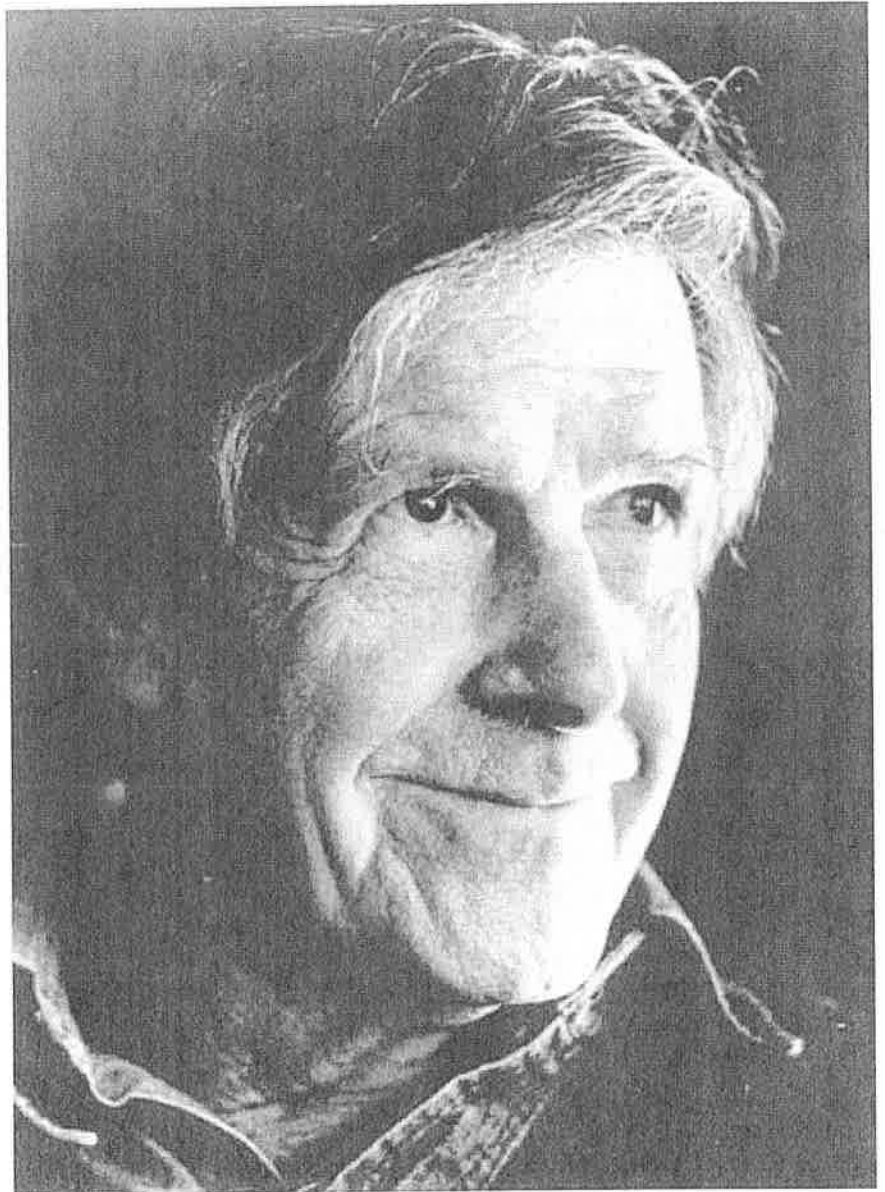
Celebrating the Centennial of the American Composer's Birth

Free Film Screenings at UMaine, Orono

October 16, 7pm
100 Lord Hall
*I Have Nothing to
Say and I Am
Saying It*

October 30, 7pm
100 Lord Hall
*John Cage: A Music
Circus*

November 15, 7pm
100 Lord Hall
*The Revenge of the
Dead Indians: In
Memoriam John
Cage*

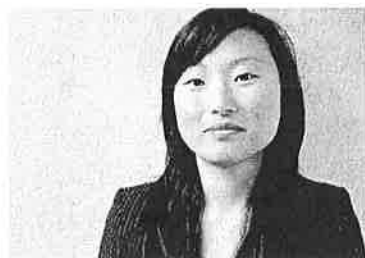


These events are free and open to the public. A Tribute to John Cage is co-sponsored by the University of Maine Intermedia MFA Program and the University of Maine at Orono School of Performing Arts.

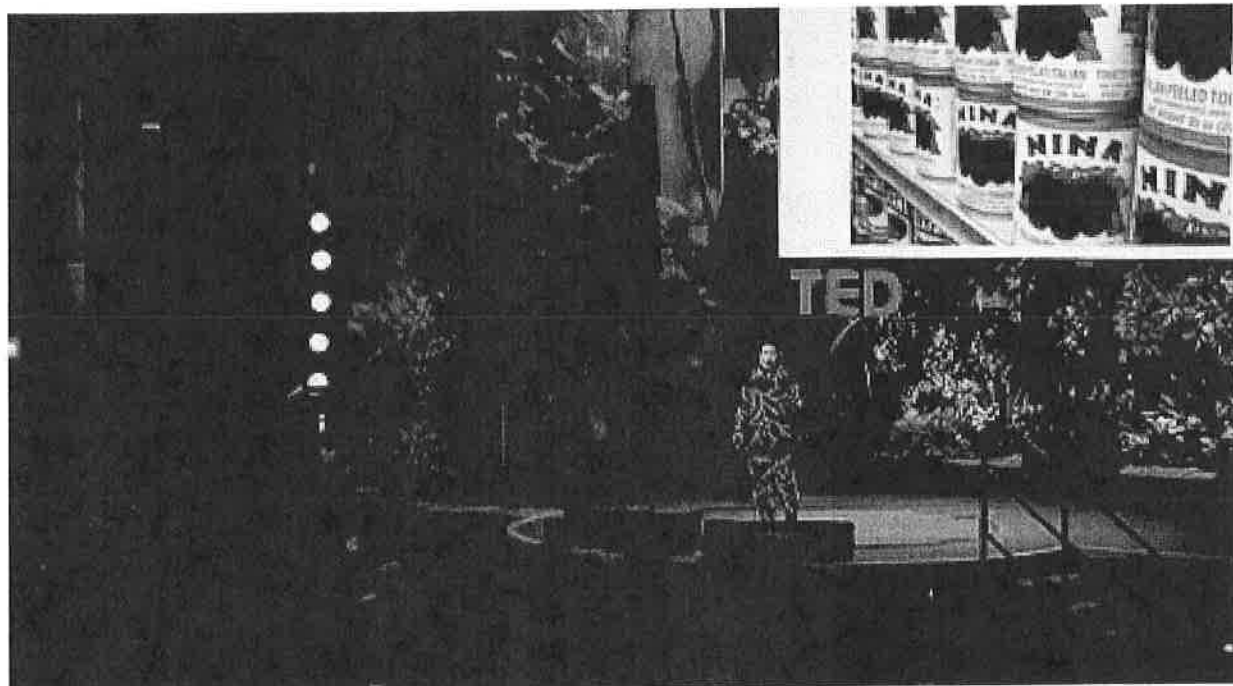
For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@maine.edu

Press Release
9/09/2012

The University of Maine Intermedia MFA program is pleased to announce Jae Rhim Lee, Research Fellow in the MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology, for their fall 2011 Visiting Artist series sponsored by the Cultural Affairs. The artist will present the third University of Maine Correll Presidential Lecture Series address on Tuesday October 2nd at 7pm in Lord Hall on the University of Maine campus in Orono.



Jae Rhim Lee is a visual artist, designer, and researcher whose work proposes unorthodox relationships between the mind/body/self and the built and natural environment. In 2008 Jae Rhim founded and directed the MIT FEMA Trailer Project. The Project examined the environmental, social and political history of FEMA Trailers deployed in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and transformed a single surplus FEMA Trailer into the “Armadillo,” a mobile composting center with vertical gardens and rainwater catchment system, permaculture library, and indoor multipurpose space.



Her current work, the Infinity Burial Project, (presented in a TED Talk in 2011, pictured above) proposes alternatives for the post-mortem body and features the training of a unique strain of an edible mushroom to decompose and remediate toxins in human tissue, the development of a decomposition 'kit,' and a membership society devoted to the promotion of death acceptance and the cultivation of decomposing organisms.

Jae Rhim Lee studied psychology and the natural sciences at Wellesley College, received a Master of Science in Visual Studies from MIT, and holds a certificate in permaculture design. Her work has been exhibited in Europe and in the US. She is a recipient of a 2009 Creative Capital Foundation Grant, a 2010 Grant from the Institut fur Raumexperimente/Universitaet der Kunste Berlin, and a 2011 MAK Schindler Scholarship and Artist Residency in Los Angeles, CA. Lee is a 2011 TED Global Fellow and a Research Fellow in the MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology in Cambridge, MA.

The Masters of Fine Arts in Intermedia at the University of Maine provides substantial advanced study for individuals interested in interdisciplinary study in the arts. The program emphasizes intensive development of students' creative and innovative abilities through a diverse engagement with multiple research processes, critical thinking skills and creative production tools and technologies. The visiting artist series supports and reflects the wide variety of disciplines represented by the program including but not limited to, Art, New Media, Theater, Dance, Philosophy, Art History, Engineering, Communications, Media Studies, Music, Psychology, Natural Sciences, and others.

For more information about the artist go to www.zonezerozerostudio.com

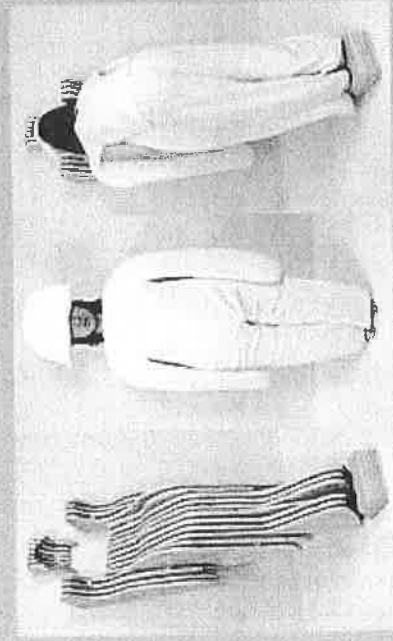
This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the University of Maine Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series, the Alston D. and Ada Lee Correll Professorships in Education, Engineering and New Media, and the President's Office at the University of Maine.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at Bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

Jae Rhim Lee

presents the public lecture:

“Works”



Jae Rhim Lee is a visual artist, designer, and researcher whose work proposes unorthodox relationships between the mind/body/self and the built and natural environment. Lee is a 2011 TED Global Fellow and a Research Fellow in the MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology in Cambridge, MA.

Tuesday, October 2nd, 2012
7:00 pm LORD HALL room 100

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA program, the New Media Department, the University of Maine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series and the Correll Endowment

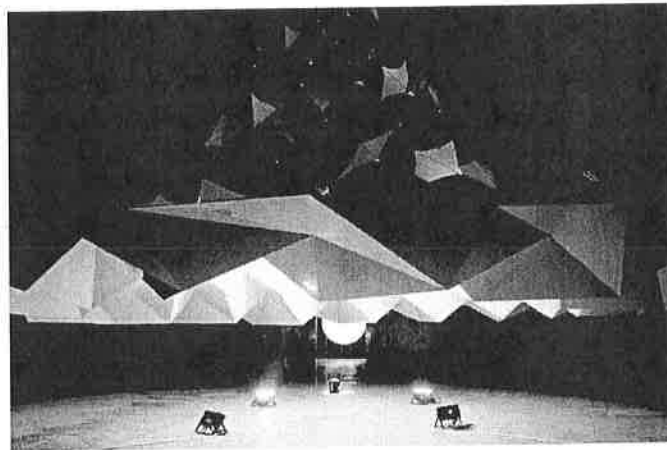
For more information please contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

Press Release
10/1/2012

The University of Maine Intermedia MFA program is pleased to announce the second presenter, Ali Momeni, for their fall 2011 Visiting Artist series co-sponsored by the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series. The artist will present a public lecture titled, "Ali Momeni and the Social Life of Objects, Plants and Animals" on Thursday October 11th at 7pm in Lord Hall on the University of Maine campus in Orono.



Ali Momeni is a builder, composer and performer interested in the poetics of gesture, affect and timing. His work makes use of all manners of technology to explore the social lives of objects and their embedded performative qualities. His creative output ranges from kinetic sculptures and sound installations, to urban interventions and music theater performance.



Momeni was born in Isfahan, Iran and immigrated to the United States at the age of twelve. He studied physics and music at Swarthmore College and completed his doctoral degree in music composition, improvisation and performance with computers from the Center for New Music and Audio Technologies in UC Berkeley. He spent three years in Paris where he collaborated with performers and researchers from La Kitchen, IRCAM, Sony CSL and CIRM. After four years as an assistant professor in the Department of Art

at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, where he directed the Spark Festival of Electronic Music and Art, and where runs urban projection collective called the MAW, Momeni currently teaches at Carnegie Mellon University.

For more information about the artist visit: www.alimomeni.net

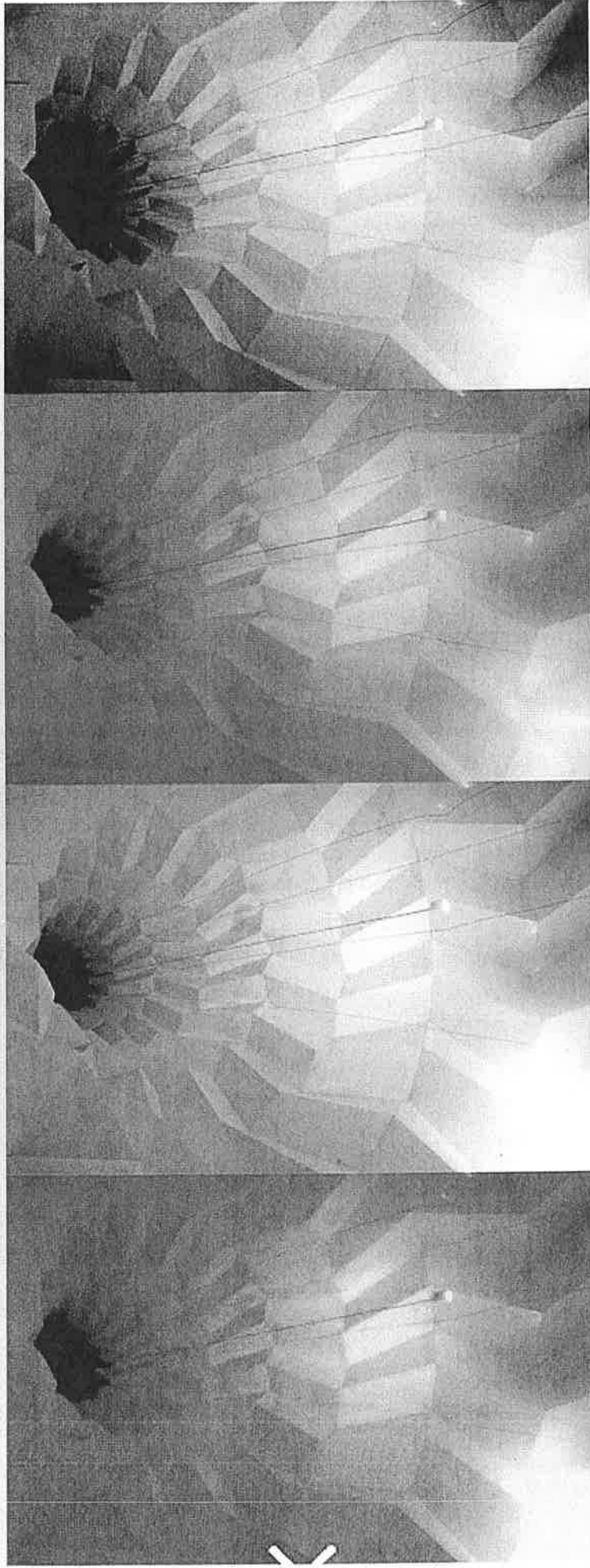
The Masters of Fine Arts in Intermedia at the University of Maine provides substantial advanced study for individuals interested in interdisciplinary study in the arts. The program emphasizes intensive development of students' creative and innovative abilities through a diverse engagement with multiple research processes, critical thinking skills and creative production tools and technologies. The visiting artist series supports and reflects the wide variety of disciplines represented by the program including but not limited to, Art, New Media, Theater, Dance, Philosophy, Art History, Engineering, Communications, Media Studies, Music, Psychology, Natural Sciences, and others.

For more information about the Intermedia MFA: www.intermediamfa.org

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media Department and the University of Maine Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

PUBLIC LECTURE: ALI MOMENI



Ali Momeni is a builder, composer and performer interested in the poetics of gesture, affect and timing. His work makes use all manners of technology to explore the social lives of objects and their embedded performative qualities. His creative output ranges from kinetic sculptures and sound installations, to urban interventions and music theater performance.

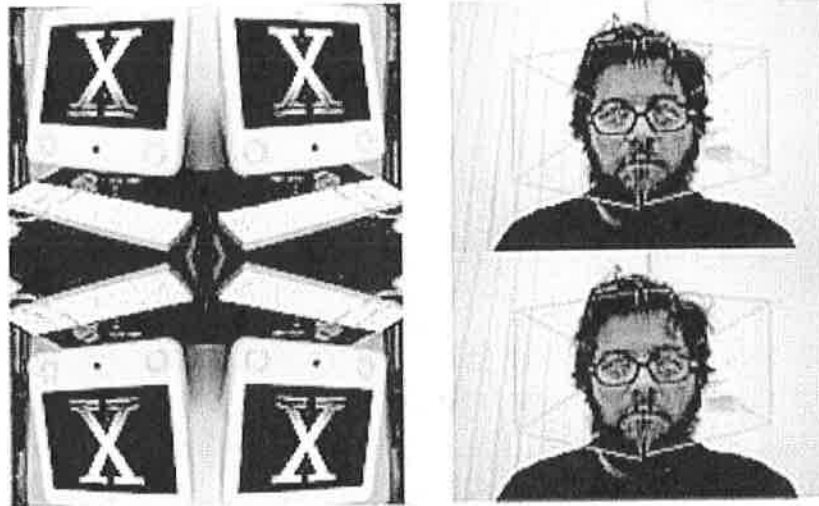
Thursday, October 11, 2012
7:00 pm LORD HALL 100

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA program, the New Media Department and the University of Maine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series

For more information please contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@maine.edu

Press Release
9/09/2012

The University of Maine Intermedia MFA program is pleased to announce the third lecture, Siebren Versteeg, for their fall 2012 Visiting Artist series. This presentation is in part sponsored by the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture as part of a new partnership program with the Intermedia MFA Program. Versteeg will present a public lecture on Tuesday October 23rd at 7pm in 100 Lord Hall on the University of Maine campus in Orono.



New York based multimedia artist Siebren Versteeg uses dislocation, juxtaposition, and/or hacking of the familiar, ever-increasing flow of digital images found in cyberspace. He writes computer programs that pull imagery from the Internet based upon subjects or criteria that he specifies. The images then appear on monitors within the gallery space. Although Versteeg determines the types of things that might appear on the monitors, the artwork—like the Internet it draws from—is constantly growing and changing. This tension between creative control and the endless stream of images is of particular interest to the artist.

Siebren Versteeg was born in 1971 in New Haven, Connecticut. He received a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and an MFA from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He also studied at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine and the School of Visual Arts, New York. His work has been widely exhibited around the world with exhibitions at the Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, Ohio; Max Protetch Gallery, New York; Bellwether Gallery, New York; Ten in One Gallery, New York; Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago; and 1R Gallery, Chicago, the Hirshhorn Museum, Washington, DC; Contemporary Museum, Baltimore, Maryland; Krannert Art Museum, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois; the Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia; the National Museum of Art, Czech Republic; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago.

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development of students' creative and innovative abilities through a diverse engagement with multiple research processes, critical thinking skills and creative production tools and technologies. The visiting artist series supports and reflects the wide variety of disciplines represented by the program including but not limited to, Art, New Media, Theater, Dance, Philosophy, Art History, Engineering, Communications, Media Studies, Music, Psychology, Natural Sciences, and others.

For more information about the artist go to <http://www.siebrenversteeg.com>

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media Department, The Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series Fund and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

SIEBREN VERSTEEG

PUBLIC LECTURE

In his talk new media artist Siebren Versteeg will present his work and process that employs computer programs to create dynamic multi-media installations that engage both choice and chance.



Tuesday October 23, 2012
7:00 PM room 100 Lord Hall
University of Maine Campus

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the Department of New Media, the University of Maine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

For more information please contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

The Maine Campus

TODAY 37° WEDNESDAY 37°
17° 21°
CURRENTLY: 35°



7-DAY FORECAST

News Opinion Style Sports Archives Print Edition

Last updated: Monday, Feb. 25, 2:22 a.m.

NEWS

Visiting Artist Series hosts Versteeg

By Rachel Curit
Posted on Oct. 28, 2012, at 9:23 p.m.

The Intermedia MFA Program hosted multimedia artist Siebren Versteeg for the Visiting Artist Series Tuesday, Oct. 23, in Lord Hall.

Versteeg uses computer programs he has written in combination with images and content found from different Internet sources to create his unique art. When a project is completed, it is displayed on a gallery's monitor. One common theme for Versteeg's work is that all of the information he uses from cyberspace is randomly pulled.

The seeds for Versteeg's art were planted by his father, a metal fabricator, when he was a child. His father used the fabricated metal to build sculptures. Versteeg believes this early exposure to art was one of the most important influences on his career. The second influence comes from the media.

One project that Versteeg finished this year is called "Daily Times." Every day, the program he wrote for this piece downloads the front cover of the New York Times. An algorithmically generated composition is then created, informed by that day's cover. The next day, the finished product is cleared, the recent cover is downloaded and it starts all over again.

For another project, using a program he wrote, Versteeg randomly pulled 900 photographs from Flickr and put them into a grid. The only criteria for the pictures were that "flash" had to be in the title: a variety of photographs from camera flashes to "New Orleans style" flashes to a dog named "Flash."

In a piece that the audience found particularly humorous, Versteeg took video clips of different news anchors and applied his own subtitles. The content for the subtitles was drawn from a website called My Online Diary, where people can publish their diaries for the public to see or keep them private.

Contrary to the idea that art lasts forever, Versteeg admits that his has an expiration date. When the computer programs are no longer compatible with future technology, when people stop using Flickr, or when the New York Times stops printing daily issues, his art will eventually stop functioning as it does now. Versteeg does admit, though, that he doesn't know what will happen to his art when that time comes.

Versteeg received a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and an MFA from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He also studied at the School of Visual Arts in New York and at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. Versteeg's art has been displayed in exhibitions around the country and the world, from the Max Protetch Gallery in New York to the Krannert Art Museum in Illinois. His work was also exhibited in the National Museum of Art in the Czech Republic.

The Visiting Artist Series represents artists from a variety of different artistic backgrounds, including art, new media, theater, dance, philosophy, art history, engineering, communications, media studies, music, psychology, natural sciences and many others. All lectures in the Visiting Artist Series are free to the public.

The next artists to be hosted include Robert Saunders, Nov. 12 from 7 to 8 p.m. in 100 Lord Hall; Tristan Perich, Nov. 27; and Joanna Malinowska in December.

This entry was posted on Sunday, October 28th, 2012, 9:23 pm. You can follow any responses to this article through the RSS feed.

« New UMaine club celebrates homebrews
Iraq War vet speaks about human violence »

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Press Release

10/30/2012

The University of Maine Intermedia MFA program is pleased to announce the fourth lecture, Robert Saunders, for their fall 2012 Visiting Artist series. Saunders will present a public lecture titled: "HAVING SAID THAT" on Tuesday November 13th at 7pm in 100 Lord Hall on the University of Maine campus in Orono.

Robert Saunders has devoted most of his career to the art of visual poetry. His works are about language and communication, often featuring numbers and the letters of the alphabet in a variety of orientations. Many of his works seek to achieve the effects of verbal communication without such language-based symbols. Verbal content is instead suggested through the use of intersecting or non-intersecting lines embellished with bold color and artistic abstraction. The lines remind us of thoughts and words that intersect to create meaning (or that trail off into nothingness). Color and abstract imagery suggest emotion or the development of ideas.

Saunders is a recognized contributor to a variety of "outsider" art movements. He has an extensive exhibition history. His work is included in the Ruth & Marvin Sackner Archive of Concrete and Visual Poetry, and his contributions to the mail art movement have been documented in publications in the US, Germany, Holland, Spain and Brazil. He has won numerous first place awards in international rubber stamp art competition. He is listed in the Franklin Furnace Archive and in the archives of the Getty Research Institute for the History of Art and Humanities. His works are included in the permanent collections of the Manchester Institute of Arts & Sciences and in the Currier Gallery of Art in Manchester, NH. Mr. Saunders received his undergraduate degree in art from Western Michigan University and his Masters of Art from Wayne State University. He currently lives with his wife and cat in Gardner, ME.

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This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media Department and The Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series Fund.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

MAIL ARTIST

**ROBERT
SAUNDERS**

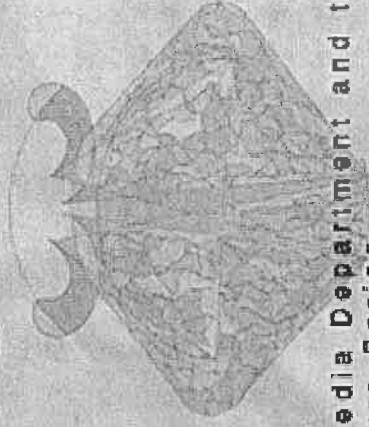
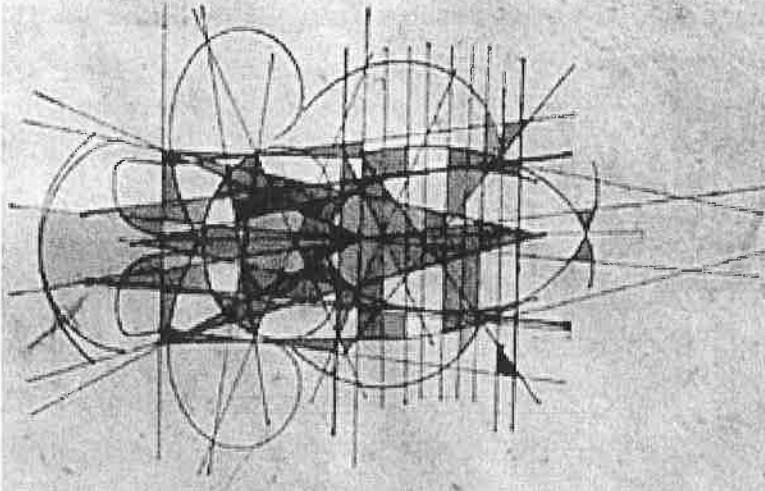
PRESENTS ARTIST TALK:

“ HAVING SAID THAT ”

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13
7PM LORD HALL**

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media Department and the University of Maine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@maine.edu



Press Release

11/10/2012

The University of Maine Intermedia MFA program is pleased to announce the fifth lecture, Tristan Perich, for their fall 2012 Visiting Artist series. Perich will present a public lecture on Tuesday November 27th at 7pm in 100 Lord Hall on the University of Maine campus in Orono.



An artist of the visual, musical, and electronic, Tristan Perich draws inspiration not from the normal channels but from science, applying his interests in physics and math to his visual and musical work. As a visual artist, Perich has been best known for his work using machines to create pen-on-paper drawings according to mathematical formulas. His Machine Drawings were described as "elegantly delicate" by BOMB Magazine. Eventually, he pushed his ideas onto a musical plane, beginning work on what would become his 1-Bit Music project in 2004. The WIRE Magazine describes Tristan Perich's compositions as "an austere meeting of electronic and organic."

His artwork has been included in group shows at LABoral (Barcelona), iMAL (Brussels), MCLA's Gallery 51 (MA), ABC No Rio (NY), the Philoctetes Center (NY), and Greylock Arts (MA) and a traveling science museum exhibit in Arkansas. He is part of the Loud Objects (with Kunal Gupta and Katie Shima), who perform electronic music by soldering their own noise-making circuits, live, from scratch in front of the audience. He received the Prix Ars Electronica in 2009 for his composition *Active Field (for ten violins and ten-channel 1-bit music)*, and will be a featured artist at Sonar 2010 in Barcelona. Rhizome awarded him a 2010 commission for a microtonal audio installation with 1,500 speakers. He was artist in residence at Issue Project Room in 2008, at Mikrogalleriet in Copenhagen in 2010, and at the Addison Gallery in Fall 2010. He has spoken about his work and taught workshops around the world. He studied music, math and computer science at Columbia University, and electronic art at ITP/Tisch.

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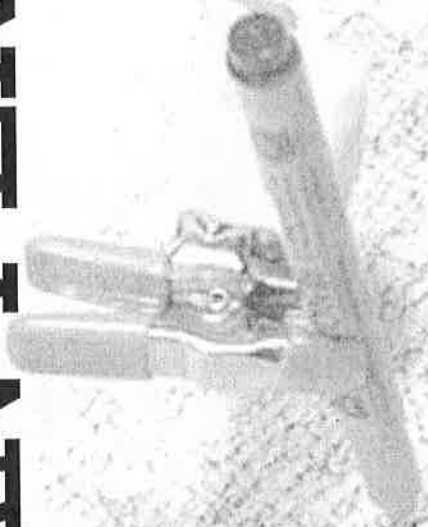
This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media Department and The Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

The Fall Artist Lecture Series presents:

TRISTAN PERICH

SOUND ARTIST



7:00 PM

November 27th

100 LORD HALL

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media Department and the University of Maine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series .

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

Tristan Perich WORKSHOP

Understanding Hardware

Programming in Assembly



WEDNESDAY NOV 28TH
10-1 CML CONFERENCE ROOM
***MAC COMPUTER NEEDED**

Composer and visual artist Tristan Perich will present an introductory workshop on hardware programming. This workshop will provide a basic understanding of Assembly, a low-level programming language. Participants will learn how to program an Amdel microprocessor, a low-cost, highly versatile microchip similar to those used in Arduino boards and in Perich's own popular artwork 1-Bit Symphony.

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media department and the University of Maine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished lecture Series.

For more info contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

Press Release

11/27/12

The University of Maine Intermedia MFA program is pleased to announce the sixth lecture, Joanna Malinowska, for their fall 2012 Visiting Artist series. This presentation is in part sponsored by the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture as part of a new partnership program with the Intermedia MFA Program. Malinowska will present a public lecture on Tuesday Dec 4th at 7pm in 100 Lord Hall on the University of Maine campus in Orono.



Inspiration for Malinowska's sculpture, performance and video-based projects comes from her fascination with anthropology, and her works often playfully suggest her own take on anthropological fieldwork and interpretation. Malinowska recalls: "before choosing art, I had considered becoming a cultural anthropologist, but eventually decided that what made me interested in anthropology was not so much the research that aspires to scientific objectivity, but rather the sense of relativity of a cosmic order of one's own culture in comparison to other possible systems." By illuminating similarities between ostensibly different cultures, Malinowska seeks to create a bridge between them rather than set them apart.

Malinowska also explores the idea of collective consciousness—when similar ideas arise in various parts of the world without direct interaction or influence—in her work. Malinowska was born in Poland and lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. She received an MFA from Yale University and studied at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. Malinowska has participated in the Smack Mellon Artist Studio Program in New York. She is the recipient of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship. In addition to many international solo and group exhibitions, Malinowska is represented by the Canada Gallery in New York.

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This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media Department, The Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series Fund and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

THE FALL ARTIST LECTURE SERIES
PRESENTS:

Joanna Malinowska

JOANNA MALINOWSKA WILL PRESENT WORK
LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF
ANTHROPOLOGY AND ART HISTORY.

7PM TUESDAY DEC 4TH
100 LORD HALL

This event is sponsored by the Intermedia MFA Program, the New Media Department, The Cultural Affairs / Distinguished Lecture Series Fund and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

For more information contact Bethany Engstrom at bethany.engstrom@umit.maine.edu

