

2005

# Oversight : Practice as Research in Australia

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Power point presentation.

This Conference Proceeding is posted at Research Online.

[http://ro.ecu.edu.au/carn\\_parip2005/1](http://ro.ecu.edu.au/carn_parip2005/1)

*OVERSIGHT:*  
PRACTICE AS  
RESEARCH  
IN  
AUSTRALIA

PARIP 05

# Creativity from the periphery

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# Introduction

- Western Australia
- Biennale of Electronic Arts Perth
- SymbioticA
- Dance and Performance
- Research at the periphery
- Fostering creativity



# Defining the periphery





London

Moscow

Stalingrad (Volgograd)

1 949 miles

# BEAP02

- [www.beap.org/2002](http://www.beap.org/2002)
- Inaugural Biennale 2002 had the theme of LOCUS- 'the place where we believe consciousness exists' Paul Thomas, BEAP Artistic Director, Curtin University
- Conference with 5 strands: primary, started with CAiiA-STAR the catalyst, Consciousness Reframed (Roy Ascott)
- Exhibitions: Immersion, BioFeel (Conf: The aesthetics of care), and Screen

# BEAP04.i

- [www.beap.org/2004](http://www.beap.org/2004)
- Theme: Difference
- The concept of difference brings with it demarcation lines ; be they technological, cultural and/or social. The loss of difference - that which had previously been unique ; through the dissemination of content throughout our increasingly digitised world represents a paradigm shift in how we define ourselves, both spatially and ontologically.



# BEAP04.ii

- Five exhibitions:
  - PerceptualDifference: Vision Systems
  - SonicDifference: Resounding the World
  - DistributedDifference: Cultures of Conflict
  - BioDifference: The Political Ecology
  - DataDifference: The Dissolution of Locale
- A range of Conferences including the Arts Research Network  
<http://arn.cci.ecu.edu.au>

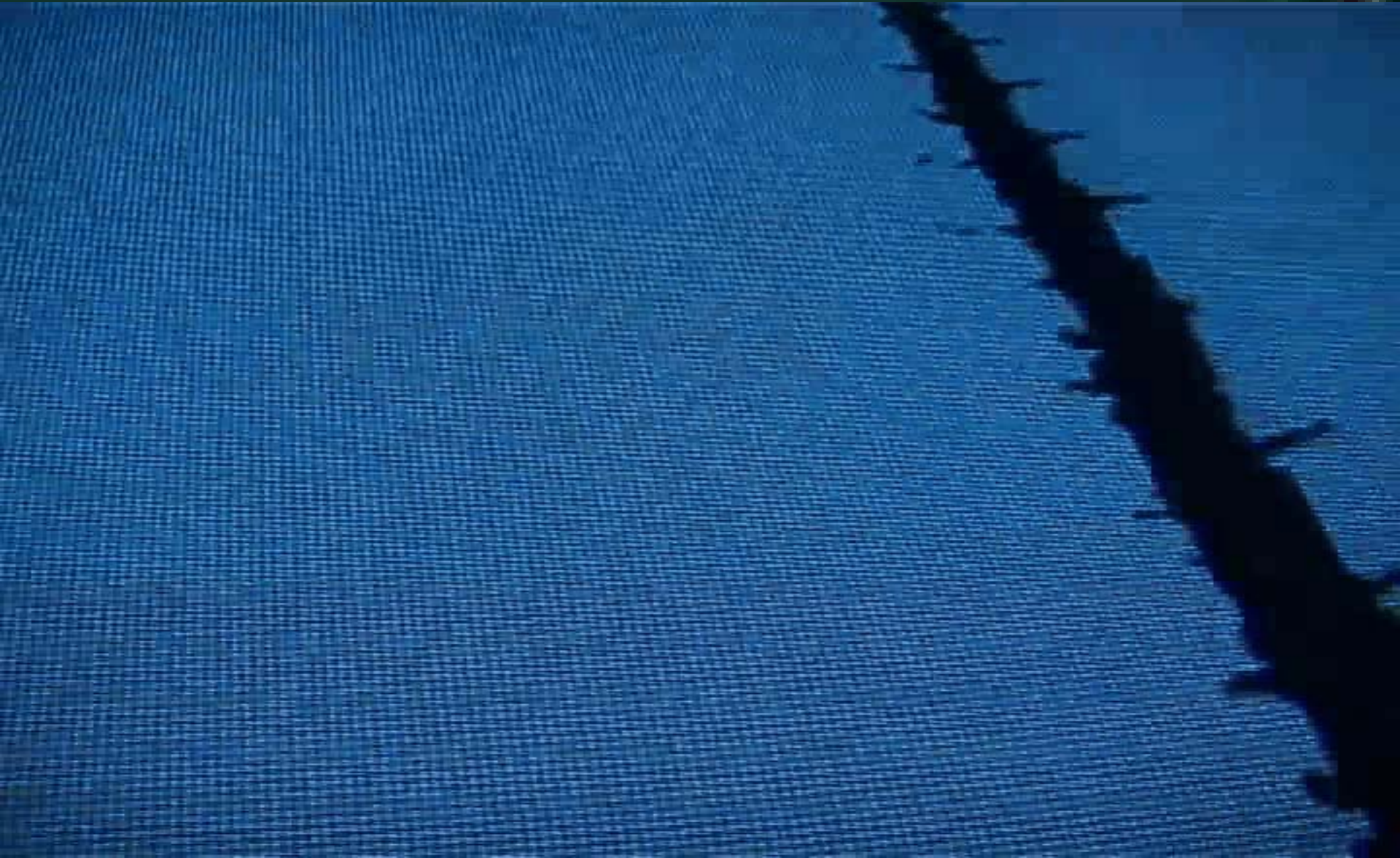
# BEAP05

- BEAPWorks05 and 06
- Now incorporated and supported by the Australia Council and the Western Australian Department of the Arts, ArtsWA
- BEAP 07 (due to due diligence funding) possibly in conjunction with
- CADE (Computers in Art and Design Education)

# BEAP.vis i



# BEAP.vis ii



# SymbioticA

- <http://www.symbiotica.uwa.edu.au>
- ‘a research laboratory dedicated to the artistic exploration of scientific knowledge in general, and biological technologies in particular’: University of Western Australia
- SymbioticA rises out of and in parallel with the Tissue Culture & Art Project
- Artistic Director: Oron Catts

# SymbioticA Research Group

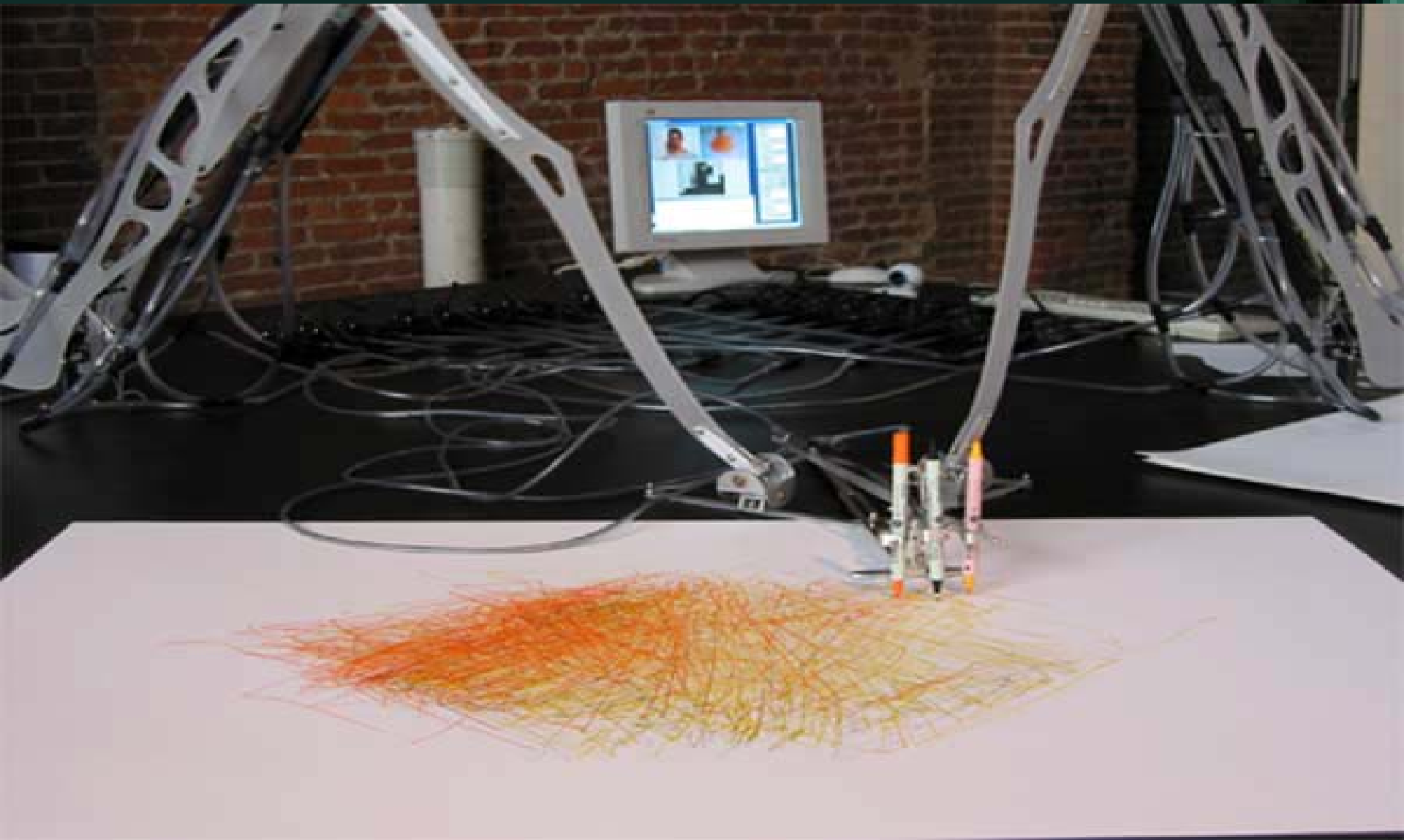
- Fish and Chips
- 'Fish & Chips is assembled from fish neurons grown over silicon chips - "wetware", software and visual and audio art output devices - hardware.'
- 'web cam captures portraits of viewers within the gallery space. These images are then converted into a stimulation map and used to stimulate the neurons'  
[http://www.fishandchips.uwa.edu.au/project/project\\_portraits.html](http://www.fishandchips.uwa.edu.au/project/project_portraits.html)



# Viewers within the gallery space



# Effect of neural stimulation





# The Tissue Culture & Art Project

## Explorations:

- Disembodied Cuisine
- Tissue Culture and Art(ificial) Wombs
- The Pig Wings Project
- Bioreactors

We have grown different kinds of vertebrates' tissue over/into a variety of biomaterials of different shapes and sizes, in order to create, what we refer to as; "semi-living sculptures/objects".



# SymbioticA.vis



# Dance and Performance: Exemplar

- Chrissie Parrott, Choreographer
- <http://www.australiadancing.org/subjects/581.html>
- Jonathan Mustard, Musician
- [http://www.soca.ecu.edu.au/students/postgraduate/Jonathan\\_Mustard](http://www.soca.ecu.edu.au/students/postgraduate/Jonathan_Mustard)
- BEAP04 Creative Connections Conference (Arts Research Network)
- [http://arn.cci.ecu.edu.au/symposium\\_view.php?rec\\_id=0000000003](http://arn.cci.ecu.edu.au/symposium_view.php?rec_id=0000000003)

# Dis-Patch.vis



# Research at the periphery

- Artistic and technological networks
- Electronic arts
- The importance of national and international forums
- Support from ArtsWA
- The role of higher education
- Australia Council
- The value of a semi-independent agenda

# Fostering creativity

- Perth International Arts Festival (1953—)  
'The UWA Perth International Arts Festival, the oldest annual international multi-arts festival in the southern hemisphere, is Western Australia's premier cultural event'

<http://www.perthfestival.com.au>

Conference and tourist location; multi-cultural heritage (highest % of overseas born residents)

We're further away from the core, so we try harder!

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