art in the age of nanotechnology

Symposium

strange futures: collaborations that make nano-art

art in the age of nanotechnology features a series of collaborative projects designed to challenge, explore and critique our understanding of the material world. The exhibition brings together artists and scientists from around the world to present new ways of seeing, sensing and connecting with matter that’s miniscule and abstract.

Through the demanding research and subtle refinement of nanotechnology, our understanding of scale is brought to the edges of our imagination, setting up opportunities and challenges for artistic intervention; new ways of expression and aesthetic approaches; a new way of experiencing the abstract.

The John Curtin Gallery and the Centre for Research in Art, Science and Humanity will co-host this symposium as part of their development of art and science projects at Curtin University. The Centre is a facility for creative research in art and science hosted by the School of Design and Art. It aims to act as a network hub – engaging artists, researchers and scientists in a wide range of regional, national and international contexts. Through this symposium, invited artists and scientists will discuss interdisciplinary collaborations, their research and projects; uncovering their understanding of how nano-art affects our perception of the material world.

The artists and scientists in art in the age of nanotechnology speculate and explore the ‘nano world’ in an attempt to reconfigure our understanding of the physical world and help make accessible concepts of what the future may hold.

Programme

Sunday 7 February 2010
BankWest Lecture Theatre, John Curtin Gallery

9.45 am convene for 10 am start

Session ONE

10.00 am Dr Paul Thomas – Chair, Associate Professor, Director of the Centre for Research in Art, Science and Humanity, Coordinator of Studio of Electronic Arts, School of Design and Art, Curtin University and participating artist - introduce Professor Kristjanson and the morning session.

10.05 am Professor Linda Kristjanson, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research & Development, Curtin University – Welcome

KEYNOTE
10.10 am Dr Colin Milburn, Associate Professor of English, University of California, Davis

Colin Milburn is a member of the Science & Technology Studies Program at the University of California, Davis. His research focuses on the cultural intersections between science, literature, and media technologies. Having been trained as a historian of science, a literary theorist, and a molecular biologist, he is particularly interested in the ways that laboratory research and popular media

11.10 am  MORNING TEA

Session TWO  
11.25 am  *Nano-Scape*  
**Dr Christa Sommerer & Dr Laurent Mignonneteau**, University Professors, University of Arts and Industrial Design, Linz, Austria and participating artists.

11.55 am  *Seeing and touching the nano-world*  
**Professor Eric Bakker**, Director, Nanochemistry Research Unit, Curtin University.

12.25 pm  ‘A Mote it is...’  
**Mr Mike Phillips**, Reader in Digital Art & Technology, University of Plymouth, School of Computing, Communications & Electronics and participating artist.

1.00 pm  LUNCH

Session THREE  
1.30 pm  *The ramblings of a non-scientist and a non-artist on the interface between the two*  
**Mr Mark Woffenden**, Chair – Executive Director, Resource & Chemistry Precinct

2.00 pm  *Nano_essence*  
**Dr Paul Thomas**, participating artist.

2.30 pm  AFTERNOON TEA

Session FOUR  
2.45 pm  *Illusions of Control- Radical Engineers and Reactionary Artists*  
**Mr Oron Catts**, Director, SymbioticA – The Centre of Excellence in Biological Arts, School of Anatomy and Human Biology, The University of Western Australia

3.15 pm  *Transjuicer*  
**Ms Boo Chapple**, participating artist, currently undertaking MFA at Stanford University, USA.

3.45 pm  **Mr Mark Woffenden** – summary

Presented by the John Curtin Gallery and CRASH - the Centre for Research in Art, Science and Humanity, Curtin University.

*art in the age of nanotechnology* is presented as a part of the Visual Arts program of the 2010 Perth International Arts Festival.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts and advisory body.

Metered visitor parking available in areas P3 and P31. Free parking on Sundays. Taxi rank no. 2 is located at the front of the gallery. **Admission is FREE**