

Bio-Art / Design

Transdisciplinarity
in Art,
Science and Creativity
Symposium and Workshop
7th - 8th of March 2016



BIO-ART / DESIGN:

Transdisciplinarity in Art, Science and Creativity Symposium and workshop

7—8
March
2016

Bio-Art and Bio-Design are growing transdisciplinary fields that span the experimental fine arts, product and environmental design, medicine and medical technology, engineering, and the natural sciences especially biology and biochemistry. In fine art, it ranges from the use of living things such as bacteria and genetic engineering as materials and processes for collaborative research and creative intervention, to the transformation of non-living materials into systems that mimic or interface with a range of scientific, biological and biophysical processes. In design one focus has been on the innovative and aesthetic use of sensors, biomaterials and smart materials, including wearable technologies and medical devices that can improve the care of patients, including diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up, emphasizing individual and social well-being including in remote regions of the world. Some of the important issues being addressed are empathy, ethics, embodiment, sentiment, ecology and sustainability. Current discourse regarding the Anthropocene and challenges of creating symbiotic relationships between humans and nature are relevant to this.

Increasingly artists and designers are in residence in scientific and medical research labs, and scientists and engineers are collaborating with artists in their studios. Fields such as neuroscience, biomaterials, and biotechnologies are already being explored by artists and designers. Engineers are working with 3D printing of organic materials and collaborating with fashion designers, and inventing new technologies for use in public artworks and in architecture that clean air and green cities. There are artists, designers, scientists and engineers with multiple competencies, with expertise in art/design and science/engineering. As a quickly growing transdisciplinary field with profound implications socially and environmentally, what are the potentials and challenges, including from the creative, ethical, and practical perspectives? This symposium will address these and other questions related to the development of the bio-art/design field through keynote talks and panels with experts and pioneers.

A workshop on day 2 will provide participants the opportunity to discuss their ideas and concerns for possible futures. Questions include: given rapid advances in hybrid physical-digital technologies, deeper scientific understanding of natural phenomena, and new approaches to artistic research, what is on the horizon for transdisciplinary creativity, and collaborations between art, design, science, medicine, and engineering? What kinds of academic and research programs should universities and research centers be conceiving or building in response, and what is needed to realize them? What would a transformative, transdisciplinary bio-art/design research laboratory, course, or curriculum in a major global research university or art school look like today and 10 years from now?



Day 1:

7 MARCH, 2016

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION	12:30 PM – 2:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK
9:30 AM	WELCOME Dean Alan Chan HASS, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY	2:00 PM – 2:30 PM	TELEPRESENCE AND BIO ART <i>Keynotes:</i> Eduardo Kac SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO, USA
9:10 AM	INTRODUCTION Vibeke Sorensen PROFESSOR & CHAIR ADM, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY	2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	WHAT DRIVES BIO-ART IN THE 21ST CENTURY? <i>Keynotes:</i> Alexander Melzerov GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY, AZ, USA
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	HYBRID WORLDS: BEING IN BETWEEN <i>Keynotes:</i> Victoria Vesna UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, USA	3:30 PM – 4:30 PM	PANEL 2: Science and Art : Science of Art <i>Panel Leads:</i> Alexander Melzerov GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY, AZ, USA <i>Panelists:</i> Louis Philippe Demers ADM, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY Anca Rajoni INDEPENDENT CURATOR, SINGAPORE
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	TEA/COFFEE BREAK	4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	TRANSDISCIPLINARY PLATFORM TECHNOLOGIES IN LIFE SCIENCES AND MEDICINE <i>Keynotes:</i> Frederic Zenhausern DIRECTIVE CENTER FOR APPLIED NANOBIOENGINEERING & MEDICINE, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE PHOENIX, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA, USA	5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	MAKING NEOLIFE - CONTESTABLE DESIGN AND BIOLOGICAL ARTS <i>Keynotes:</i> Oron Catts UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA SCHOOL OF DESIGN, ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART LONDON SCHOOL OF ART, DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE, AALTO UNIVERSITY, FINLAND
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	PANEL 1: Bio Design, Medical Humanities, and Health Intervention Design <i>Panel Leads:</i> Frederic Zenhausern DIRECTIVE CENTER FOR APPLIED NANOBIOENGINEERING & MEDICINE, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE PHOENIX, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA, USA <i>Panelists:</i> Mary Kim GLOBAL ROBERTSON FELLOW '14, SINGAPORE-STANFORD BIODESIGN May O. Lewis ASSOCIATE DEAN (SPECIAL PROJECTS) HASS, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY Michael Tan ADM, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY	6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	EXHIBITION OPENING AND RECEPTION: PLASH by TeZ, Netherlands

Day 2:

8 MARCH, 2016

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	ARCADIA: LOST AND FOUND <i>Keynotes:</i> Suzanne Anker SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS, NEW YORK CITY, USA	12:30 PM – 2:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	PANEL 3: Eco-Art / Eco-Design <i>Panel Leads:</i> Suzanne Anker SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS, NEW YORK CITY, USA <i>Panelists:</i> Lucy Davis ADM, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY Peer Sathikh and Marcell Baboncin ADM, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY Galina Mihaleva ADM, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY	2:00 PM – 2:45 PM	THE ILLUSION OF PIONEERS <i>Keynotes:</i> Richard Lovelace ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, USA
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	TEA/COFFEE BREAK	2:45 PM – 5:45 PM	WORKSHOP Richard Lovelace ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, USA
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	TITLE TBA <i>Keynotes:</i> Natalie Jeremijenko NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, USA	5:45 PM – 6:15 PM	CONCLUDING REMARKS

ORGANISER & HOSTED BY	SCHOOL OF ART, DESIGN AND MEDIA, NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
CO-ORINATION & ASSISTANCE	Vibeke Sorensen PROFESSOR AND CHAIR Kristy Kang ASSISTANT PROFESSOR Peer Sathikh ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE CHAIR (ACADEMIC) Aw Lee Ting ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIR
PUBLICITY BY	Muhammad Mustajab Bin Mohamad SENIOR EXECUTIVE, PUBLICITY & OUTREACH
DESIGNED BY	Cindy Wang ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR Cheryl Chong ASSISTANT DESIGNER