



Symposium

Creative Technology in Public Space where Technology and Culture Meet

12.45 ▶ 16.30, Thursday 14th October 2004 National Centre for Early Music, York



"Creative York is a dynamic cluster of over 90 heritage, arts and creative technology organisations which are contributing to the future development of the City of York's economic prosperity and cultural diversity. The Creative York Symposium is an ideal opportunity to exchange ideas about contemporary creative technology and the arts within one of Europe's most stunning Cities."

Janet Barnes, Chair, Creative York

Organised by



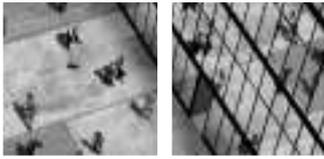
In association with



Sponsor



Overview



The first Creative York Symposium explores the inter-relationship between vibrant public spaces with contemporary digital and post-digital arts. This is also a unique opportunity to consider how contemporary creative technologies can make public spaces more accessible and dynamic.

Leading international speakers illustrate their work and share their experiences in the creative process - reviewing architecture, planning, artistic and public perception issues.

Hear views on the latest thinking on interpretation and public art, as well as exchange ideas with entrepreneurs, professionals, artists and suppliers active in all creative fields.

The National Centre for Early Music, situated in St Margaret's Church provides the ideal location for the Creative York Symposium with modern high-tech facilities set within a historic medieval backdrop.

Take time to think about some of York's new renaissance and lighting projects in public spaces, network with Yorkshire's creative community and participate in a panel discussion and debate.

Who should attend?

Do you work with public spaces, city development, sustainability or planning?

Are you interested in education related to creative technologies, heritage or arts applications?

Would like to work with organisations associated with creative technology and culture?

The Creative York Symposium represents an ideal meeting place to gain exposure to international thinking, benefit from networking with creative community and help inform future interpretative projects in York.



The Creative York Symposium will provide the perfect starting point into other contemporary digital arts events, which are also part of SightSonic, York Digital Arts Festival, 14-17 October 2004

Delegates will also be invited to the launch of the Renaissance project at 5.00 p.m. on 14 October

Speakers Details

Janet Barnes is a museum and gallery professional working with 29 years experience in Local Government, University, and independent museum trusts and from 2002 has been working as the Chief Executive of York Museums Trust. She is also a Director of the Guild of St George, formed by John Ruskin as an educational foundation, a connection which started when she was the Keeper of the Ruskin Gallery in Sheffield for 9 years. Her main interest has been in the arts and during her career she has organised temporary exhibitions and written several publications. A particular interest has been with contemporary glass developed when she was the Honorary Curator of the Turner Museum at Sheffield.

Charlie Gere has an MA in Computing in Design and a PhD in the Virtual Museum. He is currently Lecturer in Digital Art History in the School of History of Art, Film and Visual Media, Birkbeck College, Chair of *Computers and the History of Art* (CHArt) and Director of *Computer Arts, Contexts, Histories, etc...* (CACHE), an AHRB-funded research project looking at the history of British computer art from 1960 to 1980. He has published a number of papers on the relation between culture and technology and is the author of *Digital Culture* (Reaktion Books, 2002), and is currently undertaking research into the relation between art and speed from the early nineteenth century up to the present day, to be published as a book, *Art, Time and Technology: Histories of the Disappearing Body*, by Berg in 2005.

Jaume Plensa, born in Barcelona in 1955, is at the forefront of the contemporary art scene, having lived and worked in Berlin, Brussels, England and France since 1980. One of Plensa's most recent outdoor projects was the Crown Fountain in Chicago's Millennium Park, commissioned by the Public Art Program, Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Chicago and was supported by The Crown Family and Company.

Plensa's numerous outdoor projects and commissions for public spaces are located in Spain, France, Japan, England, Israel, Korea, Germany, Switzerland, USA and Canada among others. Personal exhibitions of his work have been organized in galleries and museums throughout Europe, the U.S. and Japan. Since 1996, Plensa has also applied his artistic vision to stage and costume design for some of the world's most important operatic productions. Plensa is currently working on a permanent light and glass work for the new BBC development at Portland Place

Paul Kaiser is a digital artist whose work has appeared at Lincoln Center, MASS MoCA, the Pompidou Center, the Whitney Museum, the Barbican Centre, and many other venues. His collaborative work, variously including Merce Cunningham, Bill T. Jones, Shelley Eshkar, and Marc Downie, has combined motion-capture with dance: *Hand-drawn Spaces* (1998), *Ghostcatching* (1999), *BIPED* (1999), *You Walk?* (2000), *Loops* (2001-4), and *Lifelike* (2002-3). *Pedestrian* (2002), a public art project that he created with Shelley Eshkar, premiered at four sites in Manhattan and continues to tour; a companion work, *Arrival* (2004), recently opened at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco. Kaiser's solo works include *Flicker-track + Verge* (1999-2001), *Trace* (2002), and *Inkblot Projections* (2002).

Carl Gardner, Director, CSG Lighting Consultancy Ltd is a member of the Urban Lighting Group, a consortium of three of the most experienced and best-known lighting design practitioners in the UK Phoenix Large/Lightmatters Ltd (lead consultant, Graham Phoenix), Lighting Design & Consultancy Ltd (lead consultant, Michael Phillips) and CSG Lighting Consultancy Ltd. (lead consultant, Carl Gardner). Between them the three principals have over 50 years' experience in the lighting industry - and have worked on more than 20 urban lighting strategies in the UK and abroad in the last 15 years.

Thomas Heatherwick, born in London in 1970, trained in three dimensional design at Manchester Metropolitan University and the Royal College of Art. He founded Thomas Heatherwick Studio in 1994 to bring together architecture, design and sculpture. Thomas and his team work from a combined studio and workshop in Kings Cross where concept development, prototyping and fabrication take place under a single roof. Recently, the studio has completed the Rolling Bridge, a bridge that opens by curling into a ball, commissioned for Paddington Basin in London and is currently working on B of the Bang, which when completed later this year will be the UK's tallest sculpture. Other current projects include: a bridge made entirely from glass; a Buddhist temple in Kagoshima, Japan; and a 30 storey building in London.

Creative Technology in Public Space - where Technology and Culture Meet

Programme: 14 October 2004

12.45-13.25 Registration, Exhibition and Networking lunch

13.25-13.30 Welcome & Introductions to the Day *Janet Barnes, Chair, Creative York*

13.30-14.00 New Media and Public Art *Charlie Gere, Birkbeck College*

New media is often regarded as virtual, ephemeral, immaterial and fluid, while public art is generally thought of as material, located, robust, static and permanent (or at least stable enough to remain in place and intact for some time). Thus making work for public spaces using new media requires different approaches to the traditional conceptions of public art. In this talk, Charlie will look at the work of a number of new media artists who have taken up the challenge of producing new media art for public spaces, and discuss the different artistic strategies and solutions they have developed. Among the artists who will be examined includes Nicolas Schoffer, Steven Willats, Jenny Holzer, Tony Oursler, Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, Jennifer Steinkamp, Natalie Jeremijenko, Janet Cardiff and Proboscis.

14.00- 14.30 The Public Space is born and grows with us, it shifts and develops in time, geography, volume and colour *Jaume Plensa*

Like a lighthouse on the coast, we need to place points of reference in our lives that will help us to fix, like the base of a perfume, the most fleeting scents and the swiftest sparkles. Every human being is a "place". Every woman, every man, every child, every old person are themselves a living-space which moves and unfolds; a "place" in the sense of time, geography, volume and colour. Whole cities built out of bodies that open and shut like doors. Flashing lights. Each time a human being dies, a house shuts up and a "place" is lost. Plensa's work is its remembrance and their volume. The freeze-frame of all those bodies which, in their unfolding, disappear at lightning speed. Art in public spaces should help to fix the impalpable, fleeting beauty, the perfume of our memory.

14.30-15.00 Coffee Break

15.00-15.20 City eye view: digital art in urban spaces *Paul Kaiser*

The unspoken rules and fleeting perceptions that guide us almost blindly through city streets and other public places give rise to the fantastically complex patterns of everyday life. Peering through new lenses that digital tools have just given us, we can now start to see these patterns more clearly and then to engage with them.

Paul Kaiser will present recent public art installations in which he and his collaborators have projected dense urban simulations onto the busy sidewalks, vacant storefronts, and office lobbies of numerous cities. Drawing on his parallel collaborations in virtual dance, Kaiser will explore the emergent choreography of pedestrian movement and perception. Speculating on future possibilities, he will explore the role of artificial intelligence and environmental interactivity in new public works-in-progress

15.20-15.40 York: Light and the use of creative and architectural lighting to breathe new life into city spaces *Carl Gardner*

The Economic Development Unit of the City of York Council, on behalf of the First Stop York Tourism Partnership, has succeeded in a bid to Yorkshire Forward for funding for a major project using light to reveal York's unique heritage assets after dark - and to make the city centre safer and more attractive at night

York:Light is a comprehensive, ten-year plan for state-of-the-art lighting of the city's major buildings and heritage sites, streets, parks, open spaces and riverside walks. It has been developed by the consultants, Urban Lighting Group, through extensive research of the city's lighting needs - and local consultations with stake-holders and other interested bodies.

15.40-16.00 Thomas Heatherwick Studios - *Thomas Heatherwick*

Providing perspectives from his gallery, founded in 1994, Thomas Heatherwick will share experiences and views on architecture, design and sculpture. Thomas and his team work from a combined studio and workshop in Kings Cross where concept development, prototyping and fabrication take place under a single roof.

Current projects include; B of the Bang, the UK's tallest sculpture; a Buddhist temple in Kagoshima, Japan; and a 30 storey building in London.

16.00-16.30 Perspectives of Public Spaces: *Panel Discussion*



Creative York

Symposium

Science City York Office
Economic Development Group
20 George Hudson Street
York YO1 6WR
www.sciencecityyork.org.uk



Delegate Registration Form

Closing date for registrations: Tuesday 12 October 2004

Please submit your name as it should appear on your delegate badge.

Your attendance is subsidised by Science City York. Please see Terms and Conditions below for further details.
For exhibition opportunities, please contact Science City York.

Title (Dr, Prof, Mr, Mrs, Ms, Other)

First name

Surname

Position

Company

Address

City

Postcode

Email

Telephone

Fax

If you have any queries, please contact **Lyndsay Nelmes** on Tel **01904 554533** or email lyndsay.nelmes@york.gov.uk

Complete and fax reply to 01904 554429

Terms and conditions Registration includes attendance for the seminars, and refreshments during the course of the symposium. Failure to attend the event without notification will result in a chargeable administration fee of £35 made payable to Science City York. This will be made via invoice to you at the address above. If you are unable to attend the event, you must give at least 48 hours notice (no later than 5.00 p.m. on 11 October) to nominate a replacement or cancel your place. Registering for this event accepts these terms and conditions. Personal data is gathered in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1988. Your details will be maintained on electronic databases to receive information from Science City York/Creative York.
If you do NOT wish to receive this information, please tick here

