RA Royal Academy Schools

Until Recently I Only Had A Voice Symposium

Speakers

Lisa Blackman
Alan Blackwell
Sophia Al Maria
Cally Spooner
Yuri Pattison
Maja Pantic
Shumon Basar
Josephine Slater
Dora Budor
Ben Vickers
Avi Roy
Paro Robot Seal

Speaker Biographies

Alan Blackwell

Alan Blackwell is Reader in Interdisciplinary Design at the University of Cambridge Computer Laboratory. Originally trained as an engineer, then as a psychologist, he has developed a practice-led approach to technology research. Members of his research group build advanced user interfaces ranging from virtual reality and visualisation systems to the programming languages that are used to create new products at Google, Microsoft and other industry leaders. Although highly technical, this work is informed by performing and visual arts, and by critical perspectives on digital media.

Avi Roy is the President of the Biogerontology Research Foundation, a UK based charity which supports the application of our knowledge of the mechanisms of ageing to the relief of disability, suffering and disease in old age. Avi is a biomedical scientist, with degrees in biomedical science and computer science. Avi's PhD research involved rejuvenation of human skin using small molecules, and identifying accurate biomarkers of aging. Avi heads the Oxford University Scientific Society, and co-founded the Oxford Transhumanism and Emerging Technology Society, and Oxford University Synthetic Biology Society. He is deeply involved in public dissemination of science and has organised over 370 talks, chaired 8 conferences and hosted 28 Nobel prize winners.

He recently launched the Big Data Science in Medicine Conference series, the first conference series of its kind in Europe.

Josephine Berry Slater is an editor of Mute magazine (http://www.metamute.org), and teaches on the Culture Industry MA at Goldsmiths University where she also runs a course on Biopolitics and Aesthetics. She is currently writing a book on Art and Bare Life.

Adham Faramawy is a Dubai-born, London-based artist of Egyptian origin. He is a graduate of the Slade and the Royal Academy Schools. Recent exhibitions include Feels Real, Marian Cramer Projects, Amsterdam, E-Vapor-8, Site Gallery, Sheffield, Hydra, Cell Projects, London, Pre-Pop to Post Human, Hayward Touring, Half Abstract, David Roberts Art Foundation, London and Silica at Galerie Sultana, Paris. Faramawy's video works have been included in screening events such as Flatness, Oberhausen Film Festival, Syndrome of a Decade, Ikono Film Festival, Diamond Dust- A shifting grammar of originality, Circa Projects, Edinburgh Arts Festival and 21st Century Pop at the ICA, London. Faramawy's first public sculpture commission will be installed in the City of London later in 2015.

Cécile B. Evans is a Belgian American artist based in Berlin and London. She has received awards including the Frieze Art Fair's Emdash Award and Palais de Tokyo/Orange's Push Your Art Prize. In 2014 she launched AGNES, the Serpentine Galleries' first digital commission and was nominated for the Future Generation Art Prize. In 2014 her solo exhibition Hyperlinks opened at Seventeen Gallery (London), and her films have been screened with Serpentine Cinema as well as at the BFI (London), Grand Century (NY), Hamburg Film Festival, and Art Basel Miami. Selected group exhibitions include Desire, Bergen Kuntsmuseum (Norway); TTTT, Jerwood Foundation; Phantom Limbs, Pilar Corrias Gallery and La Voix Humaine, Kunstverein München. A number of grants and residencies such as Wysing Arts Centre, CCA Andratx (SP), and the Arts Council England have supported her work and recent symposiums include ICA Salon London, Art Basel Conversations, Post Digital Cultures and Rhizome's Seven on Seven.

Yuri Pattison is an Irish artist based in London who studies ways in which the virtual world permeates material reality. Mastering a variety of media, his work uses different devices to explore the strengths and limits of digital communication. Pattison is the current recipient of the Chisenhale Gallery Create Residency 2014-16. He has been commissioned by the ICA London to make a new online work in response to the ICA's seminal 1968 exhibition 'Cybernetic Serendipity'.

Recent solo exhibitions include 'Free Traveller', Cell Projects, London; 'Collocation, Time Displacement', Minibar, Stockholm, Sweden; and 'e ink pearl memory', Arcadia_Missa, London. Selected group exhibitions include 'The Future of Memory', Kunsthalle Wien, Austria; 'Private Settings', Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw; 'Snow Crash', Banner Repeater, London; and 'Objectness', Outpost, Norwich. In 2014 Pattison took part in the Post Digital Cultures Symposium, Lausanne; Wysing Art Centre's 'Futurecamp' program and Lunch Bytes at CCA Glasgow.

Ben Vickers is a curator, writer, explorer, technologist and luddite. Currently Curator of Digital at the Serpentine Galleries, is Co-Director of LIMAZULU Project Space, a Near Now Fellow and lead facilitator for the open-source development of unMonastery, a new civically minded social space prototyped in Matera, Southern Italy during 2014 and now

set to replicate throughout Europe 2015/16. During his spare time he contributes to EdgeRyders, co-runs the nomadic talks programme The Thought Menu and host's Open Funerals. He is currently based between London and Athens.

Dora Budor (b. 1984, Croatia) is a New York-based artist. With an interest in cinematic space, her work explores the representations of emotion, physical experience, the ideological subtext and capital of affect, particularly as

manifest in Hollywood systems of production. Often building on screen-used props, special effects castoffs and other materials integral to cinematic production, her protean objects function as organic semiconductors that mediate encounters between spectator and object, fictional histories and lived experiences.

Recent exhibitions include The Architect's Plan, His Contagion and Sensitive Corridors at New Galerie Paris; Action Paintings, 247365 New York; Flat Neighbours, curated by Ajay Kurian at Rachel Uffner, NYC; and Morphing Overnight at Seventeen, London. She has participated in panel discussions at Art Basel Miami and the Whitney Museum of American Art, and her work has been featured in Art in America, FlashArt, Artforum, Modern Painters and Frieze. Forthcoming institutional group exhibitions include DIDING – An Interior That Remains an Exterior? at Halle für Kunst & Medien (KM–) in Graz, Austria, and Inhuman at Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany. Budor is the winner of the 2014 Rema Hort Emerging Art Award and is also co- founder/co-director of Grand Century project space in New York.

App Download

Download Hi I'm happy you're here! by Adham Faramawy

Adham Faramawy's piece 'Hi! I'm happy you're here!' is supported by Arts Council England.

Talks + Clips

Origin of 'avatar'

Audrey Hepburn in 2013 Galaxy ad

Lynn Hershman Leeson's Infinity Lab kickstarter

Mark Paterson on 'touch'

Nao dances Gangnam style Nao 'evolution of dance'

Boris Groys, Immortal Bodies

Aubrey de Grey, A roadmap to end aging

BBC World Book Club, William Gibson reads from Neuromancer

continued...

Movies

Ex Machina

Black Mirror episode: I'll Be Right Back

The Internet's Own Boy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vXr-2hwTk58

Teknolust Becoming Ada

Her

The Congress

Akira

Lucy

Robot and Frank

Metropolis

Books

The Peripheral, William Gibson

MaddAddam Trilogy, Margaret Atwood

The Disinformation Encyclopedia of Transhumanism, R.U. Sirius and Jay Cornell

The Body, Lisa Blackman

Immaterial Bodies, Lisa Blackman

Simians, Cyborgs and Women, Donna Haraway

The Singularity is Near, Ray Kurzweil

Fantastic Voyage; How To Live Long Enough To Live Forever, Ray Kurzweil

The Age of Spiritual Machines, Ray Kurzweil

Essays

Immortal Bodies, Boris Groys

When Systemizers Meet Empathizers: Universalism and the Prosthetic Imagination, Alan F Blackwell

Articles

http://edge.org/conversation/the-myth-of-ai

http://www.wired.com/2014/10/future-of-artificial-intelligence/

http://nymag.com/news/features/martine-rothblatt-transgender-ceo/

http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2013/dec/17/google-boston-dynamics-robots-atlas-bigd oq-cheetah

http://techcrunch.com/2015/01/09/toshiba-weird-robot-virtual-try-on/

Bina48

http://www.churchofperpetuallife.org

http://www.marthastewart.com/1065207/3d-printing-101

https://www.facebook.com/iambina48

Terasem Movement https://www.lifenaut.com/

EEG and Deep Mind

The New Yorker - Know Feel

http://www.wired.com/2013/04/kurzweil-google-ai/

http://research.google.com/pubs/ArtificialIntelligenceandMachineLearning.html
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Brain
http://www.technologyreview.com/featuredstory/513696/deep-learning/
Technology Review - Is Google cornering the market on deep learning?
Wired - Deep Learning Renormalization

Embodiment / Interface

http://www.e-flux.com/journal/proxy-politics/
http://www.ctrl-z.net.au/journal/?slug=gn-addictive-bodies-and-hypnopompic-dynamics
http://www.gq.com/news-politics/big-issues/201311/drone-uav-pilot-assassination

Blogs

Ray Kurzweil http://www.kurzweilai.net/

Lifenaut https://lifenaut.com/blog/

Mark Paterson https://geotheory.wordpress.com/space/

Useful Terms

People / Robots / Al

Singularity (Ray Kurweil) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Technological_singularity http://www.singularity.com/

Haptic

http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/haptic?searchDictCode=all

Affective Computing http://affect.media.mit.edu/

Telepresence Robot http://www.doublerobotics.com/

Pepper

https://www.aldebaran.com/en/a-robots/who-is-pepper

NAO

https://www.aldebaran.com/en/humanoid-robot/nao-robot

Robotic Seal Pups http://www.parorobots.com/