

## BioArt and the Public Sphere (UC Irvine 17 Oct 05)

Ingeborg Reichle

Conference

BioArt and the Public Sphere

October 17, 2005

UC Irvine October 2005

The BioArt and Public Sphere Conference is hosted by the University of California Humanities Research Institute <<http://www.uchri.org/>> (UCHRI).

This conference aims to bring together artists, biologists, and science studies scholars, to address a broad range of questions about science in the public sphere. The list of possible research domains to be investigated includes, but is not limited to, genomics, tissue engineering, genetic engineering and stem cell research.

1. What types of models of interdisciplinary engagement might facilitate rich, well-informed public participation in scientific discourse?
2. How do we go beyond the "demo" model often used by science museums and approach the subject matter in an experiential hands-on way that allows for failure, redirection of research questions and the promotion of agency towards an area that is usually reserved for the expert community?
3. What types of epistemological questions emerge at the intersection of biology, art, and the public sphere? How would an exchange mutually benefit the research areas of each discipline? Under which umbrella could research collaborations of this kind be supported?

We are specifically interested in the relationship of these research areas to the social landscape of the pharmaceutical industry, the agricultural industry, global trade and corporate license agreements, the framing of biosecurity and biodefense, constructions of disease, and the global politics of the reproductive health industry.

9.00 am Coffee/Breakfast Reception

9.30 am Conference Introduction (Beatriz da Costa & Kavita Philip)

10-12.30pm OPENING PLENARY: "CROSS-CATALYSIS"\*

Sujatha Byravan

"Using the CRG as a case study for public engagement in science."

SymbioticA

"SymbioticA Biotech Art Workshop"

Paul Rabinow

"Contemporary Nature: On Modernism and Romanticism in Paul Klee, Gerhard Richter, and Synthetic Biology"

Jens Hauser

"Bio Art - Taxonomy of an Etymological Monster"

12.30-1.30pm Lunch Break

1.30-3pm SESSION I: "SYNERGETIC SYMBIOSIS"\*

Claire Pentecost

"Outfitting the laboratory of the symbolic: towards a critical inventory of bio art"

Michael Dorsey

Tau-Mu Yi

"The Aesthetics of Biological Design"

3-3.30pm Coffee Break

3.30-5pm SESSION II: "SURFACE TENSION"\*

Charis Thompson

"Stem Cells and the Politics of Things in Science"

Abha Sur

"In the contradiction lies the hope": Reflections on Science, Race, and Caste"

Gabriella Coleman

"The Performance of Rationality: Psychiatric Survivors Critique of Bio-medical Psychiatry"

5-6.30pm SESSION III: "FERMENTATION"\*

Jenny Reardon

"Reckless Driving: Race Through Global Capital and Mass Spectrometry on Highway 5 " (multimedia presentation)

Faith Wilding

"A Cyberfeminist Politics of BioArt"

Rachel Mayeri

"Stories from the Genome" (screening)

Location:

ArtHist.net

University of California  
Humanities Research Institute  
338 Administration  
Irvine CA 92697-3350  
[http://publicsphere.parasitelab.net/conf\\_program.php](http://publicsphere.parasitelab.net/conf_program.php)

Registration Form  
[http://publicsphere.parasitelab.net/conf\\_register.php](http://publicsphere.parasitelab.net/conf_register.php)

Reference:

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