

INTERACTIVE ART WORKSHOPS in BERLIN

• interactive video installations • interactive sound installations • interactive light installations • interactive video performances • VJ works • interactive music • sound & image correspondence • aesthetics and interactive art •



Presented by Don Ritter at Aesthetic Machinery • June & July 2011

Aesthetic Machinery presents a collection of intensive workshops on the creation of interactive art environments, including interactive video installations, interactive sound installations, interactive light installations, interactive video performances, and interactive music. Participants learn the conceptual and technical basis of interactive art, obtain hands-on experience with various interactive technologies and programming, and have the opportunity to create an independent project. The workshops are open to international students, artists, designers and academics, and the language of instruction is English. The workshops are presented by artist and educator Don Ritter in Berlin, and four participants will be accepted into each workshop.

Workshop topics include digital video, digital audio, interactive systems, sensors, interfaces, sensing systems, interactive video, interactive audio, interactive lighting, interactive programming, multi-channel audio, multi-channel video, and high definition video.

online description and workshop application at <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/workshops.html>

Interactive Environments Workshop

This workshop provides an overview of the practical and conceptual elements within interactive installations and interactive performances. Specific topics include conceptual design, visualizing the project, digital video, digital audio, interactive systems, sensing systems, interfaces, interactive video, interactive audio, interactive lighting, interactive programming, multi-channel audio, multi-channel video, and high definition video. Computers, audio and video equipment will be provided, except for headphones. Prerequisite: participants should have a small amount of familiarity with installation and performance art, and computer, audio and video technologies.

duration: 20 hours over 4 days, with a one hour lunch break

date: check online at <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/workshops.html>

fee: 300 euro



more workshops and information on the next page ²



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Advanced Workshop: Programming Interactive Environments with Isadora

Participants learn how to use *Troika Tronix's Isadora* ⁴ programming language for creating interactive installations and performances. The workshop provides detailed information on creating multi-channel interactive video, audio and light environments controlled by body position, voice, music, or any form of data. Equipment will be provided, but participants can provide their own computer for a reduced workshop fee. Prerequisite: *Interactive Environments Workshop*, or moderate experience with interactive technologies, video and audio.

duration: 20 hours over 4 days, with a one hour lunch break

date: check online at <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/workshops.html>

fee: 350 euro or 300 euro if participant provides own computer

Advanced Workshop: Programming Interactive Environments with Max

Participants learn how to use *Cycling74's Max* ⁵ programming language for creating interactive installations and performances. The workshop provides detailed information on creating multi-channel interactive video and audio environments controlled by body position, voice, music, or any form of data. Prerequisite: *Interactive Environments Workshop*, *Programming Interactive Environments with Isadora*, or moderate experience with interactive technologies, video, audio, and programming. Equipment will be provided, but participants can provide their own computer for a reduced fee.

duration: 20 hours over 4 days, with a one hour lunch break

date: check online at <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/workshops.html>

fee: 350 euro or 300 euro if participant provides own computer

Advanced Workshop: Independent Project

Participants pursue an interactive art project of their choosing under the advice of Don Ritter, while receiving feedback from other workshop participants. Some equipment will be provided, but participants can provide their own computer for a reduced fee. Prerequisite: *Interactive Environments Workshop*, a *Programming Interactive Environments* workshop, or moderate experience with interactive technologies, video, audio, and programming.

duration: 20 hours over 4 days, or 40 hours over 8 days, with a one hour lunch break

session A dates: July 4 to July 7, 2011. 11am-5pm

session B dates: July 11 to July 14, 2011. 11am-5pm (*participants can enroll in one or both sessions*)

fee: 350 euro per session or 300 euro per session if participant provides own computer

The Aesthetics of Interactive Installations

This one-day workshop provides theoretical background on the relationships between interactive installations, aesthetics, and ethics. Participants will discuss the various decisions involved in the creation and experience of interactive installations. Topics include the process of aesthetic judgement, influences and consequences of aesthetic judgments, and the ethics of creating and experiencing interactive installations. No prerequisite.

duration: 4 hours over 1 day, with a one hour lunch break

date: check online at <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/workshops.html>

fee: 50 euro

questions about the workshops can be sent by email to: workshops@amachinery.net

online workshop description at <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/workshops.html>

online application at http://aesthetic-machinery.com/workshop_application.html

workshop instructor: Don Ritter is a Canadian new media artist and writer living in Berlin. He has been creating interactive installations and performances using custom designed software and hardware since 1988. His works use interactive video, audio and lighting controlled by live music, voice, body motion, and body position. His large-scale interactive installations and performances have been presented at festivals, museums and galleries throughout North America, Europe and Asia, including Ars Electronica Festival (Austria), European Media Art Festival (Germany), SITE Santa Fe (USA), Winter Olympics 2010 (Vancouver), Sonambiente Sound Festival (Berlin), Exit Festival (Paris), and New Music America (New York City). His work has received support and recognition from the Canada Council, The Banff Centre (Canada), Pratt Institute (USA), ZKM (Germany), Ars Electronica (Austria), the European Union Culture programme, and the Goethe Institute (Germany). Ritter has been a full-time professor of Fine Arts at Concordia University in Montréal (1989-1996), and in Computer Graphics and Interactive Media (CGIM) at Pratt Institute in New York City (1996-2005). He has taught over 800 undergraduate and graduate art students from twenty countries and supervised the production of over 3000 new media artworks. He has degrees in Fine Arts and Psychology (University of Waterloo), Electronics Engineering Technology (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology), a Masters in Visual Studies (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), and he studied cinema at Harvard University. <http://aesthetic-machinery.com>

references

1. *Vested* by Don Ritter, 2009. <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/vested.html>
2. *Intersection* by Don Ritter, 1993. <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/intersection.html>
3. *Vox Populi* by Don Ritter, 2005. <http://aesthetic-machinery.com/voxpathuli.html>
4. *Isadora* by Troika Tronix: <http://www.troikatronix.com/isadora.html>
5. *Max/MSP/Jitter* by Cycling74: <http://cycling74.com/products/maxmsp/jitter>
6. colour organ by Mary Hallock-Greenewalt, 1925
7. colour organ by Alexander Rimington, 1893



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