

Monday 3rd April 2006

9.00am C/T/bfast

9.30am Intro: Jon Goodbun and Murray Fraser
launch of podnet. intro to Spatial Interface conference and publication project. Outline aims and conceptual remit of conference. General acknowledgements and notices

10.00am Opening Keynote:

Prof Stephen Gage (Bartlett)

Examines the concepts of "delight" and "natural magic" in the context of the work of the Bartlett Interactive Architecture Workshop, relating these concepts to the ideas of a "trivial" and a "non trivial" machine that were put forward by Heinz Von Forster in his book "Understanding Understanding"

11.00am C/T

11.15am

Prof Beau Lotto (UCL)

Argues that complex systems represent their ecological and historical dynamics. Abstracting systems, such as the brain, from ecology is meaningless

11.45 am

Richard Difford/Dr Penelope Haralambidou (Westminster/Bartlett)

Draw upon their joint research to present moments from the history of stereoscopic projection.

12.25 pm C/T

12.45 pm

Andrew Maher (RMIT)

talking about ideas of interface that arise out of his work at SIAL .

1.15 pm

Phil Ayers (Bartlett)

Will present recent research work by 'sixteen makers'

1.45pm lunch

2.45pm

Alan Penn (Bartlett)

'Pervasion, manners and meaning' – a discussion of what happens when space syntax theory contends with communication channels other than through space.

3.15pm

Dr David Cunningham (Westminster)

'The Possibility of Phenomenology: Philosophy, Interface, Architecture'

Interrogating certain philosophical discourses of technics and tools in the likes of Marx, Benjamin, Heidegger and Stiegler, this paper seeks to uncover the basis for a concept of interface. Such a concept would, it is argued, provide the only possibility for a progressive phenomenology of spatial experience - one that might have particular relevance to contemporary architecture and architectural knowledge.

3.45pm

Nic Clear (Bartlett)

Talks about recent work

4.15pm C/T

4.45pm

John Bell (FXV/AA)

Talks about the installation work of FXV

5.15pm

Pete Silver (Westminster)

Will release active rule based agents into the auditorium and give a live commentary on emergent behavior displayed by both robots and audience.

5.45pm C/T break

6.30pm

Closing Keynote: Prof John Frazer

Argues that generative and evolutionary computing techniques might achieve a co-operative evolution leading towards a sustainable future architecture.

7.30pm drinks and question panel for contributors.

Tuesday 4th April 2006

9.30am C/T/bfast

10.00am

Opening Keynote: Professor Mark Burry (video) introduced by Andrew Maher

Pt1: Interface: analogue / digital - general / particular which looks at a small Sagrada Familia element, and its deeper significance.

Pt2: The interface between academy-research-practice via TSF, Gehry Technologies, and dECOi.

11.00am C/T

11.15am

Prof Murray Fraser (Westminster) and Halli Bjornsson

Will discuss the social and urban implications of real-time modelling as a new type of spatial interface between clients, designers and users, especially in the case of large-scale and complex urban interventions. Real-time is technology that is hoped will be disseminated into design and visualization services in London and other cities over the coming years.

11.45am

Prof Iain Borden (Bartlett)

Argues that the modern automobile-driver interface, dynamically engaged with the real communications space of the road, is the most sophisticated human-technology symbiosis yet achieved.

12.15pm C/T

12.25pm

RMIT2 (intro by Andrew Maher) Inger Mewburn and Pia Ednie Brown (on video)

Vibrating with difference: laughter and the intimate distance between us.

12.45pm

Jason Bruges (JasonBrugesStudio)

Present pieces of work from their practice and research which address spatial interface.

1.15pm lunch

2.30pm

Dr Vicky Watson (Westminster)

will examine the parallel notions of autonomy and interface, asking how they relate to ideas about space and to the processes of design. Drawing on the thought of Georges Bataille and Henri Bergson, the paper aims to focus on the concrete phenomenon of the Air Grid; a three-dimensional lattice structure made of embroidery thread and derived from an architecture, often deemed beautiful, often deemed autonomous – the work of Ludwig Mies van Der Rohe.

3.00pm

Prof David Greene

Discusses his Archigram LAWUN (locally available world unseen networks) project, and reports on recent developments at the Invisible University, the current manifestation of this seminal project, with the EXP research group at Westminster.

3.30pm C/T

4pm

Dr Alun Munro

Discusses ubiquitous computing, art and some interesting projects that emerged from an electronic arts festival he recently curated in Norway

4.30pm

Jon Goodbun (wmin)

Drawing upon work with WAG and the students and tutors of the Polytechnic group, 'From Aesthetics to Cybernetics' asks what is at stake for architectural knowledge in the conceptual paradigms shaping thinking around spatial interface. Ideas based in the nineteenth century german-oriental 'aesthetics of alienation' school (including marx and the young hegelians, and the empathy theorists), and its reincarnation in McLuhan and the 20th C body-extension communications theorists are developed. Various architectural theories grounded (or not) in ecology, phenomenology, cybernetics, and emergence theory will also be considered. Finally actual or potential new cross disciplinary thinking involving current ideas ranging from cognitive mapping, Lefebvre and rhythm analysis, perceptual psychology and neuro biology will be reviewed.

5.15pm C/T

5.45pm Closing Keynote:

Prof Neil Spiller (Bartlett)

Discusses some particular moments in his work, which search for meaning at the interface of the human immersed in communicating fields of technology.

7.00PM drinks and question panel for contributors