



MAISON EUROPEENNE DE
LA PHOTOGRAPHIE
VILLE DE PARIS

*@rt Outsiders 2003
International Festival
October 1 through November 9, 2003*

"SPACE ART"

This year, the @rt Outsiders Festival defies the laws of gravity and presents various installations, films and conferences that are linked to space. These rather original and committed pieces give us the real feeling of the revolutionary period we are living. Therefore, the @rt Outsiders creators invite us to participate to the conquest, at least in terms of imagination and personal sensitivness...

Addictive TV, Marcel-li Antunez Roca, Astropioneers, Marc Battier, Ewen Chardronnet, Miguel Chevalier, Richard Clar, Susan Collins, Pierre Comte, Kitsou Dubois et Eric Duranteau, Jérôme Duval, Kodwo Eshun, Vadim Fishkin, Flow Motion : Anna Piva et Edward George, Danielle Jaeggi, Jean-Yves Leloup, Takuro Osaka, Marko Pelhjan, Jean-Marc Philippe, Frank Pietronigro, le collectif Pleix, Anjalika Sagar, Andreï Ujica, Louise Wilson, Arthur Woods.

Alex Adriaansen, Jacques André, Gérard Azoulay, Arts Catalyst : Nicola Triscott et Rob La Frenais, Annick Bureaud, Jean-Pierre Haigneré, Eduardo Kac, Jean-Pierre Luminet, Roger Malina, Philippe Perrin, Thierry Pozzo, Mikhail Ryklin, Denis Thierion, Douglas A. Vakoch, Dan Werthimer.

A LEAP INTO SPACE

Since the beginning of mankind and the history of civilization, human beings have always dreamed of the heavens. Before the emergence of the Biblical religions, they fantasized about gods as the guardians of the stars and now, with such great leaps forward in technology, they imagine a better life beyond the sky.

Certain esoteric traditions, doubtlessly premonitory, have always endeavored to convince us of the need to rediscover our original condition: that of an inhabitant of the Universe, connected through the vibrations of the Cosmos, provided that we master the "know how" of our brain, if it is – in the same manner as our carnal envelope – correctly stimulated.

Since the end of the 1950s, scientists have undertaken the path leading us to the Milky Way, by analyzing the human body's conditions of adaptation to space, with all that it may entail in terms of biological and mental reeducation. Without this research, we would have missed the launch of the cosmonauts, and the collective utopia of travelling through space, which, over these past few years, is becoming a reality.

In light of the progress made by scientists, artists have been unable to remain inactive: understandably, they rapidly pondered the possibility of creating ephemeral works and new precursory plastic art or simply metaphorical expressions, in space.

Each artist participating in the 4th art-outsiders international festival of digital creation illustrates this approach in his or her specific manner. The artists, by stimulating their sensitivity and subconscious, have created diverse performances and installations. Each visitor's individual imagination will undoubtedly bring a new light to these exhibitions, which require a certain extent of interactivity.

Finally, this leap into space also takes on a vital function for each individual's inner being: far from an escape or a simple need to experiment, this approach gives the artist, as well as those who observe or identify with these works, solid wings on which to fly.

Now, it is up to you to take the leap!

Henry Chapier
President

SPACE ART : exploring new territories!

After having created the “Bio-Art” theme for the 2002 edition, the international @rt Outsiders festival proposes a historical event this year, based on the "Space Art" theme, which will be held at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie. This special venue will once again be transformed into a showcase for emerging artistic trends, between October 1 and November 9, 2003. This is the very first time a festival, exclusively dedicated to space art, has been organized in France.

What needs to be done is to define "Space Art" in general terms, without going into a long drawn-out listing of all the disciplines that it covers, which in fact encompass almost all fields of contemporary creation.

"Space Art" is all those contemporary artistic practices that are inspired by space research or space activity. It is, therefore, not an esthetic current that imposes shared formal rules of presentation or representation, but rather an artistic current defined by a subject: space, drawing on a community of passionate, lively interests by an infinite scope of investigation that is as yet little explored.

The panorama of the works and installations exhibited in the international @rt Outsiders festival enables us to forcefully demonstrate the extraordinary vitality of contemporary creation via the novelty and diversity of the fields of experimentation that it covers: artistic experiments in weightlessness, collective and participatory works intended for space voyages, sub-orbital and environmental projects, multimedia installations based on radio-astronomy and radio-telescopy, cosmic representations, weightless sculpture and architecture, digital creations fiction films or documentaries concerning fantasy, esthetics or the history of the conquest of space.

These unique artists, painters, plastic artists, choreographers, dancers, architects, sculptors, film makers, musicians and poets appropriate – each in their own way – the collective imagination linked to the exploration of space, providing us with fascinating works, that reveal a particular awareness of the incomparable social-cultural changes that are associated with technological progress.

The esthetic, scientific, philosophical, social and political stakes behind these new artistic practices will be the focus of two weekend events combining conferences, debates, artwork presentations, performances and film projections that will bear witness to the prodigious force of evocation that this Terra Incognita has always held for the human community.

Jean-Luc Soret
Artistic Director

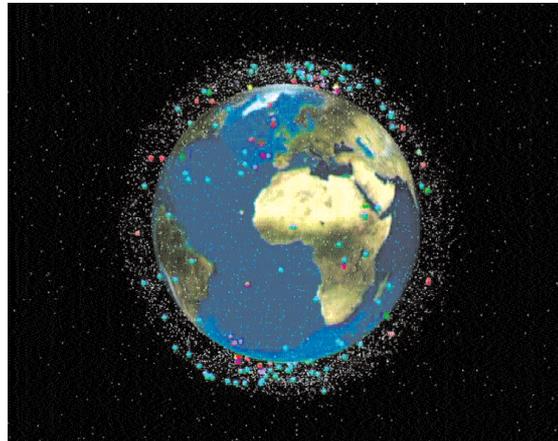
Installations

COLLISION II

Richard Clar

Music: Marc Battier

COLLISION II, an orbital debris constellation sculpture in low-Earth orbit, is represented in a multimedia video installation featuring music by the French composer, Marc Battier. Attention is focused on the serious problem of orbital debris, particularly in low-Earth orbit.



© "The Naval Research Laboratory"

Selected for COLLISION II, 192 orbital debris objects (color-coded by country of origin) are shown in the installation video along with the remainder of the 10,000 objects (small white dots) currently in the U.S. Space Command's catalog of tracked orbital debris objects. Surrounding our planet Earth, the trajectories of all of these debris, which at first might appear to be chaotic, are in fact known and listed in the U.S. Space Command's catalog of orbital debris objects in space. Using data from this catalog, and a super-computer, the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., created the simulations seen in the COLLISION II presentation.

"KEO" : www.keo.org interactive installation by Jean-Marc Philippe

Selected as the "Project for the 21st century" by Unesco, Keo is a satellite prepared for launching by 2006 for a long journey around the planet Earth in order to land in about 50 000 years later and deliver to our remote descendants any message without...given nowadays by each of us.

Once Keo on orbit, all our messages - which will remain strictly anonymous within the archives kept on Earth - are going to be analyzed by linguists and sociologists. The content will be summarized by cartographers in order to set up a public debate, a scientific device which will enable us to answer a couple of main questions such as "who are we ?" and what kind of world and society could we build starting today in terms of human betterment ?



© "Keo"

“FILE/AIR, the ambiguity of limits”

by Kitsou Dubois and Eric Duranteau

Sound: Alain Bellaïche / Dancers: Mathurin Bolze, Kitsou Dubois, Jörg Müller and Laura de Nercy

Choreographer Kitsou Dubois, asked set designer Eric Duranteau, to share her adventure in weightlessness. In this presentation, each of them explores space: the first through dance movements and the second through image. In a weightless universe, where movement is both fluid and infinite, the body and image are the media for a real, perceptive dance experiment that fuses with the dream of flight.

In FILE/AIR, their third installation, bodies glide about in an endless travelling shot, while the eye and the camera merge together in a limitless universe.



© Ki Productions



© Open Sky

"OPEN SKY" by Ewen Chardronnet

The multimedia installation "Open Sky" looks how artists explore conversions from military to civilian in space&sky arts. It presents a film that opens the sky to stimulate possible conversions and investigate orbital information systems in the context of post-Apollo to post-ColdWar/DesertStorm esthetics and politics; a film on the background to the conversion for civil use of the "ART 32"

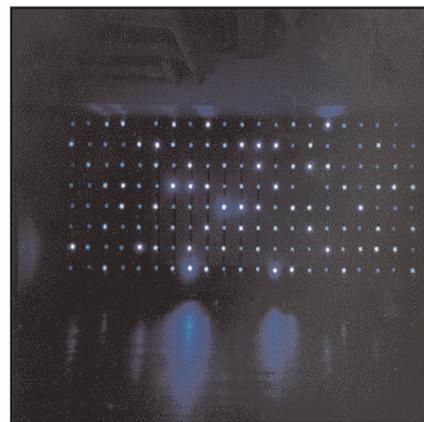
telescope of Irbene in Latvia ; a listening station - radio@stronomy - that enables us to "hear" the raw sounds issued by the planets of the solar system ; and a presentation of the members of the Acoustic Space Lab network.

“THE FULLNESS OF EMPTINESS”

by Takuro Osaka

The multimedia installation created by this Japanese artist explores the birth and the death of the universe, by giving life to cosmic rays.

These rays, caused by the birth and death of a star or the explosion of a supernova, regularly reach the atmosphere and the Earth, given that nearly 200 cosmic rays pass through our bodies each second. It is this physical relationship to the cosmos that "The Fullness of Emptiness" reveals, and makes “visible,” using a device made up of sensors connected to hundreds of colored diodes, which retrace the trajectories.



© Mareo Tsunemara / Takuro Osaka



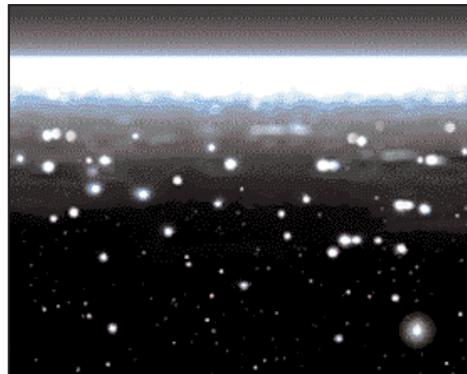
© Addictive TV

'SPACED OUT' DVD album from Addictive TV
 Forty years of NASA exploration remixed for the 21st Century.

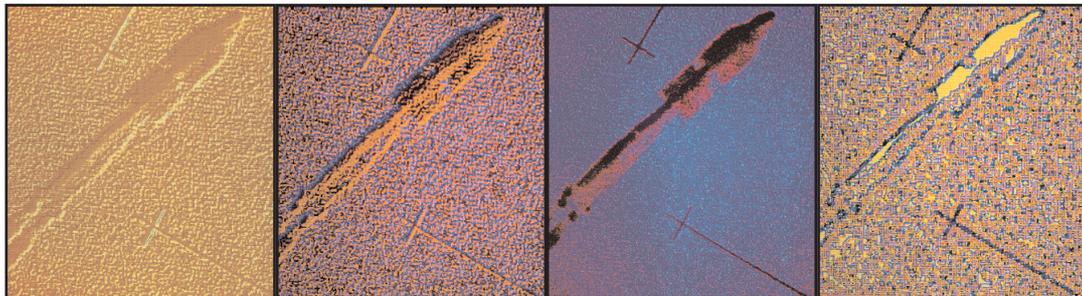
"Spaced Out" is a project created by sampling - both audio and video - the NASA archives and audiovisually remixing the footage to build something very new. Pioneering artists, such as Coldcut, Brian Kane of EBN (Emergency Broadcast Network) and Addictive TV themselves, plus a host of others, participated in the project, which comprises of 26 video clips. This is the first time Spaced Out will be shown in its entirety in France.

“CASCADE” by the Pleix Collective

Cascade is a sound and visual multimedia piece created by a virtual community of seven digital French artists inviting us to share an imaginary journey, an aquatic fairy-tale aswell as a cosmic one, in other words a huge dream where stars are shining and surfing on the waves. This most original creation will be shown within the space of La Maison Européenne de la Photographie, but in the same time on the web site www.art-outside.com as well as on pleix.net



© Pleix.



© Miguel Chevalier

“LAUNCHED INTO ORBIT” - 1988 - by Miguel Chevalier

Parabolic antennas and radars are today’s symbols of communication, which have caught the artist’s attention, given that they are the fruit of our highly technological society. Miguel Chevalier will present - with his digital photographs - the particular aesthetical vision inspired to him by the launching of satellites into orbit.

“TELESCOPING” - 1988 - by Miguel Chevalier

"Telescope" is a video/digital installation that shows the evolution in means of transmission brought on by today’s space exploration and the prevalence of interconnections. “Telescope” also more broadly focuses on the relationship that each individual has with communication tools: telephone, fax, keyboard, screen, etc.

“SIGNATURE EARTH”, “BIOSPACE PROGRAM” and “ZERO G. ART”

Video installation that highlights the diverse works by **Pierre Comte**

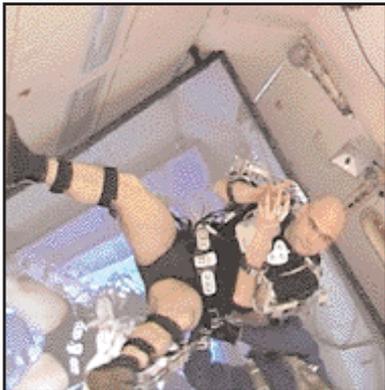
Visible from space, “Signature Terre” is a gigantic ground installation that reaches its full significance with the satellite views presented.

“Biospace Program”: a project that endeavors to prove that the ideal architecture for weightlessness is a sphere. An original work that gives us a glimpse of tomorrow’s space shuttle cockpit.

“Zero G. Art”: thanks to backing by the CNES, ESA and NASA, Pierre Comte has created very particular plastic works, in which the interest lies – © Pierre Comte / Signature terre – amongst other things – in the way in which they move about in space.



"GRAVITATION OFF !" by The Arts Catalyst



© Daedalus 2003. Estudi Marcel·lí Antúñez Roca

The Arts Catalyst (www.artscatalyst.org) founded in 1993 by Nicola Triscott, is a European agency based in London that specializes in the relationship between art and science whose goal is to encourage dialog, exchange and collaboration between artists and scientists. This organization – whose curator is Rob La Frenais – thus opens up new territories and spaces for creation with the setting up of multidisciplinary research laboratories including activities such as zero-gravity flights.

"Gravitation off !" leads us to discover the extraordinary video documents of these artistic experiments performed in weightlessness.

“TATE IN SPACE” by Susan Collins

How would one design a museum if it were to be launched into orbit around the Earth?

This highly original project is an arena for reflection on the nature of cultural ambition in terms of our relationship to space. This project was conceived by british artist Susan Collins as a site specific artwork for the Tate website.

Aspart of the work Susan Collins commissioned the talents of numerous contributors from architects to space scientists. The site includes architectural propositions, a notional Tate Satellite and a live 'webcam'. These are the best proposals offered to the festival’s visitors and on www.tate.org.uk/space



© “ETALAB and Virtual Artworks”
Project for “Tate in Space” © S.Collins



© Arthur Woods

"COSMIC DANCER" by Arthur Woods

On Friday, March 23, 2001: the MIR space station plunged into the south Pacific in flames. Along with the station, the "Cosmic Dancer," the first sculpture on board the MIR since 1993, that was specifically created for the station and for weightlessness, disappeared into the ocean. With no attachment points, this sculpture offers viewers a multitude of perceptual points or rather position points, creating a three dimensional kinetic relationship with the cosmonauts.

A captivating video documentary that enables the public to observe the birth and realization of this historical, yet ephemeral work.

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"SPACE - A WORK INPROGRESS //3.01/3 "

An interactive installation by the CNES Space Observatory

Space activities change our visual and mental perceptions, and enhance our knowledge. For this reason, they have become a crucial contemporary issue. For the first time ever, three devices forming an interactive triptych attempt to cast new light on the questions thus raised.

The Spatiosphere encourages us to question what we know by providing unique views through which space cuts across a wide variety of cultural fields. **The Hydronaute** transforms the way we usually represent the Earth, offering a new vision based on spatial measurements of the oceans, like a geographical information system.

The Stationaute lets us experience the sensation of being in weightlessness aboard the International Space Station and gives us the chance to manipulate scientific experiments through an original and complex interface.



© CNES

- The web site www.art-outside.com is proud to present a brand new look created by servovalve.org and krashtest.org
- The new graphic identity of the web site is an original Servovalve's creation.
- Scenography of the collective exhibition room : Pierre Hespel
- New @rt Outsiders Festival's logo created by kazuhito Nishimo from Solotusk graphic agency



Press

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Open to the public

Maison Européenne de la Photographie - 5/7, rue de Fourcy
 75 004 Paris - M° Saint Paul ou Pont-Marie
 Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 5 Euros – Reduced price 2.50 Euros – Free on Wednesday 5 pm to 8 pm.