

Evolution Haute Couture

Talk and Film screening by Dmitry Bulatov

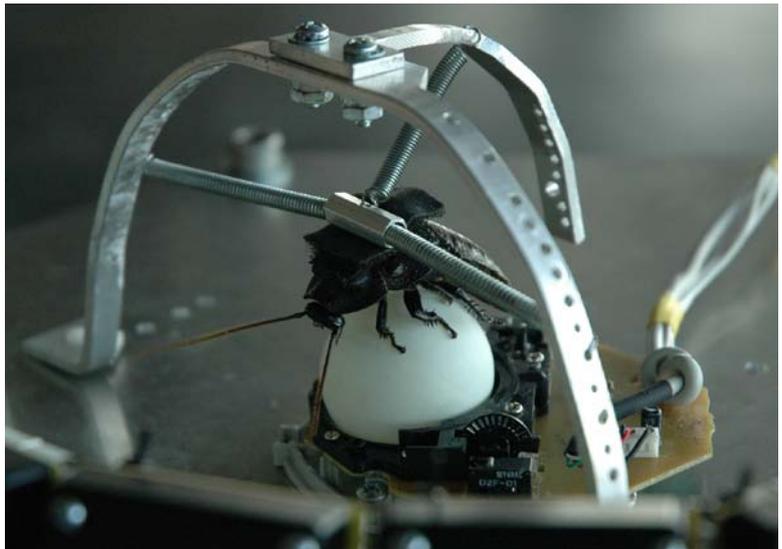
Thursday, 01 July 2010, 7PM,
Admission free

Art Laboratory Berlin is pleased to present a collection of documentary films about artworks recently created using the latest twenty-first century technologies: artificial life, robotics, bio and genetic engineering. The screening has been organized by the curator and artist Dmitry Bulatov in conjunction with the National Centre for Contemporary Arts (Kaliningrad branch, Russia).

The films document artworks whose medium is living or lifelike matter, and the properties of living organisms and technologically reproduced artefacts are combined to produce the method. Art created under these new conditions of post-biology – that is, under conditions of artificially generated life – cannot avoid making this artificiality its explicit theme. We are thus again confronted with the question of the relationship between art and life in a completely new context defined by biological and abiological creations, works, and beings.

This collection is the first comprehensive overview of the current stage of contemporary techno-biological art. It provides a panorama of artistic strategies for granting and withdrawing the gift of authenticity. The analysis of these strategies opens up new possibilities for creative production and cultural commentary. In 2009 the *Evolution Haute Couture* project won the National Innovation Prize (Moscow, Russia), awarded annually for achievements in contemporary visual arts.

The film screening also coincides with the first volume of the anthology:



Garnet Hertz (USA) "Cockroach-Controlled Mobile Robot", 2006

Evolution Haute Couture: Art and Science in the Post-Biological Age. Edited by Dmitry Bulatov. Book plus two DVD-ROMs collection (45 video documentaries), KB NCCA, Kaliningrad, 2009. (ISBN: 978-5-94620-054-7).

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www.videodoc.ncca-kaliningrad.ru/eng/

Screening Program – 01 July 2010:

Bill Vorn, Emma Howes, Jonathan Villeneuve (Canada): *Grace State Machines*, 7'40"

The Tissue Culture & Art Project (TC&A), Oron Catts and Ionat Zurr (Australia): *NoArk*, 7'51"

Arthur Elsenaar and Remko Scha (The Netherlands): *Morphology / Face-Shift*, 10'45"

Ken Rinaldo (USA): *The Autotelematic Spider Bots*, 10'56"

Stelarc (Australia): *Extra Ear: Ear On Arm*, 5'12"

Joe Davis (USA): *Making Fire*, 10'25"

Marcel-li Antunez Roca (Spain): *Epizoo*, 3'21"

Erwin Driessens and Maria Verstappen (The Netherlands): *Tickle Salon*, 8'16"
 Julie Freeman (United Kingdom): *The Lake*, 5'00"
 Laura Beloff (Finland): *The Fruit Fly Farm*, 8'42"
 Marta de Menezes (Portugal): *DECON*, 9'00"
 Paula Gaetano Adi (Argentina): *Alexitimia – an autonomous robotic agent*, 7'08"
 Paul Granjon (France): *Sexed Robots*, 4'18"
 SymbioticA Group (Australia) and The Potter Lab (USA): *MEART – The Semi Living Artist*, 7'28"
 Floris Kaayk (The Netherlands): *Metalosis Maligna*, 7'26"

The screening will follow a short introduction by Dmitry Bulatov, and afterwards there will be a panel discussion with Dmitry Bulatov, Elena Ryabkova (Museum of the World Ocean, Kaliningrad, Russia), and Christian de Lutz (Art Laboratory Berlin).

Dmitry Bulatov (1968, Kaliningrad, Russia)

Artist, curator, art theorist. His research activities focus on different aspects of interdisciplinary sci-art media (robotechnics, genetic engineering, nano-tech, etc.). Bulatov is the author of many articles on art and new technologies; he has also edited books and anthologies such as *Ex-poetry* (Malbork, 1996), *Point of View* (Olsztyn, 1998), *Homo Sonorus* (Kaliningrad, 2001), *BioMediale* (Kaliningrad, 2004), *Evolution Haute Couture* (Kaliningrad, 2009). His artworks have been presented in various national and international exhibitions such as *Davaj! Russian Art Now* (Berlin-Vienna, 2002), *Brain Academy Apartment* (50 Venice Biennial, 2003), *3durch3* (Kassel, 2004), *Victory over the Sun* (Moscow, 2007), *Technology Expanding the Horizon* (Columbus, 2007), *Senses Alert* (Berlin, 2008), *Corpus Extremus* (New York, 2009), etc. Bulatov has taken part in numerous festivals, including the *Moscow Film Festival* (Moscow, 2001, 2007, 2008), *Radiotopia* (ORF, Ars Electronica, 2002), *Off-Beats* (Berlin, 2003), *SKIF-8* (St. Petersburg, 2004), *Up to date* (Santiago, 2006), *ISEA2008* (Singapore, 2008), *Science Art Festival* (Moscow, 2009). Bulatov has taken part in several international contemporary art conferences and given lectures in Russia (including The State Hermitage Museum, The State Tretyakov Gallery, The National Centre for Contemporary Arts), USA, Canada, the Netherlands, Germany, Mexico, Singapore and Hong Kong. He has received numerous grants and awards including the Special Recognition Award in the State Government category for Art and Culture (1998). In 2009 he has been awarded the National Innovation Award for Contemporary Visual Arts (Russia). Since 1998, Bulatov has been Senior curator at the Kaliningrad Branch of the National Centre for Contemporary Art in Russia.

This project is presented in cooperation with the

National Centre for Contemporary Arts (Kaliningrad branch, Russia)

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