PLANETART @ JAPAN

Narrative and facts

PLANETART has been invited by the Club Super Deluxe and the Japan Media Arts Festival, Feb 2011.

Sander Veenhof, Viola van Alphen, Kees de Groot, Willem Heerbaart and Frank Morssinkhof are invited, and just before the start of the festival, they were asked to do several more presentations:

- 1. National Art Center: Panel Discussion about: New Role and Significance of Art Festivals in 2010s
- 2. National Art Center: GOGBOT festival presentation, giving an impression of media art festival in the Netherlands, Feb 2.
- 3. Tokyo Midtown tower: GOGBOT festival "Highlights of Screenings" Arno Coenen, Jan van Nuenen, Semiconductor, Gottfried Haider, Via Oral, Sandwoman, Kees de Groot. Best of Dutch video-art according to PLANETART, Feb 4 and Feb 7.
- 4. Entire week: Sander Veenhof Layar project : entire week, city Tokyo and Feb 9: presentation in Super-Deluxe
- 5. Feb 9, also presentation of Dutch VIDEO ART and CyberAttack performance, which had its premiere at Transmediale, Berlin and GOGBOT festival Enschede NL, with Frank Morssinkhof and Willem Heerbaart.

SuperDeluxe invited PLANETART for a presentation and together with PLANETART we wrote this report, based on the experiences of the Dutch artists, written down in a narrative way, with some reviews, documentation and at the final end of this report the financial overview.

We would like to thank the Dutch embassy for their financial support to making these presentations possible. Because of the quality of the artists, and the works they brought, they were asked to do more presentations and screenings then originally planned, which lead to a larger visible presence of our Dutch guests, the Dutch art they presented and more networking possibilities.

Narrative:

PLANETART: Especially during the Japan Media Arts - Awards ceremony on Feb 1st, our hosts introduced us to a lot of people: artists, reporters, persons from international cultural networks, institutions, organizations, educations, performers. Also we enforced the existing network connections we had: artist like Hideyki Ando and Junji Watanabe (Osaka University) who performed a Galvanic Vestibular Stimulation) Interface at GOGBOT 2010 and other international artists were met. We met people from the Museum of contemporary art Tokyo, Medialab of the University of Tokyo, Design center Isao Mogi - Bijutsu techo, Keio University, Waseda University, School of Culture Media and Society, Mindbox, Sony

music, Tokyo Art Beat, Atak, DOG: Gaga design-crew, Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media, Photographers, Stoicomedia, Tokyo Wonder site: Institute for Contemporary arts and intercultural exchange, etc etc.



After seeing the Japan Media Arts Exhibition, we asked Asami Hosokawa, Program Coordinator and Atsushi Wakamoto, manager of Japan Media Arts Festival to discuss possibilities of a further cultural exchange, starting by presenting works of the JMAF at the GOGBOT festival 8-11 Sept 2011. And we made future plans with several other organizations.

Outcome

- Spread of Dutch/Enschede art and technology in Japan, with quoting the Enschede GOGBOT festival as "one of the art events that represents the Netherlands".
- Building of network, with University of Japan, Japan Media Arts Festival, artists, scientists, etc.
- Direct after this, Creative Technology of University Twente asked direction PLANETART to become university teachers, also because of their international network.
- Japanese artists to GOGBOT (Sputniko, Ryoji Ikeda, Maruosa, Sekitani, Motomichi, Aonami, DJ Scotch Egg, DJ Sniff, Suguru Goto, selection Japan Media Arts Festival, etc) and enforcing the binding with Japanese oriented organizations in the Netherlands, or with Japanese employees, like STEIM, largest institute of audio art in the Netherlands.

- Creation of a videoclip
- Another outcome was that thanks to just the photos on Facebook, the live performers of Enschede artist group CyberAttacks were already invited to Oddstream media art festival, Nijmegen.

The first day of Sander Veenhofs arrival, Sander visited the ICC. One of the main objects contained a screen, showing a camerashot from another location. In that shot was a flyer, of our performance in SuperDeluxe, the flyer being positioned in the center. Sander was amazed to see a central artwork at ICC showing our flyer, so were we.

Besides that, we received from the staff of the festival, approaching us, all kinds of questions, about things that we find typically Dutch, but also about censorship and rules, and how we deal with those in the Netherlands.

Besides that, we also received very positive responses on the technological side of our presentations. The paneldiscussion leader told GOGBOT was doing a perfect role: translating complicated technology, making is easy and accessible for a broad audience. And making it easy for audience to think in a critical way about technology and what it means for them.

Also the innovativeness on media and technology, and the easy-combination with all kinds of other art and presenting it in the public space received several reactions. People were inspired and after every presentation there was a line of people wanting to meet us and to ask us things.

We were also very charmed by what we thought were typical Japanese elements: the fact that the people in this country were so polite, quiet talking, not harassing, and very open towards technology, manga and design. Japanese people seem to have very high standards in qualitative products, and are very playful in using technology and design and culture into a new, creative reality (for example: manga, online worlds, social media, cosplay, vocaloid popmusic, etc). We even discussed, in all respect, the worldwar and the feelings that some Dutch people had when thinking about Japan con

worldwar and the feelings that some Dutch people had when thinking about Japan considering the Japcamps in war. The Japanese people that we met were very polite and bright thinkers, with a clear focus on a beautiful future. We were inspired by their ideas, using technology and art. Also the Sony center, and the first release of a 3D game computer in this country, as being the first country in the world, and already seeing an artwork created on it, made us very positive about Japan. Where Dutch people can be very conservative, also with technology (is that because our cultural history of Frankenstein-like stories?) we admired the differences between our countries. The architecture, with all kinds of levels with roads, shops, clubs, manga-cafes, houses, also worked for us very inspiring. And we were also charmed to meet some of the world-leading figures in media art in such an inspiring surrounding like Japan, made us all very civilized and polite and respective towards each other. We didn't have to scream (like sometimes in European or American countries, where the background sounds are much louder) and were influenced by this beauty of Japanese culture surrounding us.

And with this inspiring context with many networking occasions (we had several dinners, lunches and meetings with artists, organizers of the festival, and international guests), we as the Dutch guests of the SuperDeluxe and Japan Media Arts Festival showing a good position with presenting arts of international quality, made for 95% by Dutch artists and showing that on Japan Media Arts Festival and at Club SuperDeluxe strengthens the Dutch international cultural profile of being innovative, technology minded. Another example is the Dutch company Layar, a worldwide, international company that is based in Amsterdam and run by Dutch people. They experiment with new technologies, like Layar, a program that adds an invisible "layer" over our world, with images we can only see if we look to the world using our smartphones. They helped in our presentation. PLANETART artist Sander Veenhof attracted people in the streets by his demonstrations of showing people works of art, he added, in Tokyo. Japanese people that are often also attracted to technology (look in the subways how many people are playing with their cell phones all the time) were positively surprised by this new world and new creatures that existed around them, made visible to them by Sander Veenhof.

In Club SuperDeluxe not only several people came that we had met, but also people helped us with the performance by filming (design team of Tokyo, artists, etc) and other matters, we also met new people, like the founder of Pecha Kucha Mark Dytham of Klein Dytham architects, several performers that we invited to perform on GOGBOT as well (i.e. Maruosa). (we knew Mark only by name, because we are also one of the official worldwide locations of Pecha Kucha, in the East of the Netherlands). Also, we have met artists in Singapore (ISEA) and Yogyakarta (cellsbutton#02) the last years (during our presentations in these Asian countries) that also had a network in Japan, that helped us meet new people and make stronger connections.





Dutch cultural heritage abroad. Showing the film of Arno Coenen called VOC is an excellent example: the video contained Delfts Blauw, Rembrandt and other typical Dutch cultural elements. Also showing self-critisism and renewal. Self criticism is not very common in Japan, specially not in art. It seems to be coming from other parts in the world, perhaps inspiring the Japanese too?



Video Program

Arno Coenen

VOC VIP: Holland Experience 2006,

11:24 min.

In cooperation with Peter Leeuwerik

Animated video about Dutch 17th century colonial past with greedy trading spirit, mixed up with today's export business in Holland like marihuana and XTC.

Arno Coenen, multimedia artist, one of Holland's leading VJ's and video-artists, studied at the Minerva academy, Groningen (NL).

http://www.arnocoenen.nl

Semiconductor

200 Nanowebbers 2005

2:49 min.

For 200 Nanowebbers, Semiconductor created a molecular web that is generated by Double Adaptor's live soundtrack. Using custom scripting, the melodies and rhythms spawn a nanoscale environment that shifts and contorts with the audio resonance. Layers of energetic hand-drawn animations play over simple vector shapes forming atomic-scale associations. As the landscape flickers into existence by the light of trapped electron particles, substructures resembling crystalline substances begin to take shape.

http://www.semiconductorfilms.com Brighton (UK).

Gottfried Haider

Hidden in Plain Sight 2008

0:56 min

Hidden in Plain Sight is a meditation on the nature of computer programming.

While a compiler's task is to turn abstract/immortal instructions into a structure that can be executed by the machine, it is essential to view the compiler as a result of such a process itself - thus being determined by its ancestors and source code, both most likely being imperfect.

Here, a compiler compiles itself in a perpetual motion. Each generation then turns a (modified) version of the Quake III source code into an executable file and runs it.

Gottfried Haider studies at the university for Applied Arts, Vienna.

http://gottfriedhaider.com/

Arno Coenen

Baghdad Disco, 2007 4:23 min

Most popular Dutch video art clip in 2007: dancing on the volcano, golden Uzi's turning around, dancing Lego girls in burkah, and Lego boys with Arafat shawls.

Via Oral

ViaOral 2009

7:48 min

Via Oral (aka Frank Morssinkhof) is a master in mashing up today's massmedia subcultures and politics with ink black humor, concealed histories, human tragedy and corrupted communicators. Loads of messages, sampled from modern cinema, art, web, commercials, videoclips and found footage, packed in dazzling esthetics; acclaimed nouveau dada bourgeois hippie postmodernist.

Frank Morssinkhof studied at the AKI Academy, Enschede (NL).

Jan van Nuenen

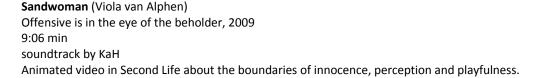
Evolizer 2007

10:35 min.

Black and white figures are moving around in a futurist city. One of the figures, carrying a mystic box, leads you inside a building. The box opens and begins to reveal its own laws of physics. Basic elements begin to modulate spontaneously creating more and

more complex organic species. There's a violent struggle for life. Who is the fittest?

Jan van Nuenen studied audiovisual design at St Joost Academy, Breda (NL). http://www.janvannuenen.com/



Sandwoman studied mathematics, computer science, architecture, business administration and art (NL). http://www.sandwoman.com

Kees de Groot

Market Fundamentalism 2007

1:00 min

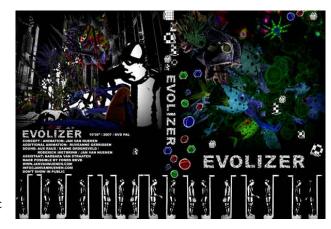
Mash-up tornado of mass media samples and found footage, centered around the killing of Dutch populist politician Pim Fortuyn. This Dutch equivalent of 9-11changed the quiet liberal lowlands in Europa into a potential extreme right wing xenophobic dystopia. Postmodernist neopop videoclip avant-la-lettre.

Kees de Groot studied at the AKI Art Academy Enschede and Rijksacademie Amsterdam (NL). http://www.keesdegroot.nl

Facts/Figures:

Contributions to the Japan Media Arts Festival:

(In alphabetical order) Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia,



South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and United States.

Theme Symposia: This year, theme Symposia are attended by international festival directors related to Media Arts. They will gather and talk about the aim, role and social significance of each festival. Also the trends each festival focus on, the recent characteristics and the change of movement will be discussed. Moreover, they think about their exists as the field where artists can be active internationally.



[Fascination of Expressions from International Animation Festivals](bilingual) 16:00-17:30 Thursday, February 3, 2011 Panelist : Panelist : Vjera MATKOVIC (The World Festival of Animated Film - Animafest Zagreb, Festival Producer) Artur VEEBER (JAFF, Director) Tatjana MULBEIER (JAFF, Organizer) FURUKAWA Taku (Animation Division Head of the Jury / Animation Artist)

[New Role and Significance of Art Festivals in the 2010s](bilingual) 15:00-16:30 Friday, February 4, 2011
Panelist: Panelist: Agnieszka Kubicka-Dzieduszycka (WRO, Curator) Viola van ALPHEN (GOGBOT festival, Management Director) Kees de GROOT (GOGBOT festival, Creative Director) SHIKATA Yukiko (Art Division Head of the Jury / Media Art Curator)

Festival presentations: Directors of various international festivals talk about their festivals, which focus on art, technologies, digital culture and animation.

- "Film Festival of Japanese Animation (JAFF)" in Estonia
- "GOGBOT" of the Netherlands media art festival
- "The World Festival of Animated Film Animafest Zagreb"
- "WRO Art Center" of a base for media art in Poland
- Media Arts In the World Live from transmediale in Berlin
- · "Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)" a base for new cultural field in Australia
- "FutureEverything" of sound and art festival in England
- "ANIME CUT", the circuit exhibition of Japanese Animation in Europe

Media Arts in the World:

The Japan Media Arts Festival introduces activities of international festivals in the field of Media Arts. There will be presentations by festival directors and curators. And outstanding works of those festivals will be screened.

Annecy International Animated Film Festival (France) **

http://www.annecy.org/

Ottawa International Animation Festival (Canada)**

http://ottawa.awn.com/

The World Festival of Animated Film - Animafest Zagreb (Croatia)**

http://www.animafest.hr/

SICAF (Korea)**

http://www.sicaf.org/2010/index.jsp

JAFF (Estonia)

http://www.kino.ee/index.php?page=1495&

GOGBOT festival, Art-Music-Technology (Enschede, Netherlands)

http://www.gogbot.nl/





National Art Center, Tokyo – main location of Japan Media Arts Festival

Why is it important to participate as Dutch / Enschede organisation?

The internationalization and professionalization of Dutch art and artists, to develop the international network from the Netherlands and Enschede in particular in a large, international festival. Dutch art is in this action through the Dutch, Japanese and international present art-network been put on the map in Japan.

Also connections are made stronger with the development lab of the University of Tokyo, a similar institute as the department of Creative Technology of the University of Twente, where PLANETART works and has connections, the directors of PLANETART are official University Teachers at the department and are also looking towards future possibilities in these matters. The development lab of the University of Tokyo is currently looking for means to be able to be present with presentations at the next GOGBOT festival, we have high expectations of their works. The work for instance with lasers attached to the spinal-cords, worn by Japanese dancers, showing biological and technogical delightful performances.

International contributors:

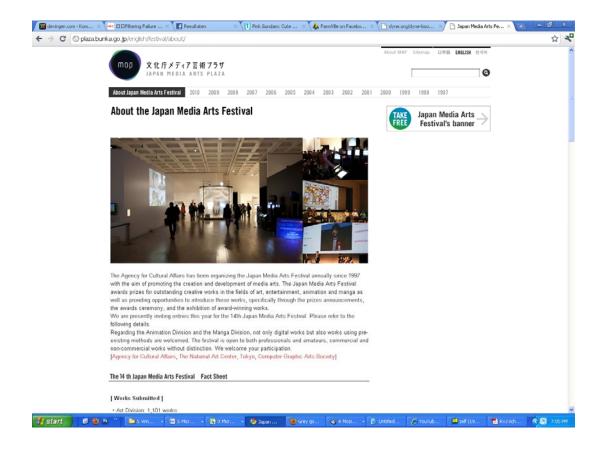
The top of the worldwide media art was present at the Japan Media Arts Festival, from Los Angeles till New-Zealand, Poland, of worldwide Universities, media art festivals, technical universities, entertainment professionals, etc etc.

Other present stakeholders of the festival were (see names above, and also:) Ministery of Culture in Japan (opening by minister), Prix Electronica Linz, Yamaguchi center for Art & Media, Tama Art University, Academy of Media Arts & Sciences IAMAS, Keio University, Nagamine, Waseda University, Computer Graphic Arts Society, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Sony Music Associated Records, WRO Art Center Wroclaw, Poland, Mindbox Berlin, Tokyo Art Beat, Atak Tokyo co Ltd., Project office for building networks of organizations for Manga, Animation, Game and Media Art, etc etc.

Response

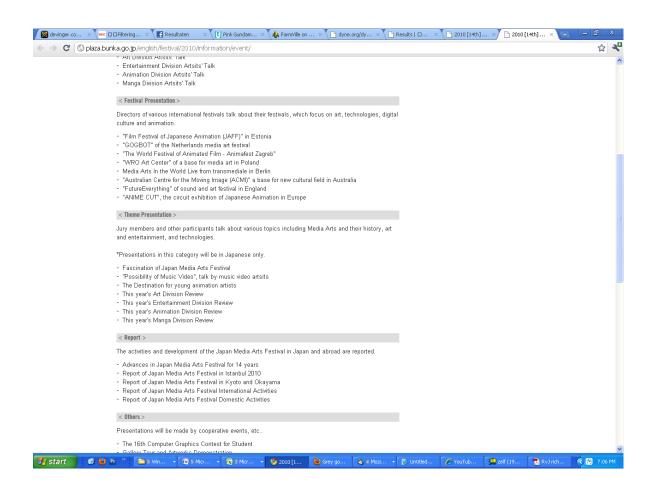
Response is that the Netherlands has a firm position on the World of the area of Media Art, in Japan, a country that is one of the world's leaders on the area of technology, media art and creative economy. The artists and works of Dutch artists presented, shows that the Netherlands has high international quality levels and contains an important, innovative contribution to the world stage.

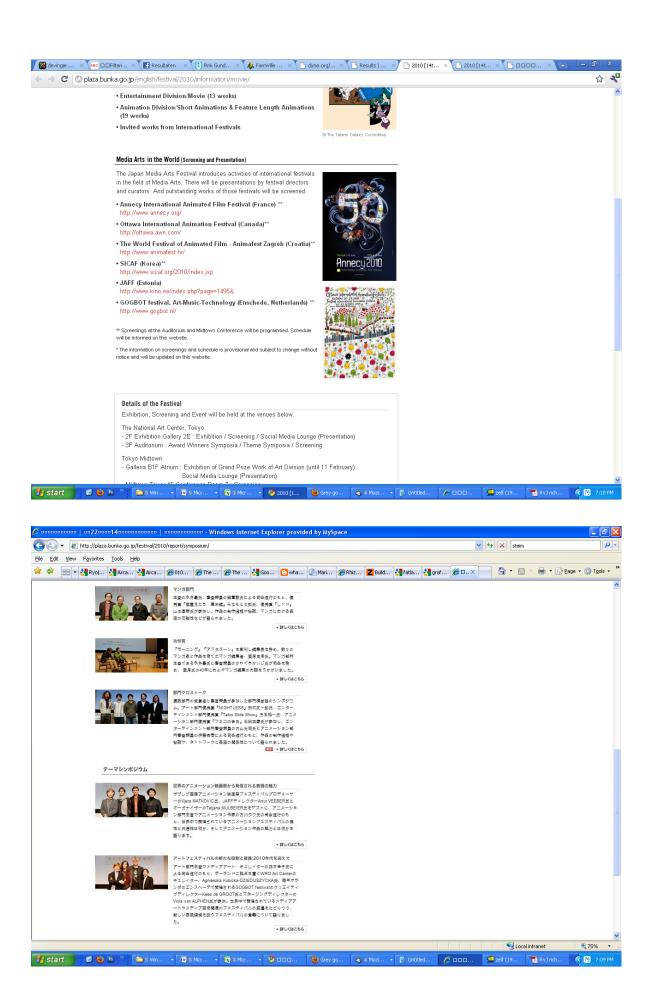
Besides, the visibility of the country of the Netherlands anno 2011 is increased by the presence of live-streaming and diverse social networks. Analog and digital media were abundant on the international leading Japan Media Arts Festival event with more than 60.000 physical visitors and many more through the virtual channels.

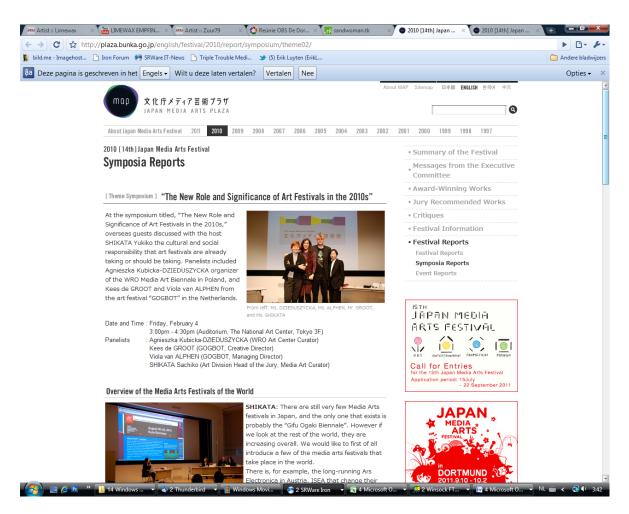




Frontpage website of Japan Media Arts Festival with picture of Dutch presenters







http://plaza.bunka.go.jp/english/festival/2010/report/symposium/theme02/

2010 [14th] Japan Media Arts Festival

Symposia Reports

[Theme Symposium] "The New Role and Significance of Art Festivals in the 2010s"



From left: Ms. DZIEDUSZYCKA, Ms. ALPHEN, Mr. GROOT, and Ms.

SHIKATA

At the symposium titled, "The New Role and Significance of Art Festivals in the 2010s," overseas guests discussed with the host SHIKATA Yukiko the cultural and social responsibility that art festivals are already taking or should be taking. Panelists included Agnieszka Kubicka-DZIEDUSZYCKA organizer of the WRO Media Art Biennale in Poland, and Kees de GROOT and Viola van ALPHEN from the art festival "GOGBOT" in the Netherlands.

Date and Time: Friday, February 4

3:00pm - 4:30pm (Auditorium, The National Art Center, Tokyo 3F)

Panelists: Agnieszka Kubicka-DZIEDUSZYCKA (WRO Art Center Curator)

Kees de GROOT (GOGBOT, Creative Director) Viola van ALPHEN (GOGBOT, Managing Director)

SHIKATA Sachiko (Art Division Head of the Jury, Media Art Curator)

Overview of the Media Arts Festivals of the World



SHIKATA: There are still very few Media Arts festivals in Japan, and the only one that exists is probably the "Gifu Ogaki Biennale". However if we look at the

rest of the world, they are increasing overall. We would like to first of all introduce a few of the media arts festivals that take place in the world. There is, for example, the long-running Ars Electronica in Austria, ISEA that change their host city every year, "transmediale" which stared as a project of the Berlin International Film Festival, and the WRO Media Art Biennale of Poland.

In the late 90's the Internet made connecting easier, and in the 00's many new movements started, including open source, and festivals aimed at young people started emerging. This is how the Pixelache of Helsinki and "GOGBOT" started. Moreover, there is a festival in southern Italy called the Interferenze that occurs irregularly, and I was the director last year at the Tokyo version of this festival called the Interferenze Seeds Tokyo 2010. Being involved with the management, it made me think how important it is to come to know people from many different backgrounds in a very short time. Further, I realized that with only adding just a little more effort to a few individuals, it is possible to make a small-scale festival happen. I think all the guests we have invited here on stage today know this through experience.

Alongside Poland's History: WRO Media Art Biennale



SHIKATA: Now we would like to hear from our guests. Ms. DZIEDUSZYCKA works as a curator for WRO in Wroclaw, Poland, a very important media arts

center. The WRO Festival started in 1989, when Poland was still under communist influence, and is still continuing now as the WRO Media Art Biennale.

DZIEDUSZYCKA: The WRO has a long history, and it has also been through some changes. It was a vital existence in showing that a private sector group could do without the government's help in the world of art, especially when Poland was going through a political change. In later years, the festival became a legally incorporated foundation and we have corresponded with the legal demands, along with setting up a fund to ensure our ability to continue on. Our desire was to share the resources of creativity through gatherings, so with the help of the city, we were able to set up a new center at a different location. Other than holding art exhibitions, we also have an archive and a media library. Our next plan is to actively introduce young talents. Moreover, we have put some effort in education, starting a program for mentally handicapped children. We are also engaged in publishing actives.

Holding a biennale is an opportunity for us to tell the public what we have been doing in the past two years. With the help of the community, the whole town becomes the festival site. Because we have the support of the city, it is our responsibility to contribute to the city as well. We have hands-on media art at our festivals in which the artists themselves came out the gallery and into the town, and this was a great experience in connecting people. Having a theoretical background for what we do is something we would always like to prioritize, so that is why we also hold symposiums at our festivals.

Thoughts on Technology and Life: GOGBOT, Netherlands



SHIKATA: Now we would like to ask about "GOGBOT". Mr. GROOT and his team started an organization called PLANETART in 1995, and have held events since then. "GOGBOT" was started in 2004 in Enschede, a city in the eastern part of the Netherlands, and is held every September.

GROOT: GOGBOT's aim is to present technology art, media art, and modern art to as many people as possible, in public places or in the center of the city. The use of public spaces is another trait of "GOGBOT". It is our desire to use multi venues and share all kinds of cultures with others. We call the connection between elements such as art, music, and technology "multimedia art." Our ultimate desire is to attract kinds of people, including children.

ALPHEN: The purpose of holding an arts festival is not only showing innovation through art, but also showing the critical view of the meaning of art. For example, there is the development of nanotechnology, and the merits and demerits of the advancement in the medical field, as well as the study of DNA analysis and its relationship with privacy, and the question is what these things mean to us. Moreover, we want to connect with not only international artists, but also with young talents and scholars.

GROOT: "GOGBOT" receives public assistance as well, and it is an important mission for us to emit information to as many people. With that in mind, we want to be involved with the advancements that are going on in the world.

This could be with WikiLeaks or even mobile technology. And we would like to even make it possible to find out what is happening in Egypt through tools like Facebook.

The Role of Art Festivals Today



SHIKATA: I was once told by Gerfried Stocker, the Artistic Director of Ars Electronica, that "Ars had a science-fiction world view in the early 90's, but from the mid-90's and on, reality is more advanced. It is important how one perceives this fact." what is more, there is the problem of how to find a common ground between a festival that is grounded in a community and globally situations.

ALPHEN: It's important to be connected with what is going on globally, but it is also important to understand what the visitors are searching for and think of ways to bring that to a reality for them. Moreover, there are probably those in the older generation that are thinking they cannot keep up with the new technology. Therefore I think there is a purpose in for example teaching such people how to use Facebook, and let them know that their opinions can be shared with the world.

DZIEDUSZYCKA: There are times when you are in a lecture and you think, "Why are they talking about this theme?" But then two or three years down the road we realize the importance of that theme. In 2001, media arts

researcher KUSAHARA Machiko came and spoke on the topic of projection screens. It was a topic that made me think about technological advancement, but at that time Poland did not have any large displays like they do in Shibuya, but it has become a part of our lives today. I also think there are times we can learn from our past.

SHIKATA: Just as festivals have their own characteristics, there are many ways to communicate, and it is ok to change how you communicate depending on whom you are communicating to. With the appearance of such technology as Google Earth, we get the feeling the "the world is one", but there are things that definitely differ according to the locality. I hope we can be the filter that brings together the local and the global.

DZIEDUSZYCKA: I agree. Our responsibility is like a filter or a sensor.

SHIKATA: We have started to broadcast Japan Media Arts Festival live on Ustream from this year, and such attempts are a possibility in connecting the local and the global. This also goes for the emergence of the video biennale with the collaboration of the Guggenheim Museum and YouTube. An online festival is possible, and the way we find creativity will be a topic of debate in the future.

GROOT: We hold other small events other than "GOGBOT". We'd like to make these small-scale events a place of testing something more hardcore and experimental.

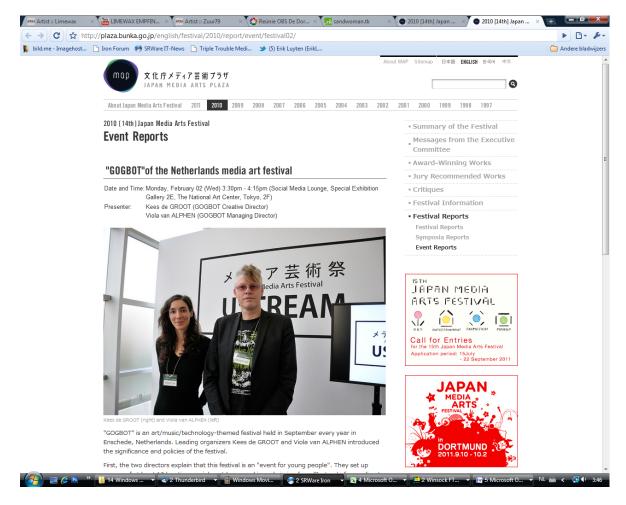
DZIEDUSZYCKA: It is always important to have a program according to its scale, and the ability to continue on. There are conditions that work best according to each and every festival.

SHIKATA: Thank you very much for joining us today.

■ Report on the Base of Poland's Media Arts – the WRO http://plaza.bunka.go.jp/english/festival/2010/report/event/festival04/

■ Netherlands Media Art Festival "GOGBOT" Report

http://plaza.bunka.go.jp/english/festival/2010/report/event/festival02/



http://plaza.bunka.go.jp/english/festival/2010/report/event/festival02/

2010 [14th] Japan Media Arts Festival

Event Reports

"GOGBOT" of the Netherlands media art festival

Date and Time: Monday, February 02 (Wed) 3:30pm - 4:15pm (Social Media Lounge,

Special Exhibition Gallery 2E, The National Art Center, Tokyo, 2F)

Presenter: Kees de GROOT (GOGBOT Creative Director)
Viola van ALPHEN (GOGBOT Managing Director)



ees de GROOT (right) and Viola van ALPHEN (left)

"GOGBOT" is an art/music/technology-themed festival held in September every year in Enschede, Netherlands. Leading organizers Kees de GROOT and Viola van ALPHEN introduced the significance and policies of the festival.

First, the two directors explain that this festival is an "event for young people". They set up venues of at least 10 locations mainly outdoors, making admission free. "Instead of appealing to young people to come to art museums, by bringing art to where young people are, we can encounter new possibilities" said ALPHEN. "GOGBOT" started seven years ago, and is held over three to four days each year. The festival has now grown to attract more than 250 artists.



"GOGBOT" has an aspect of being a

music event. With live shows by musicians and a number of exhibitions utilizing music, the festival attracts both art and music spectators. As a result, the event has an opportunity for people interested in art to embrace music, and vice versa.

On of the features of the festival's conpetition is that the festival accepts works with different themes every year. In 2007, reflecting the social environment in which communication has become more popular on the Web, the theme was "Mediapolis", with the notion of creating a new city in a virtual space. The theme for 2008 was "Steampunk", making an attempt to combine modern technology with 19th century design and technology, which was mainly steam power. By having completely different subjects like this each year, the festival aims to always be exciting and rich with creativity.



The directors introduced many works

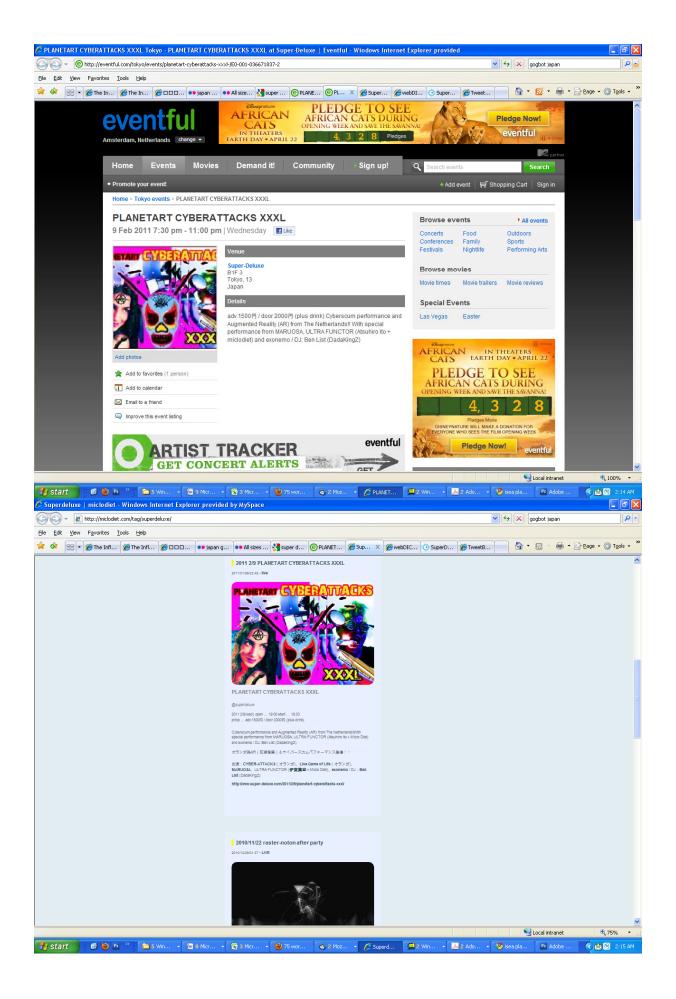
displayed at various past festivals. The genre of works varies a lot from high-

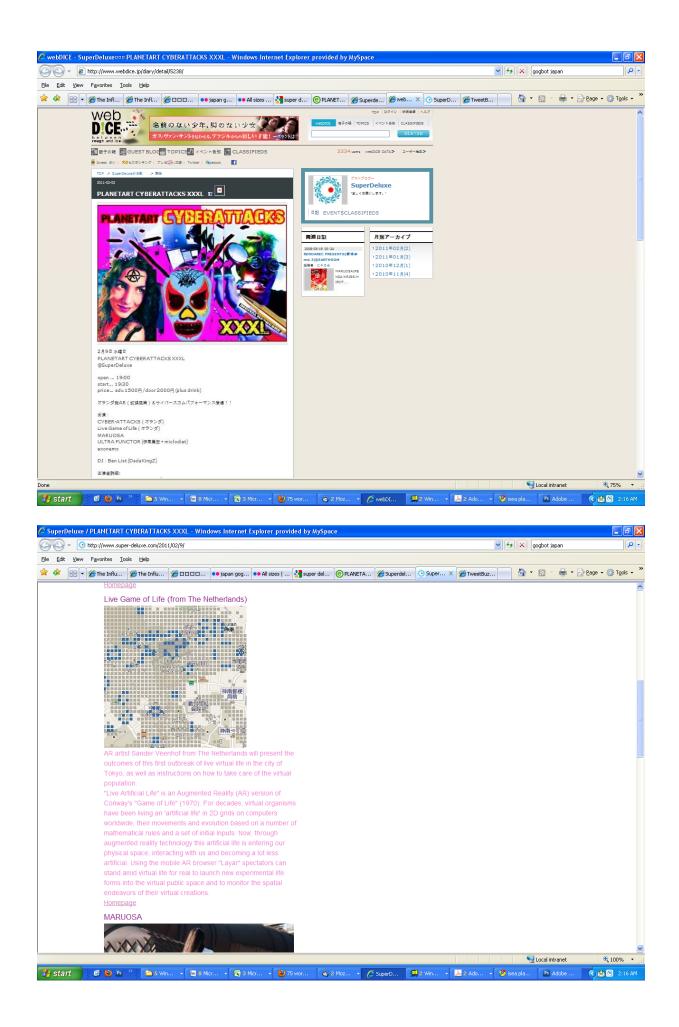
tech robots, a work that used debris from a car bombing in Iraq, to attractions for children. The festival name "GOGBOT" is a word coined by combing the words "GOG" and "BOT", with "BOT" referring to robots and technology, and "GOG" deriving from the famous Dutch artist Van Gogh and the term "Go Go", which represents the enthusiasm and the spirit of the festival, which in a sane way is 'crazy'.

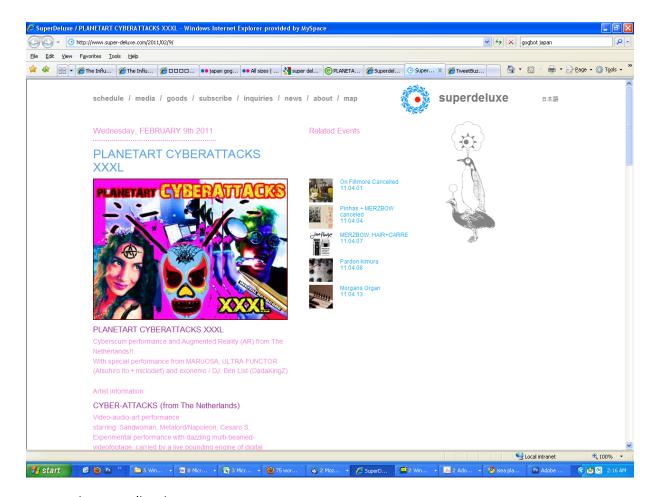
"The key is whether there is innovation in the artwork. If it can be enjoyed, has a creative idea and can contribute to society, the form of the artwork does not matter.", says GROOT. And that is probably the attraction of "GOGBOT", which mixes various media and expression, and displays them equally. Last year, "GOGBOT" attracted more than 10,000 people in four days, and now it has become one of the art events that represents the Netherlands.

■ GOGBOT

http://gogbot.nl







+ more pictures online, i.e. on

http://www.flickr.com/photos/jmediaartsfes/5424070228/in/photostream/

+ several other magazines / articles, see attached file.





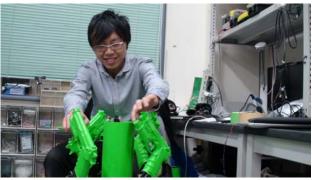
SNDRV at SuperDeluxe

Artists discussion



performance at SuperDeluxe





Artists we met of Exonemo and artist Eric Siu giving us a demonstration at the University of Tokyo.





Details on PROJECT FLASHBACK

"Live ARtificial Life" - by Sander Veenhof

part of "PLANETART Cyberattacks XXXL"

Tokyo, Japan – Februari 2011

Intro

Invited by PLANETART to join their "Cyberattacks XXXL" program in Japan, I created a new AR project to be launched during the PLANETART evening in Club SuperDeLuxe. This document is a project flashback, describing the initial concept, the activities carried out during the working period in Tokyo, the outputs or the projects and finally it reflects on the achieved results.

Concept / plan

In accordance to the "Cyberattacks" theme set by PLANETART, I came up with the idea to stage an outbreak of virtual life, virally occupying the virtual public space of the city of Tokyo. The invasion of virtual life could be viewed using the mobile augmented reality (AR) browser from the Dutch company Layar. I based the new lifeform on the classic "Game of Life" principle, originally developed in 1970 by British mathematician John Horton Conway.

For decades, virtual organisms had been living their 'artificial life' in 2D grids on computers worldwide, their movements and evolution based on a number of mathematical rules and a set of initial inputs. But now, through mobile augmented reality technology (Layar) this 'artificial life form' entered the physical space, thereby becoming a lot less 'artificial'. Walking amid the artificial life forms you create was made possible by using an iPhone or Android smartphone, which provides access to the parallel universe of locative virtual space. New experimental creations could be launched in public space and the

geographical distribution and evolution of life forms created was and still is, closely monitored in a database.

Activities

Arriving in Tokyo with an initial version of the system, I went around testcasing the application on various locations, at the same time collecting images and screenrecordings to be used for a documentation videoclip to be presented at the SDLX evening and to be posted online. Visiting a range of iconic sites in Tokyo, resulted in a wide variation of screenshots showing the unboundedness of the outbreak. It proved that virtual lifeforms were appearing everywhere. On the streets, inside the metro stations, even infiltrating inside the Japan Media Arts Festival.

One of the locations I visited was the Dutch Embassy in Tokyo, which even had a positive side-effect. Besides having an interesting talk with Bas Valckx about the possibilities of augmented reality in general, we spoke about ideas for improvements of the system in development that would enhance the experience. With Bas Valckx as a beta-tester at a distance (the system is available to anyone anywhere in the world, the only requirement is a smartphone with a data-connection) I remodeled the concept into a multi-user interactive application, in contrast to the 'zero person' version of Conway's original game.

Output

On the 9th of Februari, I presented the outcomes of this first outbreak of live virtual life in Club Superdeluxe. After a short introduction talk in which I explained the origin of the project, the video was shown and I demonstrated the system live on the screen by activating a virtual lifeform inside Club SuperDeLuxe, showing the block cell-structures morph and move around the space. A flyer was available to the audience, with instructions on how to create virtual life themselves.

Since the initial launch, more than a thousand lifeform have been created at locations across the globe. The project is still ongoing. With its' worldwide availability, the project is popping up at various locations. A next manifestation will be at the Verbeke Foundation in Belgium, where a researcher is currently studying and documenting all occurring lifeforms in and around the exhibition space. In which category to put the "Live ARrtificial Life", is now being studied.

Evaluation

The working period in Tokyo has been a very productive and inspiring experience, with Japan being the best possible location to launch a project like this since the globally available "Live ARtificial Life" project was almost a transformation of the globe into a giant Tamagotchi.

In my own art practice, which focuses on augmented reality and the significance of virtual space, I often refer to this project in presentations and talks. Although the visual aesthetics might still be basic and

clunky, the act of creating 'real' virtual life, is an important step, which I hope will further shape the perception about augmented reality, being an inspiration for further creative research by others too.



Illustration 1: the world as Tamagotchi

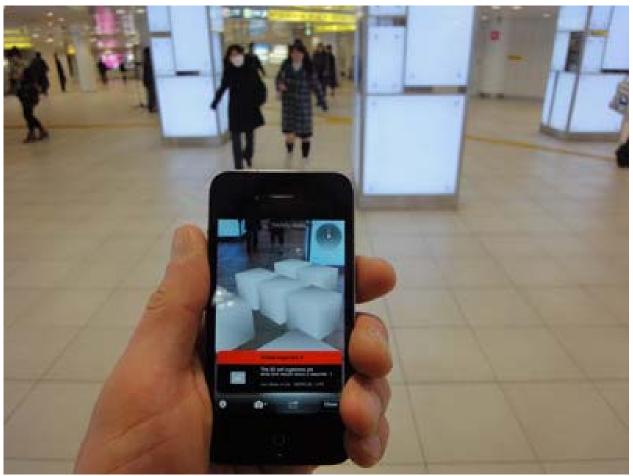
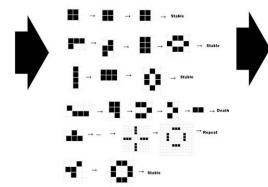


Illustration 2: outbreak of virtual life in a metro station



Illustration 3: Bas Valckx testing the lifeform creator and standing amids his creation







project presentation at

club SuperDeluxe

東京-日本 2011年2月9日 TOKYO, JAPAN - 19h FEBRUARI 9th 2011

オランダ出身のAR (拡張現実)アーティスト、Sander Veenhof。今回は東京のバーチャルライフの起源と仮想世界の人口増加問題の対処方法を紹介します。

Illustration 4: flyer for the presentation at SDLX



Saturday, Februari 6, 2011

Outbreak of virtual life

JAPAN - the massive outbreak of virtual life, first manifested in Tokyo, has not been contained to the island of Japan. ARtificial lifeforms are now spreading through the augmented physical space across the globe, viewed and further propagated by the use of the "Layar" Augmented Reality (AR) browser-sndrv.nl/life

follo imp The that rela

Ren

Illustration 5: fake headline, posted on social media sites (Facebook, Twitter)

IIC

Besides being invaded by virtual lifeforms, the festival partner location NTT InterCommunication Centre was also infiltrated by the Cyberattack XXXL event through one of the artworks of the exhibition on display during the festival. The PLANETART flyer unexpectedly appeared in a live webcam feed of an installation by Exonemo called "Supernatural", consisting of a spoon living in two worlds: one half at the ICC and the other half in cyberspace. And on several other locations the Dutch promotion materials appeared too.. It was odd to find this flyer on the first day of my arrival at such a prominent location in an artwork at ICC.



In the attachment: art magazine called "Bijyutu Techou" (Art note) one of the oldest and traditional japanse art magazines.

ビオラ・バン・アルフェン (GOGBOTフェスティバル マネージメント・ディレクター/ オランダ) キーズ・デ・グルート (GOGBOTフェスティバル クリエイティブ・ディレクター/ オランダ)



■地域文化がフェスティバルをつくる

私たちは地域文化がフェスティバルをつくると考えるので、マンガやアニメをはじめとする典型的な日本カルチャーが展示に反映されているのは自然なことだと思います。文化庁メディア芸術祭は、作品のクオリティーが高く、展示も整然としており、よく組織化されていると感心しました。



美術手帖

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ホンマタカシB





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妹島和世+西沢立衛/SANAA

写真か美術か?



[金刷] 2011年秋 [金易]台東区·墨田区 隅田川両岸地域

GTS 観光アートプロジェクト 2011

2011年4月から環境アート作品の公開スタート! 東京スカイツリー®のビューポイント環境アートゾーン計画



GEIDAI TAITO SUMIDA Sightseeing Art Project 2011





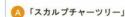








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新しいアートがきらめく 神戸ビエンナーレ2011 コンペ作品募集中!

■しつらいアート国際展(募集終了)

きら

■ゲートアート (募集終了)

■アート イン コンテナ国際展 (募集終了)

■グリーンアート展

■大道芸 (募集終了)

現代陶芸展

■こども絵画コンクール

■いけばな未来展

■フォトコンテスト

■市民園芸アートコンクール

2011*10*1=>11*23=

港で出合う芸術祭・神戸ビエンナーレINTERNATIONAL COMPETITION & EXHIBITION

詳しくは、WEBで http://www.kobe-biennale.jp/

(アート部門奨励賞 受賞者/オーストリア)

■ 複合的なつながりが見える

インターネットで情報を収集したのと、アル ス・エレクトロニカにこの芸術祭の受賞作品 が展示されていたのを見て、応募を決めまし た。欧米には数多くの芸術祭がありますが、 ゲームやマンガが展示されている例は知り ません。アートとの複合的なつながりが見え てきて面白いですね。

■芸術とエンターテインメントの融合

芸術とエンターテインメントの融合こそがこ のフェスティバルの特徴で、それがとても重 要だと感じます。事前にウェブサイトで予習 はしていたのですが、百聞は一見に如かず、 ポップカルチャーと従来のファインアートが 出会うことの大切さを、実際に訪れることで 初めて理解できたと思います。



アガー・シュカ・クドカ ジェドシュィツカ (WROアートセンター キュレーター/ポーランド)

ミッシェル・デコスティール アンドレ・デコスティール(Cod.Act) (アート部門大賞受賞者/フランス)

■ 地域文化がフェスティバルをつくる

■ 日本のメディア芸術 大好き

日本の新しいメディアを使った作品が大好

きです。以前、アルス・エレクトロニカでいち

ばんいいと思った作品も、日本の作家の作

品でした。日本の表現におけるメディアの語

り口、言語のようなものにとても惹かれま

す。審査委員の顔ぶれも豪華ですね。今回

大賞を受賞してとても嬉しいです。

私たちは地域文化がフェスティバルをつくる と考えるので、マンガやアニメをはじめとす る典型的な日本カルチャーが展示に反映さ れているのは自然なことだと思います。文化 庁メディア芸術祭は、作品のクオリティーが 高く、展示も整然としており、よく組織化され ていると感心しました。

メディア芸術祭

出されることが多い

ディアに関するフェスティバル 時代を映す鏡の役割を果たし、 併設するスタイルをとっている。

しばしば引き合いに

界のなかの

ビオラ・バン・アルフェン (GOGBOTフェスティバル マネージメント・ディレクター/ オランダ) キーズ・デ・グルート (GOGBOTフェスティバル クリエイティブ・ディレクター オランダ)

成長している。 呈している。 もとは音楽祭に併設される一イベ ニカ」の名前が挙げられるだろう。 始まった、「アルス・エレクトロ ティバルの元祖といえば、 年にオ メディア・ ストリアの ト関連のフェ

触れたい。 明らかになった、 をめぐるさまざまな論点について れたシンポジウムや会議を通して メディア芸術祭

ルでは、

状況や集まった作品傾向を分析し

企画展を

ティバルは「文化庁メディア芸術 のだろう。今年、 祭」と「おおがきビエンナー たメディア・アー に関わる芸術祭はどうなっている しかし世界に目を向けると、 世界のメディ 全体的に減少傾向にあ

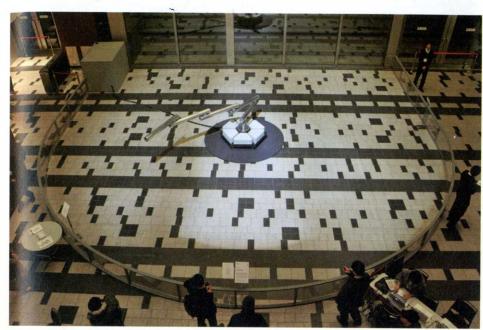
数多くのフェスティバルが活気を 日本で開催され ト関連のフェス リンツで 1 9 7 i 会期中に開催されたテー

めた四方幸子によると、 が形成され、 表現するア の新たな役割と意義」で司会を務 ポジウム「アートフェスティバル ヨーロッパでは数多くのフェス このシンポジウムに参加 代になると、新しいコミュニティ インター バルが生まれた。 ランドのWROア イバルが加わった。 カルチャ い世代向きの複合的な ポップ・カルチャ ネットの普及で、 ティストが増え、 などを反映 クを介して 20 90年代後 0

これからの フェスティバルの姿とは?

文化庁メディア芸術祭を終えて

六本木・国立新美術館で12日間の会期を終えた第14回文化庁メディア芸術祭。シンポジウムや 部門会議のなかで、芸術祭のあり方についての議論が沸騰! その論点をレポートする。



前年度を上回る数字を記録

場者数が7万

東京ミッドタウンで展示されたアート部門大賞《Cycloïd-E》は、全長10メートルにおよぶ、巨大なサウンドアート作品

向については本誌2月号で伝えた 門的な視点で作品に見入る鑑賞者 の姿が目立った。 が多かった以前に比べると、 が増えた。客層は学生や親子連れ ディア芸術祭。足を運んだ人たち 人やクリエイター層が膨らみ、 第14回の芸術祭の受賞作品の傾 ーやユーストリ その盛況ぶりに驚いたかもし 12日間の会期中、 ここでは会期中に行わ 後半なるにつれて客足 第 14 ムなどが呼び 回文化庁メ

文化庁メディア芸術祭とは?

1997年から文化庁主催で毎年行わ れている、メディア芸術分野の顕彰 と発展を目的としたフェスティバル。 現在、アート部門、エンターテインメ ント部門、アニメーション部門、マン ガ部門の4部門に分かれ、国を問わ ず、世界から応募を受け、各部門につ き、大賞1作品、優秀賞4作品、奨励 賞1作品を選出する。期間中は、作品 を展示するだけでなく、さまざまなイ ベントが開かれる。2011年は2月2日 から13日まで開催された。



会期中、約60本のプログラムをユーストリームで配信。作 家トーク作家トーク、海外フェスティバルのレポートやラ イブ中継、「DOMMUNE」なども登場した。写真はエン ターテインメント部門推薦作品(豆しば)

存在として構想されていることが 芸術祭が自由を重んじ、独立した 用したことなどが明かされ、 この

と思っていたらしい。

同じ土俵で審査するなんて無茶だ

ームと個人がつくった遊具を

い、気持ち悪いと思っていた。で

「最初はカテゴライズがおかし

示された。

発言に集約されていただろう。 ンスターの生みの親・石原恒和の さの問題については、 る誰もが戸惑う、部門分けの曖昧 また、この芸術祭に初めて接す ポケットモ

> メントなんて、 もよく考えたら、

もともと曖昧な領

エンターテイン

じていたという。 ののごった煮のような部門だと感 ターテインメント部門は、残りも はっきりしているが、比べてエン 部門、マンガ部門はまだ輪郭が 石原によると、アニメーション 企業が開発した

た。

い愛情を感じ始めたのだと語っ ら、疑心暗鬼だったこの部門に強 能性の宝庫だと気づいた瞬間か がいちばん大事なのではないか」。 ジャンル(笑)。ならばこの曖昧さ 域を標榜している十把一絡げの

このカオス性こそが、

むしろ可

公募展であっても展示を含めた 点を提示する批評家・岡崎乾二郎 の報告は示唆に富んでいた。また、 た、メディア芸術ならではの問題 とは果たして可能なのかといっ 現在、それを美術館で展示するこ がネット環境上に移行しつつある ジー・アートだったが、その多く メディア芸術といえば、テクノロ また他のセッションで、かつて

> 続していることを強調していた。 ントな存在で、助成を得ながら継 フェスティバルはインディペンデ のディレクター 両者ともア トセンタ b,

ぞれ特徴が際立つ。 独自の視点を展開しており、 スなどSF的な未来を標榜する を、GOGBOTはロボティク 〇は幅広い年齢層への教育活動 民が積極的に参加している。WR 中での展示やワークショップに市 行っている点で共通しており、 地元を巻き込んで芸術祭を

したが、その姿は謎に包まれている が印象的だった。



左上---エンターテインメント部門推薦作品(eスポーツグラウ ンド〉など、実際に体感できる作品展示

左下――マンガ部門大賞受賞(ヒストリエ)の展示。作品の原

右---アート部門優秀賞受賞(The Men In Grev)は、ブリーフ ケース型のコンピュータを抱え、日常に溢れる情報をハッキング で収集・公開する男たちのパフォーマンス。会期中、会場に出没 のGOGBOTフェスティバ

ェスティバル

ジェドシュィッカの、堅実な言葉 る」というWROのキュレー エンスを増やすことを考えてい するために、できるだけオーディ がある。市民からの税金分を還元 ので、そのぶん責任を果たす必要 も、行政からも支援を受けている 「インディペンデントといえど ー・アグニェシュカ・クビカ・ ーを設立 それ 街

日熱した部門会議 欧米でのメディア関連のフェス

と、サロン化しないためにも3年 悠季、永井豪、浜野保樹)の中で、 で審査委員を変えるシステムを採 せない体制づくりに苦心したこ けたこと、政治的な意図を介在さ ガを扱うことに世論の猛反対を受 時は評価の低かったゲー 初期の立ち上げメンバーから、 オープニングセッション(参加者 議には、過去の審査委員や受賞者、 保持、ゲームやアニメーション、 の開催、展覧会における匿名性の ティバルに比べると、文化庁メディ = 石原恒和、河口洋一郎、 にわたる議論がくり広げられた。 有識者など44名が集まり、 に行われた、メディア芸術部門会 して常に議論の対象になるようだ。 あり、このあたりが長所・短所と マンガまでを含む点などの違いが ア芸術祭は、国の主催、美術館で 第14回メディア芸術祭の会期中 ムとマン 富野由 2日間

2月1日の贈呈式に集まった受賞者や審査委員による記念写真。終 了後は受賞者祝賀会が行われ、ジャンルを超えた交流が行われた

きだというキュレーター・長谷川 キュレーションの意味を考えるべ

祐子の指摘など、

厳しい発言も多

審査、展示方法、アー

カイブ、

祭にとって大きな力となるだろ 話し合われたことは、今後の芸術 方面の問題が歯に衣着せぬ論調で 拡大、賞金に至るまで、あらゆる 支援システムとの連動、年齢層の ザインを含めた発信力、関連事業、 国際化、人と人とのつながり、 デ

フェスティバルの行方

れている。 私たちは考え続けることが要求さ ため、変わり続ける対象について、 環境を変える意志が含まれている ジーやメディアには、それ自体に を注ぐ姿勢を示した。テクノロ を掲げ、この分野にいっそうの力 次)」の中でメディア芸術の振興 興に関する基本的な方針(第3 日に閣議決定した「文化芸術の振 文化庁は、201 1年2月8

守っていきたい。 回といえども歩きだしたばかりの メディア芸術祭。 いうエピソードを披露した。第14 呼んでくれたまえ」と言われたと 目からだよ。50回続いたら、俺を をしたところ、「アワードは50回 に東京国際映画祭審査委員の依頼 が、スティーブン・スピルバーグ る東京大学大学院教授・浜野保樹 して、第1回から運営委員を務め 部門会議の締めくくりの言葉と その行方を見