process

co-sponsored by stanford computer arts society

robert mckim: "asking fruitful questions"
emily dubois: "woven music", starring the loom and the player piano
zev pressman: "wet paint", a film
kevin o'farrell: "bionics: learning from natural structures"

free - open to all - bring friends - bring art to share

forum room, meyer library, stanford
for directions, see calendar on next page.

december 3
2-5:30
CALENDAR

November 12
Thru November 12
COMPUTER ART BY YLLEN MEMBER LIZ BUENO will be shown at Neiman-Marcus in San Francisco.

November 15 - January 29
BRITISH HOLOGRAPHY show at the Holos Gallery at 1792 Naitch St. in San Francisco.

November 12 - 13
MODERN SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY, an operating room with its hardware, will be set up at the Exploratorium. The public may handle the various devices. 3601 Lyon St., San Francisco.

November 13 - December 18
BOXES AND NEON EXHIBIT at Anna Gardner Gallery. Includes neon by YLLEN member Kennen Herrick. 3445 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach. Hours Friday and Saturday, Sunday, 1-5 pm, or by appointment. Call 888-0761.

November 14 - 16
APPLIED INTERACTIVE COMPUTER GRAPHICS COURSE in Los Angeles features Dr. James Foley and Ellen Knapp. Fee $795. Information: Continuing Education Institute, 10889 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000, Los Angeles 90024.

November 16 - January 8
TEXTILES BY MEMBER VERONICA BIALIK are featured in a three-person show at Twin Pines Cultural Center, 1219 Ralston, Belmont.

November 17 - 19
ELECTRICITY EXHIBITS CONFERENCE at Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon, San Francisco. Scientists, artists, and museum workers will explore ways to build effective new exhibits. Info: 563-7337.

November 23 - January 1
PHOTOGRAPHY THROUGH THE MICROSCOPE at the Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon St. in San Francisco.

December 3
2-5:30
*PROCESS* - YLLEN MEETING, Forum Room, Meyer Library, first floor. Enter campus at Stanford Stadium, park in Hoover Tower area. Follow YLlen signs from Hoover Tower to Meyer Library, a tall structure 2 buildings behind it. Stanford's Christmas Crafts Fair will occur the same day by Tressa Union, so plan to come early and shop (and plan NOT to park near it!)

December 9

December 10
YLLEN FIELD TRIP AND SKETCH PARTY, The Tree Circus in Santa Cruz county. Fir, aspen, Botanical! Lovely! Trees with trunks and branches bent into lattices, hearts, knots, spirals. Meet 10:30 am in Santa Cruz at Greyhound Depot, 425 Front St. with cameras, drawing materials. Lunch in Santa Cruz. Fee: $10 - includes donation to Tree Circus that is trying to save the trees. Reservations, bus schedule, car pool info. call Shoshana Dubiner at 221-3595. (weather permitting)

December 17 - February 15
VARIATIONS ON A THEME, art by YLLEN member Scott Kim, will be shown at Department of Humanities and Sciences, Stanford (in the inner quad).

OPPORTUNITIES

November 10
COLLEGE & ART SCHOOL STUDENTS - computer art sought for CADRE conference juried show. Contact in January. Mail to Bunny Carter, Art Dept., CADRE INTERNATIONAL GRAPHICS EXHIBIT, B.J.O., One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192.

Deadline November 25
MAPS in any media - all works exhibited. Size limit 8"X10". No returns. Documentation to all participants. Send entries to Diverse Works, 214 Travis, Houston, TX 77002; (713)223-8366.

Deadline December 30
GRANTS for work that advances higher education through video or television sponsored by Annenberg Corporation for Public Broadcasting Project. For guidelines: Annenberg/CPR Project, 1111 16th St. NW, Washington D.C. 20036.

Now
LET THERE BE LIGHT, a holiday festival, will include crafts and performance shows. Lasers and multimedia and etc. Performers will be paid. YLlen members invited. Louis Brill at 664-0404 (8-10 am best times). Everyone else should plan to be at the Civic Auditorium to see the exciting festivities on December 9-11.

Now
RESTAURANT WANTS ART. Equus, at 97 Mckinley, wants matted art, maximum size 16"x20" vertical. Will consider video and laser. Contact Michael Shemchuk, 60-B Woodward St., San Francisco, CA 94103, 621-8127.

Now
THE MOON GALLERY, 835 Loring, Crockett, CA 94525, is looking for artists to show. Info call Melissa Harmon at 787-2527.

Now
YOUR SKILLS MAY BE IN DEMAND at San Francisco School of the Arts Foundation. This brings working artists into the classes at the Arts High School in San Francisco. The program is in its 2nd year. Phone 648-7080 and ask for Fred Sonenberg or Ann Wetrich. Also ask about students helping you with your work for work study credit. (The latter works with other schools and colleges as well.)

Now
VIA CON 30, local Worthby cable channel, seeks music video of all types for new program. Contact Viacon 30, PO Box 3598, San Rafael, CA 94912 or Michael Freeman at 459-5260.

Now
RESOURE LIST

by Trudy Myth Reagan and Julian Rowan

BENTHAL, J. Science and Technology in Art Today

CRITCHLOW, K.*** Order in Space

D’ARBELOFF, N.* Designing with Natural Forms

EMMERICH, D. G.** Constructive Geometry-Morphology

FULLER, R. B.** Synergetics

KANDINSKY, W.*** Concerning the Spiritual in Art

KEPES, G.*** The New Landscape in Art and Science Editor- Vision plus Value Series

LOSS, J.* What is It?

PIAGET, J.*** Structuralism

RICKEY, G. Constructivism

STEVENS, P. S. Patterns in Nature

THOMPSON, D’arcy*** On Growth and Form

WHYTE, L. L.*** Aspects of Form

WILLIAMS, R.** Natural Structures

WOLBERG, B. & L.* Zooming In-Photographic Discoveries under the Microscope

New York: Praeger; ’72
London: Thames & Hudson; ‘(65) ’69
London: B.T. Batsford; ’72; ’74
Seattle: Univ. of Washington; ’67 ’70
London & New York: MacMillan; ’75
New York: Wittenborn; many printings original – 1912
New York: Doubleday; ’74
New York: Harper & Rowe; ’70
New York: Geo. Braziller; ’67
Boston: Little, Brown-Atlantic Monthly Press; ’74
London & New York: Cambridge Univ. Press; ’69; original – 1917
Bloomington & London: Indiana Univ. Press; ’66; several printings; orig. 1951
Moorpark, Calif: Eudoemon Press; ’72
New York: Harcourt Brace; ’74

* – suitable for children
** – related to geometry and structure
*** – historically important; basic reading

The keeper of samples for the architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings, Merrill (yarns, fabrics, granites, glass, etc.) will give advice about where to obtain materials for big commissions, or help set up a similar resource library for design firms, says member Marsha Nystad. Contact Ian Hoddow, 594 Valencia #5, San Francisco 94110, (415) 431-2241.


The Human Body, Jonathan Miller (of The Body in Question) with 3-D movable illustrations showing the workings of the human body designed by David Pelham. (Omgod, they pop out!) Viking, N.Y. $16.95 just out!


Veronica Blalik c 1983
MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

At a National Endowment for the Arts Conference held in New Orleans about art in the schools, Ruth Asawa was included on a panel and spoke on the role of artists in the educational program. She also reports that the state of California is studying the idea of setting up perhaps three "Arts Summer Schools" for promising students. In addition she says that NASA and NEA are studying what artists can do for the space program.

An article by Othmar Tobisch about the connections between geological sciences and visual art will be published in volume 16, number 4 issue of Leonardo. The magazine should be out in December.

Eddie Oshins spoke on behalf of Yuri Orlov on a panel of The American Society Cybernetics about Ethical Imperative in the World Community of Scientists. Oshins just received the sixth scientific paper by Orlov, almost 50 pages in Russian, that was smuggled out of prison camp.

Help wanted

Anyone knowing how to formulate chemicals that form crystals as they are being viewed in a slide projector with polarized light, please call Trudy Myrhh Reagan. She and her friends will try the technique and report in a future newsletter.

MAILING LIST UPDATE

Address Changes
David Newman
PO Box 2309
New York, NY 10008
(212) 458-0823
conceptual art, drawing, computer art

Zeuse Molnar
Frank Dietrich
626 Flint Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90814
(213) 459-0823

Baty Friedman
GP in Science & Math
U.C. Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720

Michael Starkes
P.O. Box 2309
San Rafael, CA 94902
459-4500

Russell Reagan
TESC D-214
Olympia, WA 98505

New Members
Milton & Sylvia Van Dyke
506 Campus Drive
Sanford, CA 94305
328-0184 (home)
927-2443 (work)
fluid dynamics

Vernon Reed
4407 Sinclair Ave.
Austin, TX 78756
(512) 254-9797
animated LCD jewelry

Bill Henderson
2476 Soquel Road
Los Gatos, CA 95030
(408) 353-1673
airbrush painting, Space architecture, computer graphics

Frank Goyre
1474 Fields Drive
San Jose, CA 95129

Christa Schubert
2924 Ledoga St.
Long Beach, CA 90815
Marsha Hygaard
1461 Church St.
San Francisco, CA 94111
285-9323 conceptual art

Michael Fisher
PO Box 3568
Berkeley, CA 94703

Melody Trapp
35 Aliso Way
Portola Valley, CA 94025
924-3743 painting, graphic design, computers, visual thinking

Ron Cowell
2390 Stokes St.
San Jose, CA 95128
(408) 275-9515
(408) 727-5588 sculpture, computer graphics, technology

Dale N. Scott
PO Box 31537
San Francisco, CA 94113
677-1277 lasers, laser etching & cutting, robotics

Victor Acevedo
PO Box 594
Monterey Park, CA 91754
(213) 285-7226 interdisciplinary research, synergistics, perceptual phenomena, polyhedra

Sabin Frank
1711 Allison Way
Berkeley, CA 94703
845-5378

Ralph Stapenhorst
900 Mosher Ave.
Petaluma, CA 94952
(707) 763-9110

Shelley Rae Doeden
241 Bonita Road
Pomona Valley, CA 94025
851-1947

Luis Bueno
548 Cragmont
Berkeley, CA 94708
computer art

Dr. Kenneth Hunter
810 Tangiers Drive, 10F
San Francisco, CA 94132
467-7392 computer music

Susan L. Van Baerle
14874 Pennsylvania Ave
Columbus, OH 43201
(614) 421-1285 computer graphics research

Isaac Victor Karlow
26 Gramercy Park South
New York, NY 10003
computer art

Ann Skinner Jones
574 Levent
San Francisco, CA 94114
861-5826 computer graphics, photography

Rowena Patton
PO Box 784
P.O. Reyes Station, CA 94956
visionary art (mandalas & animation)

George Wolton
30 Cragmont Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94116
664-4915

Stephen Baruch
c/o EPRI
PO Box 10412
Palo Alto, CA 94303
855-8912 (work)

Jeffrey Perrone
3685 17th St.
San Francisco, CA 94114
431-9562

Janie Wannick
91 Haywood
San Mateo, CA 94402
343-2973

Welcome to 24 new members! All area codes are 415 unless otherwise indicated.
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Scott Kim is in the process of inventing a PhD at Stanford called "Computers and Graphic Design," being a search for new visual metaphors on which to base computer interfaces. In school, he has been playing with computer typography, music, and mathematics. Outside of school he has been working with symmetrical calligraphy, polyhedra, education video games, and other synesthetic imagination twisters.

The lettering for this month's Ylem cover comes from exploring new ways of relating the meaning and writing of a word. In this case, "process" is being viewed not as a static word, but as a single shape changing from one form into another. Other of Scott's designs, including his book Inversions, are being made available through Look Twice, Box 50697, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Look Twice is now in the process of producing its first catalog.

Kenneth Knowlton studied engineering at Cornell and MIT. After graduation he spent 20 years working at Bell Labs in New Jersey and then he moved to SRI in Palo Alto. Now Knowlton works at Via Video in Santa Clara.

Over the course of his career, Knowlton has invented six computer languages and various hardware ideas including a telephone with sign language recognition for the deaf.

He has explored the computer as a tool for art from many different angles, one of the most important of which has been computer animation. For his films, he has collaborated with such people as Stan Vanderbeck, Lillian Schwartz and Emmanuel Gent.

About the Groucho piece, Knowlton says, "In making pictures out of dominoes, my purpose is to make things which are intriguing both perceptually and intellectually. Perceptually because at close range you don't see the picture nearly as well as from far away. In fact the portrait may not even be recognizable. This is quite the opposite of the generally held notion that by getting closer to something you see it better."

"Intelectually, because of the severe constraints I have chosen. If I had chosen to cannibilize any number of sets of dominoes to get just the ones which a particular picture seems to call for, or if I were to cut the dominoes in half, to use the ends with lots of spots where the picture is light, etc., it would be a simple matter. But, choosing as I do to use all of the dominoes of exactly four sets, without cutting them, makes it an interesting problem. I have programmed a computer to produce an optimal plan for each case. I leave it to you to ponder just what I am asking the computer to do."

In spite of his involvement with computer graphics as a visual tool, he remains a skeptic about whether the products of such work qualifies as art. Indeed, "what is art?" is a question that fascinates him.

Veronica Bialik returned to school to study art after her two children had grown, first to the College of Notre Dame, Belmont, then to the Rudolph Schaeffer School of Design, San Francisco. The latter emphasized the fundamentals of color and design at a time when other schools were ignoring it. Also it was here that she met Wayne Davies, who predicted that she would get hooked on silk screening which she thought was absurd.

"I thought that was ridiculous. I hated serigraphy, with its toxic solvents. But it turns out that what he was doing with water based dyes on cloth was very easy on me," she recalls.

Bialik set up a joint studio with Wayne in 1978. Her engineer-sculptor husband built much of the hardware. She enjoys silkscreen because, after having worked out a design, she can make innumerable variations of color combinations and overlays. Besides her artwork, she also prints and dyes custom yardage for fashion designers and teaches color and 2-D design privately "to support her art habit."

About her work she says, "I enjoy abstracting visual textures from nature, rocks, cobwebs, feathers, dewdrops, and in this case the wisteria in my backyard. I took a picture, had a stat made, worked by hand with ink on paper from the stat in very large scale for screenprinting on fabric. Since I am now working in miniature pattern repeats, this new reduction of the wisteria print will produce a new series, either for screenprinting on paper or on fabric."

Works based on Bialik's wisteria pattern are included in her show at Twin Pines Art Center, Belmont. (see calendar)
SIGGRAPH, DIGICON
CONFERENCE NOTES

by Eleanor Kent

SIGGRAPH held its 10th conference this July in Detroit for 20,000 people. During
the five days there were seminars; technical
sessions; 200 vendor exhibits; video, film
and laser graphic shows; receptions; and
an art show that was replicated in Tokyo and
Avignon.

There was a stupifying amount of
information on electronic systems, printers,
plotters and photographic hardcopy machines
at the vendors' exhibit hall. The
first time a seminar was given specifically
for artists. The seminar was conducted by
Suzanna Molnar and Viabeke Sorenson who
assembled wonderful course notes. Other
speakers were James Blinn, Joanne Culver,
Tom DeWitt, Frank Dietrich, David Em, Darcy
Gerhary, Robert McDermott and Richard Taylor.
They addressed many artists' questions
directly; eg. how to get access to equipment,
where to get training on the systems.
Seventy five artists were included in the
art show. A highlight was Michael Malmark
and Ed Tannenbaum's "Computer Eyepiece."
a frosted dome about a foot in diameter
which had a film loop of a winking digitized
eye projected into it from the back. The
effect was of a large eye watching the
people looking at the art show in the
gallery. The full color catalog has many
reproductions and three essays by
Catherine Richard, Gene Youndblood and
Lucinda Furlong. ($7 from SIGGRAPH)

DIGICON '83 International Conference
on the Digital Arts sponsored by the
University of British Columbia was held
in Vancouver during August. For the 600
or so people who came there were presen-
tations on both music and art, with slides,
tapes and films of much recent work.

Many of the speakers who spoke at SIGGRAPH
were able to go into more detail about
problems special to artists and musicians
using computers in their work. The vendor
show was small, but exhibitors were able
to spend more time explaining their products.

One highpoint was the concert given at
the Queen Elizabeth playhouse. Of special
interest at the concert was "Hip Hop Satellite
Teleconcert" with music composed and played
for the occasion on Fairlight CMI music
computers by Jean Piche in Vancouver,
Osamu Shoji in Tokyo and Martin
Wesley-Smith in Sydney. The concert was
held simultaneously in three cities, joined
together by satellite. At the conclusion
applause from Australia and Japan could
be heard over the microphones.

Another highlight was on the last day, a
presentation of music, visuals and dance
linked by computers. Working together
were Robert Moog and William Buxton playing
synthesizers, while Constance Shneider
danced using Jo Ann Giller's LED jewelry
which Thomas Dewitt's Pantomation motion-
tracking system used to draw images on a
large video screen using Sho-Jo's Rodents' paint program. There was no score, they
improvised. It was stunning.

From both conferences the message to
musicians and artists is clear; make
friends with a programmer. Also, as the
equipment becomes more and more available
it would be wise to learn how to program
in order to make the systems do what you
want them to do.

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Ylem Officers: President - Trudy Mynn Reagan; Curr. Secretaries - Lote Johnson, Francine Pfeiffer; Membership - Robin
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