

THE INAUGURATION OF *GHOSTS IN THE MACHINE* TO BE HELD THIS THURSDAY, A NEW EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY LABoral's PROJECTS OFFICE

The exhibition is a *site-specific* installation by Einstein's Brain Project, a group of Canadian artists and scientists researching Electronic Voice Phenomena.

DATES: 23.10. 2008-12.01.2009

OPENING HOURS: From Wednesday to Monday, from 12:00 to 8:00 PM

VENUE: Gallery Platform 1 of LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial

PRODUCED BY: LABoral's Projects Office

The inauguration of *Ghosts in the Machine*, a *site-specific* Project by the Canadian group Einstein's Brain Project, produced by the Projects Office of LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial, will be held this Thursday. The installation will be located in the Gallery Platform 1 until January 12th, 2009. It embodies experimental research into paranormal and psychophonic phenomena, known as Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP), sounds whose origin have no rational explanation or known physical cause.

In *Ghosts in the Machine* (2008), two projectors project large images onto the walls of the room. One projection shows video static overlaid with text and the outlines of bounding boxes; the other shows black and white images of what appear to be blurry and indistinct images of human faces suspended like apparitions in space. Ambient noise fills the space. At the same time, just at the threshold of recognition, can be heard what appear to be human voices in different languages.

*Ghosts in the Machine* is an art work by Einstein's Brain Project, a team of artists and scientists that have been working together for twelve years with the objective of achieving the visualisation of the body's biological state through the creation of environments and simulations. Alan Dunning, Paul Woodrow and Morley Hollenberg are its main members. In collaboration with other members of the team from Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada, they explore the notion of the brain as a real and metaphorical interface between bodies and their surroundings in continual flux. They also study the idea of the world as a *construct* sustained by neurological processes occurring in the brain.

Alan Dunning and Paul Woodrow argue that the collaboration between art, science and technology has a long history within artistic practice. In

their own words, “the notions of chemistry as a preparation of pigments, or knowledge of the processes of perception, the code of representation and artistic techniques, were already fundamental elements of the earliest artistic repertoires in the creation of images (cave paintings).” For this reason, they believe that the Einstein’s Brain Project is the heir to historic artistic practices that have come before them.

*Ghosts in the Machine* offers a scenario to exercise the dichotomy between the virtual and the physical and it asks questions about the interaction between physical and emotional aspects of the human being with technology.

### THE EINSTEIN’S BRAIN PROJECT

**Alan Dunning** has been working with complex multi-media installations for the past two decades, using the computer as a tool for generating textual fields and environments. He has had his work exhibited in collections around the world, most notably at the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. He currently holds the Chair of Media Arts and Digital Technologies at the Alberta College of Art and Design in Calgary.

**Paul Woodrow** has been involved in a variety of inter-disciplinary and multi-media activities since the late 1960s, including performance art, installations, improvised music, painting and video. He has participated in numerous exhibitions in Japan, France, Italy, Sweden, England, Belgium, Russia, Puerto Rico, Argentina and the United States and has received numerous awards from the Canada Council and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts. He currently is the Post-Graduate Study Programme Coordinator in the Art Department at the University of Calgary.

**Morley Hollenberg** is presently a Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Calgary. He completed his doctoral training as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University after earning his MD at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore. His research interests focus on receptor mechanisms and signal transduction pathways involved in the action of insulin, epidermal growth factor (urogastrone) and other vasoactive agents that can regulate cell growth. He has served as Committee Chair at the Canadian Medical Research Council and his research, to date, has led to the publication of 190 refereed manuscripts and over 45 book chapters.

LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial  
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