

# Leonardo/ISAST NEWS

*The Newsletter of the International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology*

## 2000 Leonardo New Horizons Award

Leonardo/ISAST is proud to announce the recipients of the 2000 Leonardo New Horizons Award for Innovation in New Media: Gregory Barsamian and Graham Harwood.

Gregory Barsamian creates dream-based animated sculptures—zoetrope-like machines that produce three-dimensional animations. In these works, he fashions narratives composed of images from the unconscious and presents them on spinning armatures in a darkened space. His most recent traveling exhibition, *Innuendo Non Troppo*, was shown in Tokyo and throughout the United States. He lives and works in New York.

Graham Harwood is a member of the technological media group Mongrel, which focuses on collaborative, socially engaged products—art, software and workshops. Harwood started out in the 1980s working with publications on such topics as working-class culture and new media in culture and society, moving on to studies and work in programming and education. Most recently he was commissioned by the Tate Gallery, London, to produce an exploration of the Tate collection, the history of Millbank and its prison, and a “reversioning” of the Tate’s web site. Harwood lives and works in London.

The New Horizons Award was established in 1986 to acknowledge the numerous challenges faced by artists as they strive for exposure and recognition. These challenges are amplified for artists working with new media and techniques—especially artists pushing the boundaries of the integration of art and technology. With the New Horizons Award, Leonardo/ISAST seeks to recognize emerging artists for innovation in new media.

The 10 finalists for the New Horizons Award for 2000 were selected from a larger group nominated by members of the Leonardo/ISAST community around the world. These artists share a commitment to the incorporation of technology and to the achievement of significant imaginative content, yet employ many diverse types of media with dramatically different aesthetic results.

The finalists were (in alphabetical order): Gregory Barsamian (U.S.A.), a sculptor whose kinetic and animated works probe fundamental dilemmas of human existence; Bruno Buesch and Tina Cassani (France/Switzerland), two multimedia artists who produce global radio-network events; José Wagner García (Brazil), who has employed a range of technology to create a multi-level installation probing environmental concerns in the Amazon basin; Graham Harwood (U.K.), whose interactive video fictions (e.g. *Rehearsal of Memory*) combine stunning aesthetics with a profound social conscience; Toshio Iwai (Japan), who creates vivid yet playful interactive audio-visual and sound pieces; Tran T. Kim-Trang and Karl Mihail (U.S.A.), two video artists who also create complex installation works that probe the ethical implications of science; Melinda Rackham (Australia), whose screen-based digital art, sculpture and online (Web) art (e.g. *Carrier*) examine a provocative range of subjects from identity in the digital world to online sex; Marie Sester (France),

who blends architecture with sound and video art to force re-examination of modern environments; Igor Stromajer (Slovenia), a Web and performance artist whose work ranges from street performances to “megapathetic symphonies” and radiophonic sound/digital art; and Fabian Wagnmister (Argentina/U.S.A.), the creator of an enormous international Intranet project, *Worship*, which has resonant historical and social content.

This year’s New Horizons jury included: Donna J. Cox, professor, School of Art and Design/National Center for Supercomputing Applications, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Hervé Fischer, Daniel Langlois Chair in Digital Technologies and Fine Arts, Université Concordia FIAM, and co-chair of La Cité des arts et des nouvelles technologies de Montréal; Ginette Major, chair of Le Café Électronique de Montréal and co-chair of La Cité des arts et des nouvelles technologies de Montréal; Roger Malina, astronomer and executive editor of *Leonardo*; Rejane Spitz, artist and professor of art at PUC-Rio University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Annette Weintraub, media artist and professor of art at The City College of New York; Benjamin Weil, Curator of Media Arts, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and San Francisco Bay Area art critic Barbara Lee Williams.

Past recipients of the New Horizons Award for Innovation have included Evelyn Edelson-Rosenberg (U.S.A.), Jean-Marc Philippe (France), Jaroslav Belik (Canada), Peter Callas (Australia), Patrick Boyd (U.K.), Christian Schiess (U.S.A.), I Wayan Sadra (Indonesia) and Kitsou Dubois (France).

## History of the Leonardo Awards Program

The first *Leonardo* award, the Frank J. Malina Leonardo Award for Lifetime Achievement, was established in 1985 to honor artists who have melded technology and the visual arts over a lifetime. The initial recipient, Hungarian artist Gyorgy Kepes, was a founder of both the New Bauhaus (Chicago) and MIT’s Center for Advanced Visual Studies. His art and life were dedicated to the advancement of new technologies and relationships among scientific discoveries and art.

In 1987, *Leonardo* gave its first Leonardo Award for Excellence to recognize outstanding and particularly significant articles published in *Leonardo*. Recipients of this award have included composer and musician Alvin Lucier (U.S.A.), artist George Gessert (U.S.A.), and artist and theorist Eduardo Kac (U.S.A./Brazil). The newest Leonardo award, the Makepeace Tsao Leonardo Award, was given to Hervé Fischer and Ginette Major of La Cité des arts et des nouvelles technologies de Montréal. This award recognizes organizations and artists’ groups that have increased public awareness of art forms involving science and technology, particularly through

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the sponsoring of exhibitions. The award is named for the late Makepeace Tsao—biochemist, professor, gallery owner and artist—who served at various times as editorial board member, advisor and benefactor of Leonardo/ISAST.

For more information about the Leonardo Awards Program, contact Leonardo/ISAST, 425 Market Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105, U.S.A. E-mail: <isast@sfsu.edu>. Web site: <<http://mitpress.mit.edu/Leonardo/>>.

### Editorial Board Member Bulat Galejev

A science researcher and artist, Bulat Galejev was born in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, USSR, on 2 October 1940. After graduating from Kazan State Pedagogical Institute, Kazan, USSR, in 1962 and obtaining his Ph.D. in 1986, he taught physics and aesthetics from 1962–1963; lectured in physics and philosophy in KAI, Kazan from 1963–1966; was a scientific worker from 1966–1994; and has been head of SKB Prometheus, director of a scientific and research institute for experimental aesthetics affiliated with the Academy of Sciences of Tatarstan and Kazan State Technical University, Kazan, since 1994. He has directed film, theater and light-music performances and video-art installations at SKB “Prometei,” 1964–1995; and has been professor of aesthetics of Kazan Conservatory from 1990 to the present. Galejev is author of the following books: *Light-Music: Birth and Essence of New Art*, 1976; *Poem of Fire*, 1981; *Light-Musical Instruments*, 1987; *Man, Art, Technology (Problem of Synaesthesia in Art)*; and *Soviet Faustus*, 1995. He has contributed more than 300 articles to professional journals.

Galejev has been a member of the editorial board of *Leonardo* since 1987; of *Kazan* since 1993; and formerly of the journal *Languages of Design* (U.S.A.), 1992–1997. He has organized 15 All-Union and All-Russia Light and Music conferences, participated in many international symposia and festivals and was recipient of the Diploma for Spectacle awarded by the All-Russia Theatrical Society, Moscow, in 1970. A diploma for film was awarded him by the organizing committee of the international *Techfilm* festival, Prague, 1975, as well as an honorary medal by the Ministry of Culture of the USSR in Moscow in 1983. Galejev is a member of the Russian Academy of Humanities, the Russian Cinemamakers Union and a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of Tatarstan. He is also a member of the International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology. E-mail: <galejev@prometei.kcn.ru>. Web site: <[www.kai.ru/prometei/main.ru.html](http://www.kai.ru/prometei/main.ru.html)>.

### Margaret Morse Joins the Leonardo Book Series Committee

Margaret Morse teaches in the Film and Digital Media Department at the University of California at Santa Cruz. She is the author of *Virtualities: Television, Media Art and Cyberculture* (Indiana Univ. Press, 1998) and co-author of *Hardware, Software, Artware* (Cantz Verlag and ZKM 1997), as well as numerous essays and articles on subjects ranging from the erotics of listservs and what cyborgs eat to whether or not robots might feel pain.

### Christa Sommerer Joins the LEONARDO Editorial Board

Christa Sommerer is an internationally renowned media artist working in the field of interactive computer installation. She is currently an artistic director and researcher at the ATR Media Integration and Communications Research Lab in Kyoto, Japan, where she leads a research team on designing interactive environments that combine novel human-machine interaction experiences, artificial life and evolutionary image design. She is also an associate professor at the IAMAS International Academy of Media Arts and Sciences in Gifu, Japan, Guest Professor at the University of Art and Design in Linz, Austria and a research Fellow at the MIT Center for Advanced Visual Studies in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Sommerer originally studied biology and modern art at the University of Vienna. In 1992 she teamed up with French media artist Laurent Mignonneau. They created interactive computer installations such as *Interactive Plant Growing* (1992–1993), *Anthroposcope* (1993), *A-Volve* (1994), *Phototropy* (1995), *Riding the Net* (2000) and many others. They currently work on a large-scale A-life system for the telephone, called IKI-IKI Phone. Their interactive artworks have been called “epoch-making” for their use of natural interfaces to create a new language of interactivity based on artificial life and evolutionary image processes.

These works have appeared in numerous exhibitions and are permanently installed in media museums and media collections around the world. Sommerer and Mignonneau have won major international media awards, including the “Golden Nica” Ars Electronica Award for Interactive Art. Christa Sommerer has published numerous research papers on Artificial Life, interactivity, interface design and complexity and has lectured extensively at universities, conferences and symposia around the world. She is a committee member and reviewer for various international conferences and has organized workshops and panels at international conferences such as AlifeVII (Portland, 2000), KES2000 (Brighton, 2000) and ART-Science-ATR (Kyoto, 1997). In 1998, together with Laurent Mignonneau, she edited the book *Art@Science*, published by Springer Verlag in Vienna and New York (ISBN 3-211-82953-9). E-mail: <christa@mic.atr.co.jp>. Web site: <<http://www.mic.atr.co.jp/~christa>>.

### Editorial Board Member Jürgen Claus

Born in Berlin, Germany, in 1935, Jürgen Claus was educated at the University of Marburg (Munich, Germany). His first appointment was in 1972 as Artist-in-Residence at the Institute for Humanistic Studies in Aspen, Colorado. He has taught at various institutions, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, Germany. He also served as the director of Centre Overoth in Baelen, Belgium. Currently Claus divides his time between Solart Global Network, work with the European Community Project BIMODE—Development of bi-functional photovoltaic modules for building integration—and work as an editorial board member of *Leonardo*. E-mail: <jurclaus@euregio.net>. Web site: <<http://www.khm.de~SolArt>>.

## LEONARDO, THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

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### Benefits of Membership

Artists, scientists, engineers, researchers and others interested in the contemporary arts and sciences are invited to join Leonardo/ISAST. Benefits include reduced rates for Leonardo/ISAST publications, the opportunity to nominate artists for the Frank J. Malina Leonardo Award for Lifetime Achievement, and a forum for reporting and promoting readers' activities. For further details contact Leonardo/ISAST, 425 Market Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105, U.S.A. E-mail: <[isast@sfsu.edu](mailto:isast@sfsu.edu)>. *Corporate membership also available.*

Leonardo, the International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology (ISAST), founded in 1981, is a nonprofit organization that seeks to encourage the interaction of art, science and technology. Our 1,000 associate members include artists, researchers, art scholars, educators, students and interested members of the public.

Leonardo/ISAST's journals, books, electronic publications and other projects and activities aim to: (1) make visible the work of artists involved with science or technology and (2) promote the collaboration of artists, scientists and engineers.

### Publications

PRINT JOURNALS: The *Leonardo* journals are scholarly peer-reviewed journals of record in the Art, Science and Technology field. *Leonardo*, published bimonthly, is the official journal of Leonardo/ISAST. *Executive Editor*: Roger F. Malina. *Managing Editor*: Pamela Grant-Ryan. *Leonardo Music Journal* with CD is published annually. *Executive Editor*: Roger F. Malina. *Editor-in-Chief*: Nicolas Collins. *Managing Editor*: Patricia Bentson.

ELECTRONIC JOURNAL: *Leonardo Electronic Almanac* (<http://mitpress.mit.edu/e-journals/LEA/>) is a monthly electronic journal available for free to *Leonardo* subscribers and for \$35/year to non-*Leonardo* subscribers.

WORLD WIDE WEB: The Leonardo On-Line Web site (<http://mitpress.mit.edu/Leonardo/>) publishes articles, galleries, bibliographies, sound samples, the Leonardo Electronic Directory and more. *Executive Editor*: Roger F. Malina. *Managing Editor*: Patricia Bentson.

LEONARDO DIGITAL REVIEWS: The Leonardo Digital Reviews Project, through a panel of reviewers, publishes reviews of relevant books, journals, electronic publications and events. Reviews are published on the Web (<http://mitpress.mit.edu/e-journals/Leonardo/ldr.html>), and selected reviews are published in *Leonardo Electronic Almanac* and in *Leonardo* and *Leonardo Music Journal*. *Editor-in-Chief*: Michael Punt. *Managing Editor*: Bryony Dalefield. *Web Coordinator*: Sudhira G. Hay.

BOOKS: The Leonardo Book Series, published by the MIT Press, highlights topics related to art, science and developing technologies. Volumes include *The Robot in the Garden*; *The Digital Dialectic: New Essays on New Media*; *Technoromanticism*; *Designing Information Technology in the Postmodern Age*; *Immersed in Technology: Art and Virtual Environments*; *The Leonardo Almanac: International Resources in Art, Science and Technology*; and *The Visual Mind: Art and Mathematics*.

### Awards

The Society awards the following awards:

**Frank J. Malina Leonardo Award for Lifetime Achievement** recognizes eminent artists who through a lifetime of work have achieved a synthesis of contemporary art, science and technology. Winners include Gyorgy Kepes, Nicolas Schöffer, Max Bill and Takis.

**Leonardo Award for Excellence** recognizes excellence in articles published in *Leonardo*. Winners include Rudolf Arnheim, Otto Piene, Charles Ames, Frieda Stahl, Donna Cox, Janet Saad-Cook, George Gessert, Alvin Curran, Karen O'Rourke, Eduardo Kac, Hubert Duprat and Christian Besson.

**Leonardo New Horizons Award for Innovation** is given to individuals or groups for innovation in new media. Winners include Gregory Barsamian, Graham Harwood, Evelyn Edelson-Rosenberg, Jean-Marc Philippe, Jaroslav Belik, Peter Callas, Patrick Boyd, Christian Schiess, Kitsou Dubois and I Wayan Sadra.

**Makepeace Tsao Leonardo Award** recognizes organizations or groups that have increased public awareness of art forms involving science and technology, particularly through exhibitions. The first award has been given to La Cité des Arts et Nouvelles Technologies de Montréal.

## LEONARDO, THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS, SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

### Collaboration with Other Organizations

The Society frequently collaborates with other organizations and guest editors to publish special issues or sections of *Leonardo*. Past special issues include:

With the New York School of Visual Arts:

New York Digital Salon Catalogs 1995–2000

With the Inter-Society for the Electronic Arts:

Special Sections in *Leonardo*.

With the Association Leonardo:

The Association Leonardo is a collaborating organization in France. Projects carried out in collaboration include: L'Observatoire Leonardo des Arts et Technosciences Web site (<http://www.olats.org>), The Space Art Workshops, The Virtual Africa Project, and The Pioneers and Pathbreakers Project.

With Itaú Cultural, São Paulo, Brazil:

Invençao Conference, August 1999, São Paulo

### Collaboration with Individuals: Special Projects

Leonardo/ISAST works with guest editors and curators to organize a number of projects that involve collaboration on publications, workshops and conferences. Topics and editors include:

Art and Biology:	George Gessert
Art and Consciousness:	Roy Ascott
Art Education:	Roy Ascott
Artificial-Life Art:	Kenneth Rinaldo and Christa Sommerer
Brazilian Electronic Art:	Eduardo Kac
Creativity and Cognition:	Linda Candy
Generative Systems:	Alan Dorin and Jon McCormack
Genetic Algorithms:	Juan Jesus Romero Cardalda
SIGGRAPH Educators Program:	Valerie Miller
SIGGRAPH Art Gallery Program:	Diane Gromala
Space Art:	Roger F. Malina
Synesthesia and Intersenses:	Jack Ox and Jacques Mandelbrojt
Virtual Africa:	Jocelyne Rotily

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