

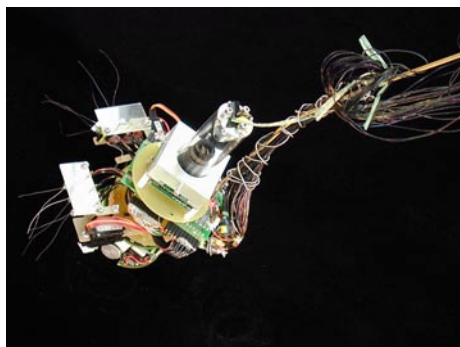
Asheville Art Museum in Asheville Offers Work by Adrienne Wortzel

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, will present *Humans and Machines: The Robotic Worlds of Adrienne Wortzel*, on view in the New Media Gallery, from Sept. 2 through Jan. 2015. Wortzel will offer a lecture on Sept. 24, from 6-7:30pm.

Adrienne Wortzel utilizes computer software, robotics, video and fictive narratives to create robotic worlds filled with humanlike creatures, historical references and scientific data. She works with contributions from researchers, scientists and robotic experts from across the globe to examine the relationship between humans and machines through art. Featured in the New Media Gallery are two of her short films entitled *The Veils of Transference* and *archipelago.ch*.

The Veils of Transference depicts a dialogue between a robot and human in a psychoanalytic therapy session, where the lines between their roles as analyst and analysand become blurred. The video evidences a human's desire to be robotic and a robot's programmed desire to be human. The session is set in a green-screen environment that displays the accompanying dreams and unconscious narratives and the human's mind and the robot's database. Each of the characters seemingly longs for the role of the other; each has a sense of their own history. Together they ponder the thin line between "memory" and "database."

archipelago.ch depicts a tour of a newly discovered series of AI robotic research labs as "islands" and iterates the discovery, analysis and interpretation of their terrain and their robots as indigenous creatures. The idiosyncratic robots are evolved by each researcher from their choice of morphologies occurring in nature, i.e., an insect eye, mouse whiskers discerning textures by touch, etc. The lab terrains are strewn with the tools and detritus of each researcher's endeavors, which are treated as flora. The voice-over tour of this archipelago is by Charles Darwin from Chapter 17 of the *Voyage of the Beagle-Galapagos*. *archipelago.ch* was initiated during Wortzel's 2004 Swiss-Artists-In-Labs Award: Residency at Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, University of Zurich, Switzerland. The world premiere was March 9, 2013 at *ROBOTS ON TOUR*, World Congress and Exhibition of Robots,



Still from *archipelago.ch*, Haptic Mouse, robot with real whiskers. Researchers Dr. Miriam Fend and Dr. Simon Bovet, Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, University of Zurich, Switzerland.

Humanoids, Cyborgs and more, Zurich, Switzerland.

Wortzel received her Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts from Brooklyn College of the City University of New York and a Master of Fine Arts in Computer Art from the School of Visual Arts in New York. She has received numerous grants, honors and residencies, as well as opportunities to speak and teach throughout her career. She has been published both as a writer and artist and has been exhibited in numerous collections, exhibitions and reviews. Wortzel is currently a Professor of Entertainment Technology and Emerging Media Technologies at New York City College of Technology, the senior technical college in the City University of New York (CUNY) system. She serves on the doctoral faculty of the Interactive Technology and Pedagogy Certificate Program at the CUNY Graduate Center. Wortzel is the Founding Director of StudioBlueLab, a robotics and theater laboratory initiated during her tenure as an Adjunct Professor of Mechanical Engineering at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. StudioBlueLab now resides at New York City College of Technology.

Each film is about 25 minutes long and will be screened in a loop every other day.

Founded by artists in 1948 in Asheville, NC, the Asheville Art Museum annually presents an exciting, inviting and active schedule of exhibitions and public programs based on its permanent collection of 20th and 21st century American art. Any visit will also include experiences with works of significance to Western North Carolina's cultural heritage includ-

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ing Studio Craft, Black Mountain College and Cherokee artists. Special exhibitions feature renowned regional and national artists and explore issues of enduring interest. The Museum also offers a wide array of innovative, inspiring and enter-

taining educational programs for people of all ages.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/253-3227 or visit (www.ashevilleart.org).

Asheville Art Museum in Asheville Features Works by Mary Frank

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, will present *Mary Frank: Finding My Way Home*, on view in the Appleby Memorial Foundation Gallery, from Sept. 26 through Jan. 18, 2015.

Over the course of her career, Mary Frank has worked in sculpture, painting, drawing, printmaking and recently encaustic and photography, suggesting that her primary loyalty is not to a particular way of working or to any medium, but rather to the power of direct expression and to the act of creation itself. All of this work evinces an eagerness to use the intuitions and improvisations that arise naturally during the creative process. The Museum is pleased to present a broad survey of Frank's work from across her long and accomplished career.

Frank was born in London, England, in 1933 and moved to the United States at the age of seven. In the early 1950s she began carving wood sculpture, and briefly studied with Hans Hoffman and Max Beckmann. In 1969, she worked on large multi-part, figurative clay sculptures, drawings and monoprints, which remained the major focus of her work throughout the 1970s and '80s. In the 1990s, she turned to painting as her primary medium.

Frank has been the subject of numerous solo museum and gallery exhibitions over the years, including a retrospective exhibition of sculpture, prints and draw-

ings organized by the Neuberger Museum in Purchase, NY in 1978. Her work is in the permanent collections of the above institutions and other museums, including the Art Institute of Chicago, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the Jewish Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of American Art, the Newark Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art and Yale University Art Gallery.

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Asheville Art Museum in Asheville Features Work by Sol LeWitt

The Asheville Art Museum in downtown Asheville, NC, is pleased to present a unique and exciting ongoing exhibition, *Sol LeWitt: Creating Place, Wall Drawing #618*.

Sol LeWitt (1928-2007) was born in Hartford, CT. As a pioneer of conceptual art, he has had a major influence on 20th century American art. After serving in the United States Army, LeWitt moved to New York and attended the Cartoonist

and Illustrators School (now the School of Visual Arts). LeWitt employed basic cubic forms, serial structures and modular grids as key elements in his work. The art work itself emphasizes the conception of the initial idea as LeWitt perceives it. His titles are convoluted but describe the essence of his concept behind each work. They serve as instructions for whoever executes the drawing and explanations to

continued on Page 20