

The Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series:

Year One at the CMU
Frank-Ratchye STUDIO
for Creative Inquiry

Documentation of the Sylvia and David Steiner
Speaker Series at Carnegie Mellon University,
November 2017 - November 2018

Prepared by the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for
Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon:

- Professor Golan Levin, Director
- Thomas Hughes, Associate Director

**SAMUELIA
STICKNEY**
Virtuosic Thereminist

GENE KOGAN
Arts + Machine Learning

5:00pm FEBRUARY 5

Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for
Creative Inquiry | CFA 111

6:00pm JANUARY 25

CMU Hunt Library, Room A10A

**BRUCE
STERLING**
Futurist & Critic

5:00pm MARCH 7

CMU College of Fine Arts,
Kresge Auditorium

**KELLI
ANDERSON**
Papercraft Artist & Engineer

6:30pm APRIL 10

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**JENNY
ODELL**
Artist / Cataloguist

6:30pm MARCH 29

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**MIMI
ONUOHA**
Data Artist / Activist

6:30pm APRIL 24

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The Steiner Lectures
in Creative Inquiry
Spring 2018

For more information on these and other STUDIO events:
www.studioforcreativeinquiry.org
Twitter: @creativeinquiry
Facebook: studioforcreativeinquiry
Instagram: @studioforcreativeinquiry

This lecture series is made possible by the Sylvia
and David Steiner Speaker Series and the
Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry.

The Frank-Ratchye
STUDIO
for Creative Inquiry

The support of the **Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series** has made a serious and momentous impact on the quantity and quality of public arts programming at Carnegie Mellon University. Steiner funds have dramatically expanded CMU's ability to bring creative practitioners who push boundaries, defy definition, and demonstrate excellence in all aspects of the arts, to our campus for deep engagement with our students and faculty.

The Steiner Speaker Series is currently administered by the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry, the research laboratory of the CMU College of Fine Arts, with the assistance of an advisory committee comprised of faculty from around the university. The mission of the STUDIO is to support atypical, anti-disciplinary, and inter-institutional research and public programming. During the first year that the STUDIO managed this fund (November 2017 through November 2018), the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series presented:

- **16 Public Lectures**
- **18 Visiting Lecturers and Workshop Leaders**
- **26 Student Engagement Events**

The STUDIO is proud to share that the total attendance of our first year of Steiner programming was **1,782 persons**. Lectures had an average attendance of 70 attendees and included a mix of students from across the College of Fine Arts and Carnegie Mellon, as well as faculty, staff and members of the public. Video records of all lectures are archived online.

Student engagement events ranged from one-on-one critiques (with renowned futurist and design critic Bruce Sterling); to small studio masterclasses (with musician Pamela Stickney and papercraft engineer Kelli Anderson); packed classrooms of machine learning and art workshops (with Gene Kogan and Memo Akten); and experimental public performances (with drag queen Mrs. Kasha Davis and electronic musician Lesley Flanagan).

In our first year of programming alone, the STUDIO collaborated with the College of Fine Arts Schools of Art, Architecture, Design, and Music, the Miller Institute of Contemporary Art, The BXA Interdisciplinary program, the Dietrich College Department of English, dSHARP, the Entertainment Technology Center, the IDEATe Network, the Carnegie Mellon University International Film Festival, and with off-campus partners the Andy Warhol Museum.

Fall 2017 Lectures

- **Greg J. Smith** — Writer / Curator
- **George Buckenham** — Artist & Game Designer

Spring 2018 Lectures

- **Pamela Stickney** — Virtuoso Therminist
- **Gene Kogan** — Art & Machine Learning
- **Bruce Sterling** — Futurist & Critic
- **Jason Salavon** — Art & Machine Learning
- **Jenny Odell** — Artist and Archivist
- **Alexandra Dean** — Documentary Filmmaker
- **Kelli Anderson** — Papercraft Artist / Graphic Designer / Engineer
- **Mimi Onuoha** — Data Artist / Activist
- **Lesley Flanagan** — Experimental Electronic Musician

Fall 2018 Lectures

- **Ed Popil "Mrs Kasha Davis"** — Drag Performer / Actor / Reality TV Star
- **Claudia Hart** — New Media Artist
- **Memo Akten** — Artist and Machine Learning Researcher
- **Robin Sloan** — Writer / Media Innovator
- **teamLab** — Tokyo-based Interactive Design Studio
- **Addie Wagenknecht** — New Media Artist / Activist

Greg J. Smith • 6 November 2018

Greg J. Smith is a Toronto-based writer, curator and editor interested in media art and its broader cultural implications. Smith is the Editor of HOLO, a magazine that chronicles ‘emerging trajectories in art, science, and technology,’ and a Contributing Editor at Creative Applications Network, a leading publisher of international media arts news and reviews. Smith lectures widely on media art; over the last decade, he has developed and taught a range of courses that explored data, representation, urbanism, and web culture for several Ontario postsecondary programs.

In this presentation, Smith presented a thoughtful survey of his personal “touchstones” in the history of interactive and computational new media arts. Smith’s presentation included a special focus on projects that involve full-body musical interfaces, a consideration of their interaction paradigms, and a broader commentary on key differences between tools versus instruments in interactive art. In addition, Smith discussed his publishing activities at HOLO and CreativeApplications, including a discussion about what artists have to do to get noticed, and the fragility of the interconnected information ecosystems that we call home.



STEINER SERIES IN CREATIVE INQUIRY

GREG J. SMITH

// EDITOR, HOLO MAGAZINE

// CONTRIBUTING EDITOR, CREATIVEAPPLICATIONS.NET

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6 @ 6:30 PM

FRANK-RATCHYE STUDIO FOR CREATIVE INQUIRY

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS, #111

Greg J. Smith is a Toronto-based writer, curator and editor interested in media art and its broader cultural implications. Smith is the Editor of HOLO, a magazine that chronicles 'emerging trajectories in art, science, and technology,' and a Contributing Editor at Creative Applications Network, a leading publisher of international media arts news and reviews. Smith lectures widely on media art; over the last decade, he has developed and taught a range of courses that explored data, representation, urbanism, and web culture for several Ontario postsecondary programs.

In this presentation, Smith presents a thoughtful survey of his personal "touchstones" in the history of interactive and computational new media arts. Smith's presentation includes a special focus on projects that involve full-body musical interfaces, a consideration of their interaction paradigms, and a broader commentary on key differences between tools versus instruments in interactive art. In addition, Smith will discuss his publishing activities at CreativeApplications and HOLO, including a discussion about what artists have to do to get noticed, and the fragility of the interconnected information ecosystems that we call home.

The Frank-Ratchye
STUDIO
for Creative Inquiry

*This lecture is made possible by the
Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series
and the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry.*



George Buckenham • 20 November 2017

Creative technologist George Buckenham is the creator of *Cheap Bots*, *Done Quick!*, an accessible tool for creating Twitter bots and other automated poetry publishing machines. George is also an artist and game designer focusing on digital-physical play, having designed games about animals falling over (*Beasts of Balance*), music performance (*Doom Piano*) and punching bowls of custard (*Punch The Custard*). George periodically works as a video game curator with *Now Play This* and *Wild Rumpus*.

As part of this visit to Carnegie Mellon, George presented an artist lecture in the STUDIO; conducted a student workshop in authoring Twitter bots; and participated in a 'Game Jam' with graduate students from the School of Art.

STEINER LECTURE IN CREATIVE INQUIRY

GEORGE BUCKENHAM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20 @ 5:00 PM

FRANK-RATCHYE STUDIO FOR CREATIVE INQUIRY
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS, #111

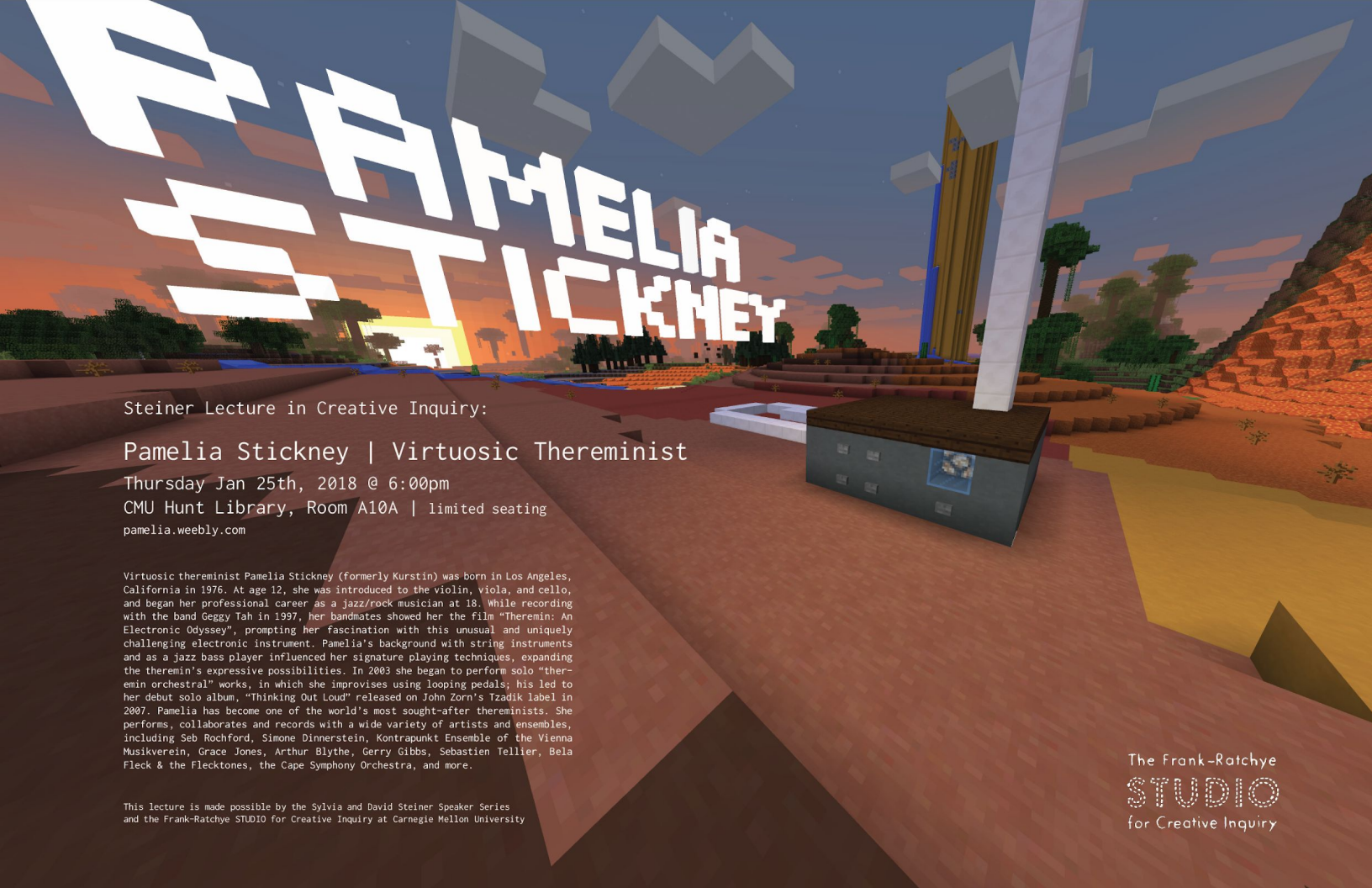


George Buckenham (@v21) is the creator of Cheap Bots, Done Quick!, a radically accessible Twitterbot tool, as well as many bots of their own, such as @softlandscapes, @unicode_garden, and dkmfxr0axh7rumhs3ppv.tumblr.com. They are also a game maker focusing on digital-physical play, having worked on games about animals falling over (Beasts of Balance), playing the piano (Doom Piano) and punching bowls of custard (Punch The Custard). And they also work as a video game curator with Now Play This and Wild Rumpus.

The Frank-Ratchye
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Steiner Lecture in Creative Inquiry:

Pamelia Stickney | Virtuositic Thereminist

Thursday Jan 25th, 2018 @ 6:00pm

CMU Hunt Library, Room A10A | limited seating

pamelia.weebly.com

Virtuosic thereminist Pamela Stickney (formerly Kurstin) was born in Los Angeles, California in 1976. At age 12, she was introduced to the violin, viola, and cello, and began her professional career as a jazz/rock musician at 18. While recording with the band Geggy Tah in 1997, her bandmates showed her the film "Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey", prompting her fascination with this unusual and uniquely challenging electronic instrument. Pamela's background with string instruments and as a jazz bass player influenced her signature playing techniques, expanding the theremin's expressive possibilities. In 2003 she began to perform solo "theremin orchestral" works, in which she improvises using looping pedals; this led to her debut solo album, "Thinking Out Loud" released on John Zorn's Tzadik label in 2007. Pamela has become one of the world's most sought-after thereminists. She performs, collaborates and records with a wide variety of artists and ensembles, including Seb Rochford, Simone Dinnerstein, Kontrapunkt Ensemble of the Vienna Musikverein, Grace Jones, Arthur Blythe, Gerry Gibbs, Sebastien Tellier, Bela Fleck & the Flecktones, the Cape Symphony Orchestra, and more.

This lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series and the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University

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Pamelia Stickney • 25 January 2018

Virtuosic thereminist Pamela Stickney was born in Los Angeles, California in 1976. She began her professional career as a jazz/rock musician at 18. While recording with the band Geggy Tah in 1997, her bandmates showed her the film *Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey*, prompting her fascination with the Theremin — a highly unusual and uniquely challenging electronic instrument. Pamela has since become one of the world's most sought-after thereminists, performing, collaborating and recording with a wide variety of artists and ensembles.

As part of her visit to Carnegie Mellon, Pamela presented a lecture about the history of the theremin, followed by a 'demonstrative performance' in the Hunt IDEATe laboratory. This was followed by a master class for select instrumental performance students from the Carnegie Mellon School of Music.





GENE KOGAN

Steiner Lecture in Creative Inquiry:

Gene Kogan | Arts + Machine Learning

Monday February 5th, 2018 @ 5:00pm

Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry | CFA 111

genekogan.com | @genekogan

Gene Kogan is an itinerant artist and computer scientist, interested in the creative potential of generative systems, artificial intelligence, and new software for self-expression. He regularly publishes lectures, writings, and tutorials to facilitate a greater public understanding of machine learning; to this end, Gene initiated and contributes to *ML4A*, a free book about machine learning for artists, activists, and citizen scientists. He is also a collaborator on numerous open-source software projects, and leads workshops and demonstrations around the world on topics at the intersection of code, art, and technology activism.

This lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series and the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University

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Gene Kogan • 5 February 2018

Gene Kogan is an artist and computer scientist, interested in the creative potential of generative systems and artificial intelligence. He regularly publishes lectures, writings, and tutorials to facilitate a greater public understanding of machine learning. To this end, Gene initiated and maintains *ML4A*, a free curriculum on machine learning for artists, designers, activists, and citizen scientists. He is also a collaborator on numerous open-source creative technology projects, and leads workshops around the world on topics at the intersection of code, art, artificial intelligence, and technology activism.

Following his artist lecture in the STUDIO, Gene spent a week as a visiting guest in the course “Machine Learning for the Arts”, (cross-registered between the School of Art and the Machine Learning Department), advising students on their projects.





BRUCE STERLING

Steiner Lecture in Creative Inquiry:
Bruce Sterling | Futurist & Critic

Wednesday March 7th, 2018 @ 5:00pm
CMU College of Fine Arts, Kresge Auditorium

A futurist, journalist, science-fiction author and design critic, Bruce Sterling is best known for his novels and his seminal work on the *Mirrorshades* anthology, which defined the cyberpunk genre. His nonfiction works include *The Hacker Crackdown: Law and Disorder on the Electronic Frontier* (1992); *Tomorrow Now: Envisioning the Next Fifty Years* (2002), a popular science approach on futurology, reflecting technology, politics and culture of the next 50 years; and *Shaping Things* (2005), a rumination on programmable, networked objects. Sterling has also initiated various projects like *The Dead Media Project*, the *Viridian Design Movement* and *Embrace the Decay*. In 2003 Sterling was appointed Professor at the European Graduate School, where he has taught courses on media and design. He has written for many magazines, including *Newsweek*, *Fortune*, *Harper's*, *Details*, *Whole Earth Review*, and *WIRED*, where he has been a contributing writer since its inception. He has appeared on *Nightline*, *The Late Show*, *MTV*, and in *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Fortune*, *Nature*, *I.D.*, *Metropolis*, *Technology Review*, and many other venues.

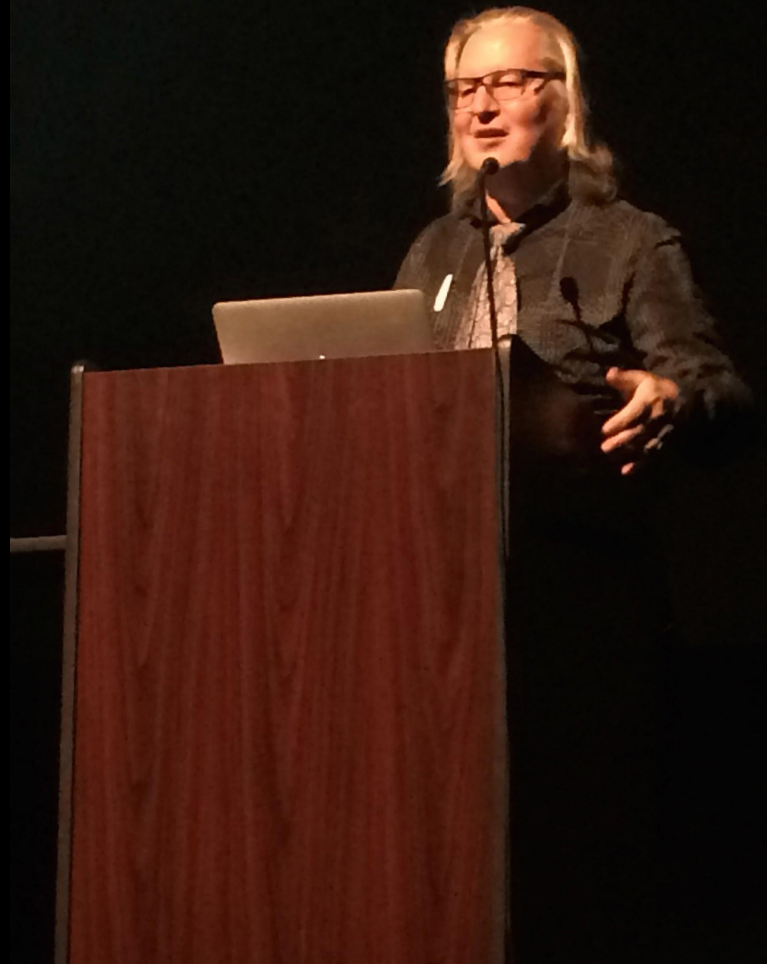
This lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series
and the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University

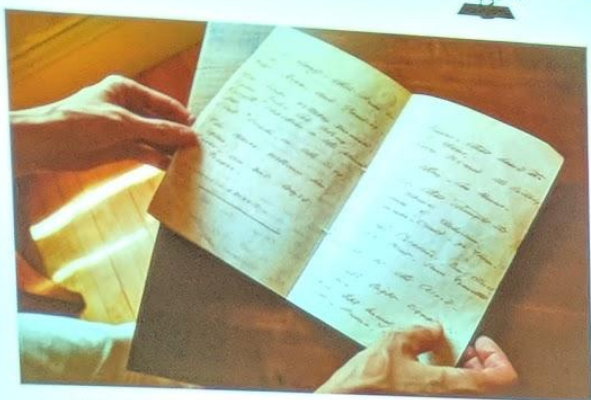
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for Creative Inquiry

Bruce Sterling • 7 March 2018

A futurist, journalist, science-fiction author and design critic, Bruce Sterling is best known for his novels and for the *Mirrorshades* anthology, which helped define the cyberpunk genre. His nonfiction works include *The Hacker Crackdown: Law and Disorder on the Electronic Frontier* (1992); *Tomorrow Now: Envisioning the Next Fifty Years* (2002); and *Shaping Things* (2005), a rumination on programmable, networked objects.

In 2003 Sterling was appointed Professor at the European Graduate School, where he has taught courses on media and design. He has written for magazines including *Newsweek*, *Fortune*, *Harper's*, *Whole Earth Review*, and *WIRED*, where he has been a contributing writer since its inception. During his visit to Carnegie Mellon, he presented a lecture on the future of creative practices, and met with students in the STUDIO to discuss their work.





Emily Dickinson's fascicles



JENNY ODELL

Steiner Lecture in Creative Inquiry:
Jenny Odell | Artist / Cataloguist

Thursday, March 29th, 2018 @ 6:30pm
Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry | CFA 111
jennyodell.com • @the_jennitaur

Jenny Odell is a Bay Area native/captive. Her work combines the mining of online imagery with writing and research, usually in an attempt to highlight the material nature of our modern networked existence. Because her practice involves collecting, tagging and cataloguing, she has often been compared to a natural scientist - specifically, a lepidopterist. Jenny's work has made its way into the Google Headquarters, Les Rencontres D'Arles, Arts Santa Monica, Fotomuseum Antwerpen, La Gaité lyrique (Paris), the Lishui Photography Festival (China), the Made in NY Media Center, Apexart (NY), and East Wing (Dubai). It's also turned up in TIME Magazine's LightBox, The Atlantic, The Economist, WIRED, the NPR Picture Show, PBS News Hour, and a couple of Gestalten books. She teaches internet art and digital/physical design at Stanford University. She would spend 80% of her life in a library if she could.

This lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series
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Jenny Odell • 29 March 2018

Jenny Odell is a Bay Area artist whose work blends curation, writing, and archival research. Because her practice involves collecting, tagging and cataloguing, she has often been compared to a natural scientist - specifically, a lepidopterist. She teaches internet art and digital/physical design at Stanford University, and has worked as an artist-in-residence at the Internet Archive and Recology, a San-Francisco e-waste facility.

During her visit to Carnegie Mellon, Odell presented an artist lecture at the STUDIO, and conducted critiques with graduate students in the Carnegie Mellon School of Art.





KELLI ANDERSON

Steiner Lecture in Creative Inquiry:

Kelli Anderson | Papercraft Artist & Engineer

Tuesday, April 10th, 2018 @ 6:30pm

Location: Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry, CFA-111

kellianderson.com • @kellianderson

Kelli Anderson is an artist/designer and tinkerer who draws, photographs, cuts, prints, codes, and creates a variety of designed things for herself and others. From interactive paperforms to layered, experimental websites, Kelli subverts expectations by injecting humor and surprise into everyday objects. In fall 2017, she published *This Book Is a Planetarium: And Other Extraordinary Pop-Up Contraptions*, a book about how humble materials can perform extraordinary feats—and featuring a tiny, pop-up planetarium and other functional contraptions. Kelli writes: “In my work, I try to better understand how things work so that I might demonstrate their surprising capabilities hidden in plain sight. However, lo-fi research methods are also being used in (what would traditionally be considered) high-tech fields. Using strategies like origami, engineering labs are also seeking ways to make complex problems tangible—to open them up to physical intuition. By engaging abstractions tangibly, we often find surprising possibilities hidden in plain view.”

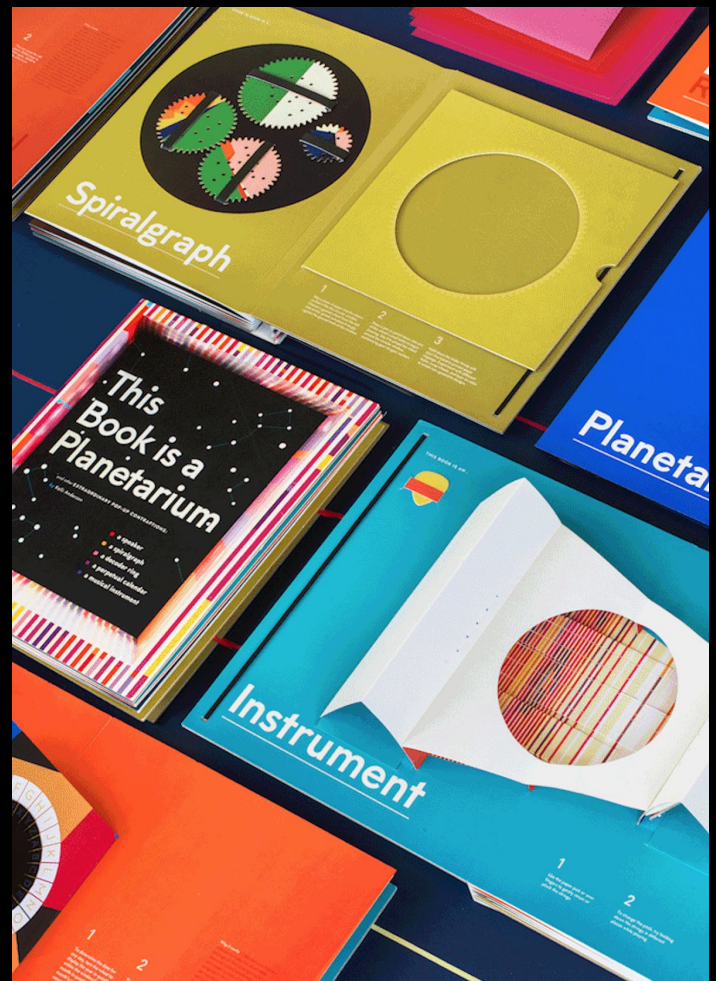
This lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series and the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University.

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for Creative Inquiry

Kelli Anderson • 10 April 2018

Kelli Anderson is an artist, designer and tinkerer who draws, photographs, cuts, prints, codes, and creates a variety of designed things for herself and others. From interactive paperforms to experimental websites, Kelli subverts expectations by injecting humor and surprise into everyday objects. In fall 2017, she published *This Book Is a Planetarium: And Other Extraordinary Pop-Up Contraptions*, a book about how humble materials, like paper and string, can perform extraordinary feats.

During her visit to Carnegie Mellon, Anderson presented an artist lecture at the STUDIO, and in partnership with Professor Imin Yeh, conducted a workshop in sculptural papercraft attended by students from the Schools of Art, Design, and Architecture.



Mimi Onuoha • 24 April 2018

Mimi Onuoha is an artist and researcher examining the implications of data collection and computational categorization. Her work uses code, writing, and sculpture to explore missing data and the ways in which people are abstracted, represented, and classified. Onuoha earned her B.A. from Princeton University and an MPS from NYU ITP. She is presently visiting faculty at Bennington College, where she teaches courses in “A Philosophy of Data” and “Impossible Maps”.

In her visit to CMU, Onuoha gave a public lecture and met with CFA students interested in art, data, visualization, and activism.



MIMI ONUOHA

Steiner Lecture in Creative Inquiry:
Mimi Onuoha | Data Artist / Activist

Tuesday, April 24th, 2018 @ 5:00pm
Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry, CFA-111

mimionuoha.com • [@thistimeitsmimi](https://twitter.com/thistimeitsmimi)

Mimi Onuoha is an artist and researcher examining the implications of data collection and computational categorization. Her work uses code, writing, and sculpture to explore missing data and the ways in which people are abstracted, represented, and classified. She is presently a visiting faculty member in the division of Visual and Performing Arts at Bennington College, where she teaches courses in "Impossible Maps" and "A Philosophy of Data".

Based in Brooklyn, Onuoha has been in residence at Eyebeam Art & Technology Center, the Data & Society Research Institute, Columbia's Tow Center, and the Royal College of Art. She has spoken and exhibited in festivals internationally, and in 2014 was selected to be in the inaugural class of Fulbright-National Geographic Digital Storytelling Fellows. She currently is a contributor at Quartz, where she uses code and data to tell stories about the implications of emerging technologies. Her interests include data collection, missing datasets, sculptures about algorithms, information visualization, and zines. Onuoha earned her B.A. from Princeton University and an MPS from the NYU Interactive Telecommunications Program. Onuoha once tried (and failed) to find out where her electricity comes from.

This lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series
and the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University

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"Algorithmic violence that an algorithm inflicts by preventing people meeting their basic needs"





Lesley Flanigan is an experimental electronic musician living in New York City. Inspired by the physicality of sound, she builds her own instruments using minimal electronics, microphones and speakers. Her work has been presented at venues and festivals internationally, including the Guggenheim Museum (New York), The Kitchen (New York), The Broad Museum (Los Angeles), and KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin.

At Carnegie Mellon, Flanigan presented an artist lecture about her practice — and then collaborated with Carnegie Mellon’s *Exploded Ensemble* (directed by Music professors Jesse Stiles & Lance LaDuke) to lead a master class for students participating in *Snoozefest*, a midnight-to-sunrise concert featuring subconscious electronic music for a sleeping audience.

After the attendees settled into the concert space, Lesley Flanigan, co-

NOCTURNAL ELECTRONIC
MUSIC AMIDST INFLATABLE
ENVIRONMENTS

SNOOZE FEST

11:59PM SATURDAY
28 APRIL

CMU COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
ALUMNI CONCERT HALL,
1ST FLOOR

LIMITED SLEEPING SPACES
BYOSB (BRING YOUR OWN
SLEEPING BAG)

TICKETS REQUIRED FOR SLEEPING
SPACES

NO TICKETS REQUIRED FOR
STANDING ROOM

8AM SUNDAY
29 APRIL

The Carnegie Mellon Exploded Ensemble and the Inflatables & Soft Sculpture course take the night shift for a midnight-to-sunrise concert featuring experimental electronic musicians Lesley Flanigan and R. Luke DuBois. Sleep amidst giant inflatable artworks in an all-night, subtonal, subconscious experience.

Exploded Ensemble is Carnegie Mellon University's hybrid music research wing, fusing traditional orchestral performance practice with experimental, electronic, and non-western approaches to live music performance. In SNOOZE FEST, the musicians of Exploded Ensemble will perform an overnight concert of subtle and immersive sound-worlds for a sleeping audience. The sounds presented are carefully articulated so as to induce, enhance, and uplift the collective audience dreamscape.

Olivia Robinson's **Inflatables & Soft Sculpture** course focuses on the design, fabrication, and creative applications of sculptural and inflatable forms created from soft materials. For SNOOZE FEST — informed by a rich history of hot air balloons and zeppelins, parade floats, and experimental architecture — students in this course have applied techniques for turning flexible, flat materials into immersive, three-dimensional sleeping-environments.

Featuring subconscious electronic music by the CMU Exploded Ensemble (Dir. Jesse Stiles & Lance Laduke), including special guests Lesley Flanigan and R. Luke DuBois, and performances by student composers Sara Adams, Stone Butler, Jonathan Cavell, Ryan Flint, Brooke Loy, Steven MacDonald, Alexander Panos, Travis Schwartz, Valerie Senavsky, Alexander Woskob, and Jeena Yin.

Performed amidst inflatable environments and sculptural forms created by the Inflatables & Soft Sculpture course (Olivia Robinson, Director), featuring constructions by Roberto Ardaya, Gabriel Bamforth, Ema Furusho, Patrick Gao, John Hewitt, Ankita Jha, Rachel Kim, Sun Min Kim, Elijah King, Tatyana Mustakos, Miranda Miller, Denise Nguyen, David Perry, Julia Przybylska, and Sommer Schneller.

SNOOZE FEST is made possible by support from:
The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
The Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry
The Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series
CMU DeTe Network
Questions? Contact studio:
info@andrew.cmu.edu • +1412.268.3451



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Steiner Lecture in Creative Inquiry:

Mrs Kasha Davis

Thursday, September 13th, 2018 @5:00pm

Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry CFA-111

The event will include a short lecture by drag performer Mrs. Kasha Davis in dialogue with CMU School of Art Professor Angela Washko in conjunction with her project "Workhorse Queen." The event will additionally feature an Ask-Me-Anything audience-participatory conversation.

Mrs. Kasha Davis is the stage name of Edward Popil, an American drag performer, actor and television personality based in Rochester, New York. Mrs. Kasha Davis is known for competing on the seventh season of RuPaul's Drag Race and can be seen in her touring one-woman-show *There's Always Time for a Cocktail*. After appearing on the reality television show, MKD has toured internationally, released several musical singles and performs regularly in theaters, clubs and on television and in film. Mrs. Kasha Davis is a "lady," an international celebrity housewife, and that maternal-like character who's just a hoot and a holler at family functions.

This lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series and the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University.

Performing in:
TQ Live!
Warhol Museum
Friday, Sept 14
8pm

as seen on
RuPaul
DRAG RACE

Mrs. Kasha Davis • 13 Sept. 2018

Mrs. Kasha Davis is the stage name of Edward Popil, an American drag performer, actor and television personality based in New York. Mrs. Kasha Davis is known for competing on the seventh season of RuPaul's Drag Race and can be seen in her touring one-woman-show, *There's Always Time for a Cocktail*. Davis has toured internationally, released several musical singles and performs regularly in theaters, clubs and on television and in film.

In addition to her artist lecture and class visits, Davis's visit included a dialogue with CMU School of Art Professor Angela Washko (in conjunction with her project *Workhorse Queen*) and an "Ask-Me-Anything" audience participatory conversation. Davis's visit was presented in partnership with *TQ Live! 2018* at the The Andy Warhol Museum.





CLAUDIA HART ART IST LEC TURE

Claudia Hart examines identity through the scrim of technology. Her art is about issues of the body, perception, and nature collapsing into technology and then back again. An early adopter of virtual imaging, Hart's work comprises VR, AR, and objects developed through computer driven production. Hart is a professor of experimental 3D media at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

This free, public lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series, and is co-presented with the Miller Institute for Contemporary Art as part of "Paradox: The Body In the Age of AI", 5 Oct 2018 - 3 Feb 2019.



5:00PM
WEDNES
DAY OCT
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@ FRANK
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FOR CRE
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INQUIRY
CFA111

The Frank-Ratchye
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for Creative Inquiry

Claudia Hart • 3 October 2018

Claudia Hart emerged as part of a generation of 90s intermedia artists in the "identity art" movement. Her art is about issues of the body, perception, and nature collapsing into technology and then back again. Hart was an early adopter of virtual imaging, using 3D animation to make media installations and projections, then later as they were invented, other forms of VR, AR, and objects using computer-driven production machines, all based on the same computer models. At the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, she developed a pedagogic program based on this concept – *Experimental 3D* – the first art-school curriculum dedicated solely to teaching simulation technologies.

In addition to her lecture and MFA student critiques, Hart presented work at CMU's Miller Institute for Contemporary Art as part of its exhibition, *Paradox: The Body In the Age of AI*.





New Media Artist Memo Akten

Memo Akten is an artist working with computation as a medium, exploring the collisions between nature, science, technology, ethics, ritual, tradition and religion.

Combining critical and conceptual approaches with investigations into form, movement and sound, he creates data dramatizations of natural and anthropogenic processes. Alongside his practice, he is currently working towards a PhD at Goldsmiths University of London in artificial intelligence and expressive human-machine interaction.

This lecture is open to the public. Supported by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series and the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University. Refreshments will be served.

5pm Monday, October 8 • RE-SCHEDULED
Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry • CFA-111

Memo Akten • 8 October 2018

Memo Akten is an artist working with computation as a medium, exploring the collisions between nature, science, technology, ethics, ritual, tradition and religion. Combining critical and conceptual approaches with investigations into form, movement and sound, he creates data dramatizations of natural and anthropogenic processes. Alongside his practice, he is currently working towards a PhD at Goldsmiths University of London in artificial intelligence and expressive human-machine interaction. Akten's work has been shown and performed internationally, featured in books and academic papers; and in 2013 Memo received the Prix Ars Electronica Golden Nica Award for his collaboration with Quayola, 'Forms'.

During his visit, Akten lectured at the STUDIO and advised and collaborated with students exploring the artistic use of machine learning.



The Center for Midnight

A history in fragments
Assembled by the Midnight Society
October 29-31, 2018



The famed Pastel Academy in Berlin produced several artists who joined together in 1965 to form the Center for Midnight. They included:

- the embroiderer Minerva Black,
- the lithographer Territoria Migraine,
- the filmmaker Benjamin John O'Toole, and
- Okyanica-La Trail, who refused to be categorized.

Minerva Black specialized in the cultural and physical production of irreverent embroidery. "I know so much, but I really want this to be for anyone."

Her protest embroidery detailed the consequences of social and political theory by depicting classical Greek figures in modern settings: Persephone at the supermarket; Hades shopping at Sears.

Though most considered the golden age of lithography to be over, Territoria Migraine had been convinced otherwise by the work of Yann Hirsch, who was lately notorious for opening the old wounds of the insular world of lithography.

At the same time, the filmmaker Benjamin John O'Toole was producing his documentary, *The Now Without Humiliation*, one frame at a time.



5pm Thursday, 1 November 2018
Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry
CMU College of Fine Arts, Room CFA-111

writer • media inventor Robin Sloan

Robin Sloan is an author and technologist. His first novel, *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*, was a New York Times Best Seller, translated into more than twenty languages. The paperback edition of his latest novel, *Sourdough*, was released in September 2018. Robin's next novel is being written in collaboration with an AI.

Robin experiments with, and writes about, computational tools for text generation and manipulation. He calls himself a "media inventor": someone, he writes, "primarily interested in content (words, pictures, ideas) who also experiments with new tools and new formats." Unsatisfied with the formats available to them by default, "media inventors feel compelled to make the content and the container."

This lecture is presented by the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry, in partnership with dSHARP (the CMU Digital Humanities initiative) and the CMU Department of English, and is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series. • Refreshments will be served • Free and open to the public.

The Frank-Ratchye
STUDIO
for Creative Inquiry

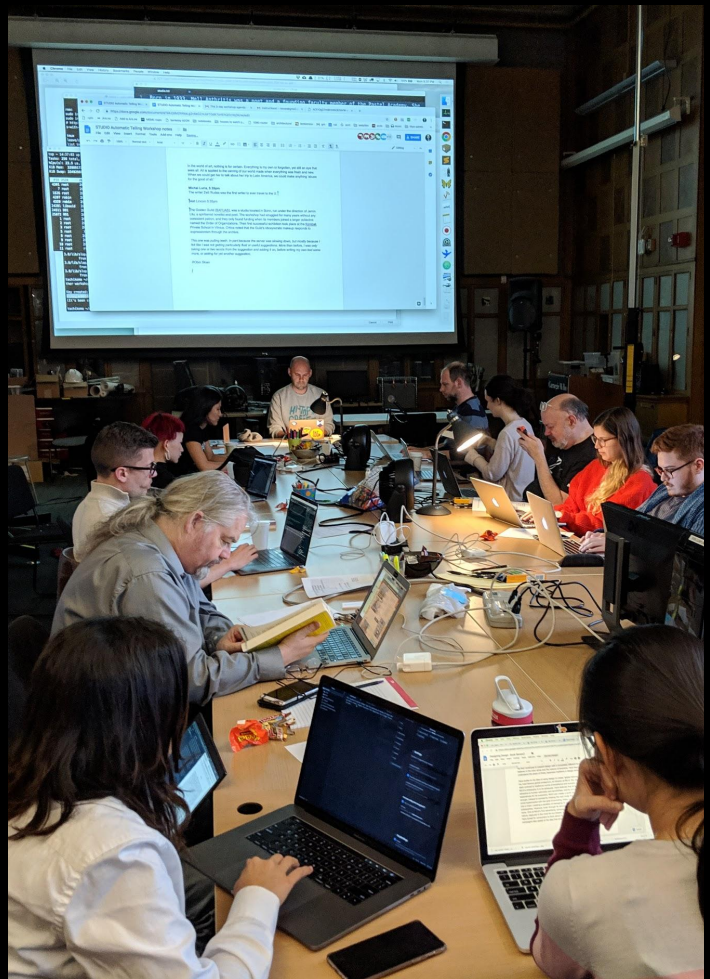


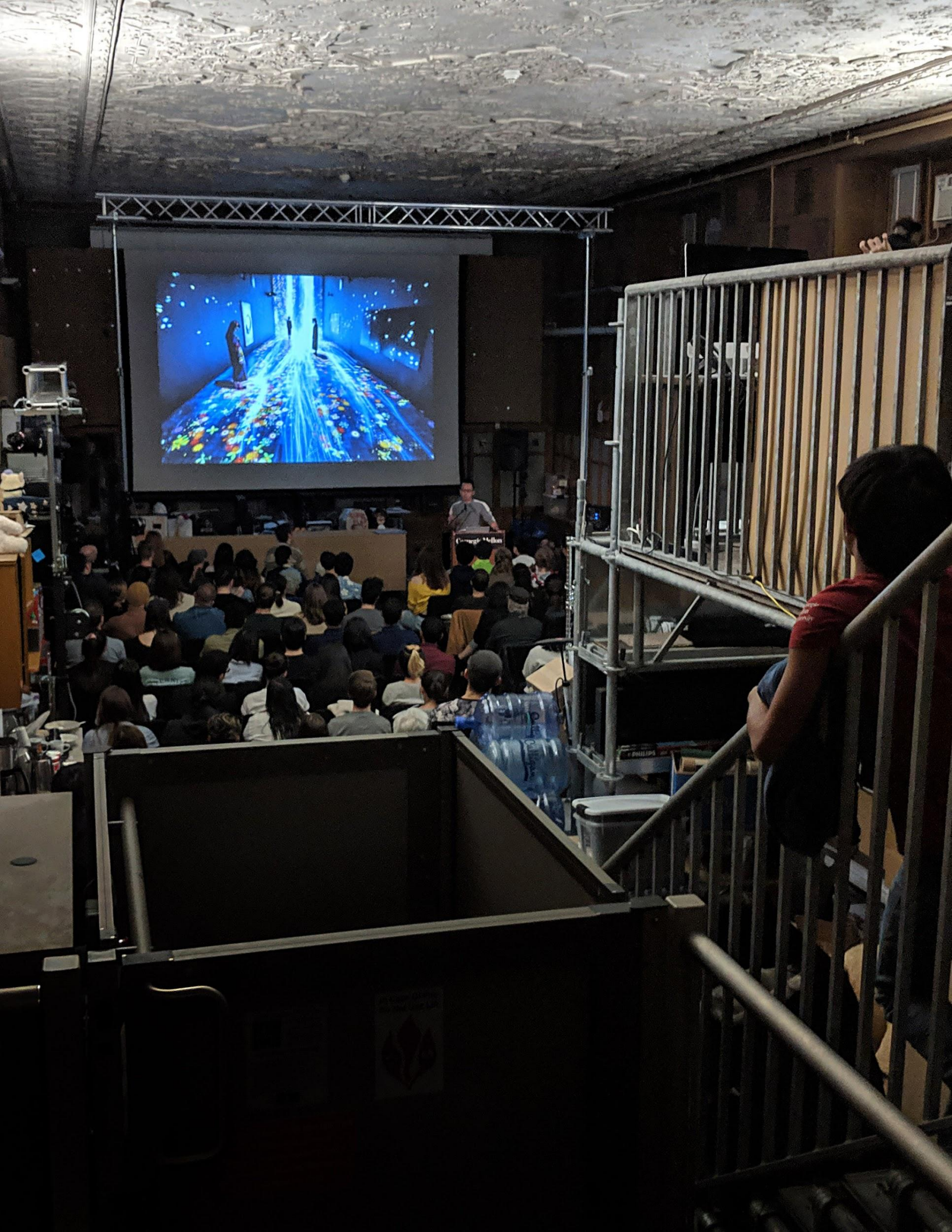
Carnegie
Mellon
University
English

Robin Sloan • 1 November 2018

Robin Sloan is an author and creative technologist. His first novel, *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*, was a New York Times Best Seller, translated into more than twenty languages. Robin's next novel is being written in collaboration with an artificial intelligence. Robin experiments with, and writes about, computational tools for text generation and manipulation. He calls himself a "media inventor": someone, he writes, "primarily interested in content (words, pictures, ideas) who also experiments with new tools and new formats." Unsatisfied with the formats available to them by default, "media inventors feel compelled to make the content and the container."

During his visit, Sloan led a four-day creative sprint, working with faculty and students to create and publish *The Center at Midnight*, a story that was computationally generated with machine learning tools.





Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry
6:30pm Tuesday, November 6 • CFA-111
Free / public artist lecture

The Frank-Ratchye
STUDIO
for Creative Inquiry



teamLab

teamLab • 6 November 2018

Based in Tokyo, teamLab is an art collective and interdisciplinary group of “ultra-technologists” whose collaborative practice seeks to navigate the confluence of art, science, technology, design and the natural world. The group is comprised of specialists such as artists, programmers, engineers, animators, scientists and architects.

Digital technology has allowed art to liberate itself from the physical and transcend boundaries. teamLab sees no boundary between humans and nature, and between oneself and the world; one is in the other and the other in one. teamLab aims to explore these new relationships between humans and nature, and between oneself and the world through art.

At the STUDIO, teamLab presented to a packed house and met one-on-one with students interested in combining art and technology.





ADDIE WAGENKNECHT

FRANK-RATCHYE STUDIO FOR CREATIVE INQUIRY
5PM MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2018

ADDIE WAGENKNECHT is an anti-disciplinary artist who operates in the fields of emerging media, feminist theory, open-source tools, pop culture, and hacktivism. Known for works that span robotics, drones, digital fabrication, and paint on canvas, her projects have been featured in the Vienna, Moscow, and Istanbul biennials, and acquired by the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Wagenknecht has been active in the development and management of numerous open-source projects and communities. With Stefan Hechenberger, she co-founded NORTD Labs, an R&D collective which developed the Lasersaur, the world's first open-source laser cutter. In 2013, she founded Deep Lab, a cyberfeminist congress concerned with issues of privacy, security, surveillance, anonymity, and alternative market economies. She has received fellowships and residencies from Eyebeam, Google, and Mozilla, and is represented by bitforms gallery, NYC.

This lecture is made possible by the Sylvia and David Steiner Speaker Series • Free and open to the public • Refreshments served

The Frank-Ratchye
STUDIO
for Creative Inquiry

Addie Wagenknecht • 12 Nov. 2018

Addie Wagenknecht is an anti-disciplinary, experimental artist who works in the fields of emerging media, feminist theory, open-source tools, pop culture, and hacktivism. Known for works that span media including robotics, drones, network hardware, 3D printing and traditional paint on canvas, her work has been featured in the Vienna, Moscow, and Istanbul biennials and acquired by the Whitney Museum of American Art, and she's collaborated with Chanel and i-D magazine on a series of projects exploring the sixth sense.

During her visit, Wagenknecht participated in a series of "speed project" collaborations with undergraduate students working at the intersection of art, technology and culture. These quick, experimental projects were one-on-one sessions with Wagenknecht and made use of the STUDIO's UR5 robot arm to set up a "robotic salon" for human-computer beautification.



