

January 2009



K I N E T I C A

CARNIVOROUS ART, POLE DANCING ROBOTS & MAN-ANIMAL-MACHINE HYBRIDS IN UK'S FIRST KINETIC, ELECTRONIC & NEW MEDIA ART FAIR

Carnivorous lampshades, pole dancing robots, man-animal-machine hybrids, mechanical writing machines, subliminal and sensitive installations, mesmerising light sculptures and cybernetics are just some of the incredible exhibits at Kinetica Art Fair, the UK's first art fair dedicated to kinetic, robotic, sound, light and time-based art, that opens in London on Friday 27 February with a dance-light spectacular.

Kinetica Art Fair, developed by Kinetica Museum in partnership with P3 with the support of the Contemporary Art Society, features well known artists from across the world including **Daniel Chadwick, Sam Buxton, Jason Bruges, Martin Richman and Tim Lewis.**

More than 25 galleries and organisations specialising in kinetic, electronic and new media art are taking part and over 150 artists are exhibiting. The Fair will be like no other with 'living' artwork moving, speaking and performing. The Fair provides unparalleled opportunities for the public and collectors alike to view and buy work from this thriving international movement, and to participate in talks, workshops and performances.

Kinetica Art Fair:

- **When:** 27 February – 2 March 2009
- **Opening spectacular and world premiere:** Friday 27 February, 20:00 – 22:00hrs, Seth Riskin, a former U.S. national champion gymnast, brings his astonishing physical ability to *Light Dance* in which he sculpts light and space in a remarkable performance of human and light interaction. Acclaimed international artist collective, *body>data>space*, present a world premiere of performers interacting with light and visual projection. Other performances are detailed below.
- **Where:** P3, 35 Marylebone Rd, opposite Baker Street Tube. P3 is London's newest multi-disciplinary art space. The 14,000sq ft former concrete testing facility is located under Westminster University.
- **Full public details including ticketing:** www.kinetica-artfair.com. [Times and ticketing details below].

Press Preview:

- Thursday 26 February, 10am – 12pm and Friday 27 February, 10am – 12pm. Dianne Harris, Artistic Director, Kinetica Museum, will be available for interview. Please RSVP to attend: katie.jackson@kallaway.co.uk

Kinetic art is art that has a life of its own. Pioneered by world famous artists including **Maholy Nagy, Jean Tinguely, Marcel Duchamp** and **Alexander Calder** during the 1900s, modern contemporary kinetic and electronic artworks utilise and warp technology itself, to explore, nurture and comment on our evolutionary processes and challenge scientific and universal exploration.

Kinetic artists exhibiting at the Kinetica Art Fair, include:



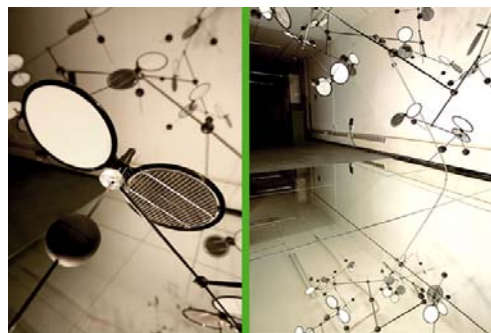
Seth Riskin stars in Kinetica Art Fair's opening show on Friday 27 February. Seth, a former U.S. national champion gymnast, is an artist and a 'teacher of light'. He brings his astonishing physical ability to his *Light Dance* art. In silent, space-defining performances, Riskin's precise movements articulate light effects that extend from his body. Seth will also perform on Saturday night.

Image: *Line Dance* by Seth Riskin, photograph by Sheilah Briton



Tim Lewis creates moving sculptures that blur the boundaries between man and machine. He gives inanimate objects attributes they do not normally possess allowing them to interact with people and the environment around them.

Image: *Pony* by Tim Lewis, Photograph by Andy Day



Daniel Chadwick creates mobiles made up of kinetic solar systems which rotate and revolve as they orbit each other. Sometimes using tiny solar-powered motors to propel the kinetic elements, he also employs light and lasers to illuminate the struggle between two and three dimensionality.

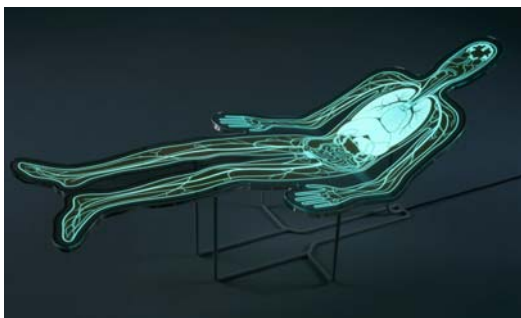
Image: *Multiple Organism* by Daniel Chadwick, Photograph by Andy Day



Material Beliefs have created a **Carnivorous Lampshade Robot** inspired by the pitcher plant, a carnivorous plant that attracts and consumes insects to survive. The insects fall into the plant and are unable to escape. In the same way, this spherical lampshade has multiple holes in its surface which are long funnels going deep into the lamp. Insects are attracted to the light shining out of the holes, enter the lamp and are trapped. Eventually they die and fall into the microbial fuel cell underneath. This generates electricity which is stored and used to power a series of low power ultraviolet LEDs. A light sensor detects when the house lights are turned off and switches on the LEDs, attracting insects throughout the night.

Material Beliefs is a collaboration between designers and scientists/engineers and comprises of Aleksandar Zivanovic, James Auger and Jimmy Loizeau. The project explores an alternative approach to bringing robots into the domestic environment, exploring both the aesthetics and functionality that may elicit a symbiotic coexistence with humans in their homes.

Image: *Lampshade Robot* by Material Beliefs
Photograph courtesy of Material Beliefs



Sam Buxton's work continually blurs the lines between art, science and design. He specialises in developing objects that can communicate the delicate relationship between the human body and its environment.

Image: *Clone Chaise* by Sam Buxton image courtesy of Kinetica Museum



Martin Richman works with light, colour and space in both the private and public realms to explore our experience of the space that we occupy. He has worked on major public projects and collaborative works with architects and engineers through to discrete sculptures that occupy a variety of spaces from whole rooms to the space between two books.

Image: *Ladders* by Martin Richman
photograph by Heikko Prigge



Giles Walker, is a scrap artist, creating work from readily available rubbish and scrap. For *Peepshow*, his pole dancing robots are powered by 12V motors found in cars (windscreen wiper motors etc) and then controlled through a PC.

Image: Peepshow, photograph by Giles Walker

Kinetica Museum, the organisers of the Kinetica Art Fair, will curate specific areas within the fair to showcase works including:

- Immersive installations by **Chris O'Shea** and **Cinimond Studio**, **Seth Riskin** from **MIT** and **body>data>space**.
- Light and laser works by **Jason Bruges**, **Martin Richman**, **Chris Levine**, **Rob** and **Nick Carter** and **Peter Sedgley**.
- Electroluminescent kinetic works by **Sam Buxton**.
- Animatronic kinetic works by **Daniel Chadwick**, **Tim Lewis**, **Tom Wilkinson**, **Ray Lee** and **Roger Vilder**.
- Robotic installations by **Jack Pavlik**, **Shadow Robots** and **Bernard Frank** (Kinetic Art Organisation).

Tickets Prices:

- **Art fair** only £5
- **Day Ticket** (includes fair, talks and performances) £12 / £10 cons
- **Performance Ticket** (includes fair and performances) £8
- **Weekend pass** (excludes ticketed events) £20
- **VIP Opening Performance event**
limited tickets available /ticket offer does not apply £15

Opening Times:

- Friday 27 February Opening performance event 20.00 – 22:30hrs
- Saturday 28 February 10:00 – 22:00hrs
- Sunday 1 March 11:00 – 22:00hrs
- Monday 2 March 09:00 – 16:00hrs

Exhibiting artists include:

Jason Bruges, Balint Bolygo, Tom Wilkinson, Chris Levine, Elias Crespín, Tim Lewis, Sam Buxton, Daniel Chadwick, Ray Lee, Roger Vilder, Adrian Baynes, Kineticus (Bernward Frank), Michael Markert, Martin Richman, Peter Sedgley, Stewart Warren-Hill, Hans Kotter, Giles Walker, Chris O'Shea, Dominic Harris and Ivan Black. *Further artists will be announced shortly.*

Exhibitors include:

body>data>space, Node London, Laikingland, Shadow Robots, Patrick Heide Gallery, Computer Art Society, Holotronica, Themersons Press, Mute Magazine, Giles Walker, Tim Lewis, Contemporary Art Society, Kinetica Museum, FACT/ Bosch & Simmons, Digital Art Museum, Material Beliefs (James Agar/Alex Zivanovic), Jason Bruges Studio, Kinetic Art Organisation and Chris O Shea/ Cinimod Studio. *Further exhibitors will be announced shortly.*

Speakers for Talks Programme on Saturday 28 Feb & 1 March 2009:

Katherine Mason (Computers in the Art Room), Seth Riskin (MIT), Bosch & Simmons Rich Walker (Shadow Robots); Laikingland, Digital Art Museum (Wolfgang Lieser); Jeremy Woods (GPD Drawings/Maps); Jasia Reichardt (Curator of Cybernetic Serendipity). *Full talks programme with detailed timings to be announced soon.*

Panel Discussion: New Realms in Art: Collecting & Exhibiting New Media Art

Mike Stubbs: FACT; Joe le Placa, All Visual Arts and Ex ArtNet; Dianne Harris, Art Director Kinetica Museum. *Further speakers and discussion timings to be announced soon.*

Film Screenings:

Spider Robot from Stelarc; 2008 retrospective from FACT; Contraptions of Distinction by Nik Ramage. DVDs by Ray Lee and Balint Bolygo. *Further screenings to be announced soon.*

Public Performances:

27 February, 20:00 – 22:00hrs

Opening Spectacular and World Premiere by body>data>space

Seth Riskin, a former U.S. national champion gymnast, brings his astonishing physical ability to *Light Dance* in which he sculpts light and space in a remarkable performance of human and light interaction. Acclaimed international artist collective, body>data>space, present a world premiere of performers interacting with light and visual projection. Other performances are detailed below.

28 February 20:00 – 22:00hrs

Seth Riskin

As detailed above

body>data>space

As detailed above.

Workshops:

Mechanical workshop with artist Alex Zivanovic.

Sponsors and Supporters:

PETEC, UKDL, P3/ Westminster University, Cultureshock Media/ CultureCritic, Mute, PLDA (Professional Lighting Designers Association), Light Bureau, XL Video Aesthetica Magazine and Appleton Estate Jamaica Rum.

Further information on Kinetica Art Fair will be announced soon. Contact Katie Jackson at Kallaway – Katie.jackson@kallaway.co.uk, to join the press mailing list.

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Press information:

Press releases and pictures can be downloaded from <http://www.kallaway.co.uk/kinetica-art-fair-press-release1.htm>. For further information please contact:

- Emma Macorison 020 7221 7883 emma.macorison@kallaway.co.uk
- Katie Jackson 020 7221 7883 katie.jackson@kallaway.co.uk

Notes to Editors:**About Kinetica**

Kinetica Museum encourages the convergence of art and technology, providing an alternative platform to static traditional forms of art such as painting and sculpture. The museum champions artistic innovation of all kinds and showcases work, which explores the interwoven complexities between scientific developments and the human condition. Kinetica is currently on an international touring exhibition.

For further information visit: www.kinetica-museum.org

About P3

P3 is London's newest multi-disciplinary art space. The 1960s former construction hall for Westminster University's School of Architecture and the Built Environment is located below ground opposite Baker Street Tube Station on Marylebone Road.

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