VECTORS AND CIRCLES: CISL AND EMPAC

THU / FEB 11, 7:00 PM / FREE

A CONVERSATION WITH EMPAC DIRECTOR JOHANNES GOEBEL AND CISL DIRECTOR HUI SU
EMPAC has been designed from the beginning as a center where art, science, and technology “meet under one roof and breathe the same air” through research, development, production, and performance. CISL @ EMPAC is a new, substantial research initiative between Rensselaer and IBM, which uses the infrastructure of EMPAC to further expand the intellectual and artistic discourse at the intersection of digital technology and the human condition.

IBM and Rensselaer launched the Cognitive and Immersive Systems Laboratory (CISL) as part of the IBM Cognitive_ColloquiumNY, which was held at EMPAC on November 18, 2015. The name of the laboratory indicates the convergence of a major research enterprise in cognitive computing with what is unique about EMPAC.

Hui Su, the new director of CISL, and EMPAC director Johannes Goebel come from two ends of a wide-ranging spectrum. Su is the former director of the IBM Research Lab in Cambridge, MA, and holds expertise in multiple areas ranging from Human Computer Interaction, Cloud Computing, Visual Analytics, and Neural Network Algorithms for Image Recognition. Goebel, during his long career in the arts (with and without the “high-tech”), has been responsible for the programmatic, technical, and functional design of EMPAC. In this initial phase of CISL, the two have lively ongoing discussions as to where and how computing and the human condition meet.

This conversation is meant to open the public discussion around these topics and create a fruitful atmosphere for exchange on science and art from many different perspectives.
ON SCREEN/SOUND

This year-long film series takes a close look at—and listen to—the way filmmakers have employed the sonic dimension of their form to complement, challenge, and reconsider our experience of the moving image.

Presenting cinematic performance, artists’ moving image, and Hollywood feature films, each On Screen/Sound program delves into the relationship between movie sound and image tracks, highlighting some radical examples of the aesthetic power and technical potential of sound in cinema. From musical theater to the music video, experimental shorts to industrially produced features, the series explores the affective and technical relationship between sound and image through the art of Foley, experimental music, found footage, soundtrack imaging, synched, multi-channel, and non-diegetic sound.

THU / FEB 18, 7:00

Pierre Vallières / Joyce Wieland
The Arbor / Clio Barnard

THU / FEB 25, 7:00

It Heat Hit / Laure Prouvost
3# Manifesto A Track #1 / Tony Cokes
Slow Zoom Long Pause / Sara Magenheimer
Der Grosse Verhau (The Big Mess) / Alexander Kluge

THU / MAR 03, 7:00

Koyaanisqatsi: Life Out of Balance
Godfrey Reggio / Music: Philip Glass
What does unstable time even mean?
Charles Atlas / Music: Eric Holm
Many Thousands Gone / Ephraim Asili / Music: Joe McPhee
The Deccan Trap / Lucy Raven / Music: Paul Corley
Fade to Slide / Christian Marclay / Music: Bang on a Can All-Stars

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