

EXPERIMENTAL TELEVISION CENTER LTD.

FINISHING FUNDS 2007

The **Experimental Television Center** announces that **Finishing Funds 2007** is supporting 17 electronic artists from around New York State whose work encompasses new media, film and sonic art, web projects, performances, site-specific installations and interactive projects. For 18 years, the program has provided over \$325,000 directly to artists, to assist with the completion of diverse and innovative projects which challenge the traditional boundaries of media and new media programming.

Finishing Funds is supported in part by the **New York State Council on the Arts** and by **mediaThe foundation**.

This year's awards recognize work which is very diverse, encompassing web projects, animation, generative systems, stereoscopic projection, public art and performances, and include experimental, documentary and narrative cinema and the sonic arts.

The works approach a wide variety of topics including issues of war and democracy, contemporary states of panic, language and memory, and the legend of a prostitute in Troy at the end of the Victorian era.

The works in progress have received recognition and support from other organizations including the New York State Council on the Art, LMCC Swing Space, Lab HD, Art for Change, New York State Music Fund, the Tank, iEar Studios and Akademie Schloss Solitude.

With an award in 2007 from mediaThe foundation, **Finishing Funds** is supporting 2 special awards for new media and intermedia performance; the awards went to Tali Hinkis and Kyle Lapidus of LoVid and Chiaki Watanabe.

This year's peer review panel was composed of Monteith McCollum of Barton and Marisa Olson of New York.

Monteith McCollum is an independent artist /filmmaker whose films *Hybrid* and *Lawn* have won awards and screened in theaters and on public television screens internationally. He makes music for his and wife Ariana's films with saws, violins, and anything else found around his barn in upstate New York. During the least hospitable weather and times of day, he can be found wondering about the landscape with a hand-cranked Bolex.

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Marisa Olson is an artist and Editor & Curator at Rhizome. Her own work was recently presented by the Whitney Museum, the New Museum of Contemporary Art, the Pacific Film Archive, and the NY and Chicago Underground Film Festivals. She has curated exhibits and programs at the Guggenheim Museum, SFMOMA, the Getty, Artists Space, White Columns, and elsewhere.

The deadline for the program each year is March 15th. Applications are available online and from the Center in January.

Panelists Monteith McCollum and Marisa Olson
Program Director Sherry Miller Hocking

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Zoe Beloff **History of a Fixed Idea and a Modern Case of Possession:
a psychopathological musical in two parts**

Paris in the 1890's. In the cabarets and cafe concerts acting crazy is all the rage. Here two patients of the famous psychologist Pierre Janet, express their delusions in song. A two channel stereoscopic surround sound HD video installation with musical direction by Shelley Hirsch, and featuring Shelley Hirsch, Steven Rattazzi, Jay Smith, Rachel Neuman, Aubyn Philabaum, Tea Alagic.

Greg Berger **The Gringomobile Diaries**

A comedy combining non-traditional narrative and documentary elements and exploring the phenomenon of "revolutionary tourism" in Latin America

Carrie Dashow **The Subliminal History of New York State**

An on-going project to be presented regionally incorporating local and New York history, research, songwriting, video and community engagement. At the project's core is a narrative about New York, its land progress, industrialization, utopianism – its "subliminal history." The self-designed multi-channel editing system interprets multiple views into a singular projection for presentation.

Joe Diebes **Scherzo**

A generative work reflecting an infinitely varying music video for solo cello. The live solo performance was filmed 6 times from 10 angles, and the work operates in real-time, editing together the 640 clips in an infinite variation. *Scherzo* will be presented as a projected installation.

Mariam Ghani **Fugitive Refrains**

A Rococo game played between forest and palace, nature and artifice, movement and landscape. A search for artifacts of human desires on the landscape. *Fugitive Refrains* is a video produced collaboratively by media artist Mariam Ghani and Butoh-trained dancer/choreographer Erin Kelly during a residency at Akademie Schloss Solitude in Germany. Schloss Solitude is a pleasure palace built by Duke Carl Eugen in the late Rococo period, and contains one of the first examples of trompe l'oeil wood ever used in European architecture. The imitation of nature, in the belief that artifice could make nature better than nature itself, was typical of the late Rococo. Our project explored the forest as it is today for traces of the garden that once was projected onto it. We looked for sites where the landscape still remembers the human desires that shaped it and the pleasures once pursued there, and where the artifice of design has decayed into an almost-natural order.

Kelly Jacobson **The Origin of Mouthstones (Part Two)**

A multi-part narrative project creating landscape dealing with language and memory. Part Two involves an installation and video projection. The video component addresses the duality of language through two channel processing and multiple channel sound. The sound is created and manipulated through software patches that translate audio components like volume into image control structures.

Hey-Yeun Jang Picture Day: Flip Side

A 3 channel installation mixing documentary and experimental film based on the events of an elementary school Picture Day – Say cheese, don't move, sit up straighter, look into the camera... The work shows the vulnerability of children and how this traditional keepsake portrait of the happy child is fabricated.

Annamarie Lanese and Penny Lane Sitting on a Million

An experimental documentary centered about Mame Faye, a colorful madam from Troy's past. Mame Faye did not exist. At least that's what the history books would have you believe. Prostitutes and madams, no matter how well-known or successful, are not part of legitimate history. But the oldtimers of Troy, New York insist that Mame Faye did exist. Everyone past the age of retirement in Troy has a story - funny, sordid, unbelievable - about Mame. Together, these unrecorded oral histories tell a rich tale of a booming industrial city's complex relationship to its own seedy side at the end of the repressive Victorian era that was Troy's heyday.

Shawn Lawson The Death of Sardanapalus

This interactive work is an evolving electronic artwork with a 400 year lifespan, critiquing the contemporary condition. It is an interactive recreation of Delacroix's work, encoding the themes of consumerism, environmental destruction, narcissism and militarism.

Jason Livingston Life in a Tiny Town

A four part series of films and videos forming a psychological portrait of Upstate NY. Loosely based on seasons, the four parts add up to personal impressions in response to landscape, weather patterns and economic conditions.

LoVid - Tali Hinkis and Kyle Lapidus Gauge Transformation

A series of three live video objects: Asymptotic Freedom Confined, Light Shining Through Walls and Flavous Saver. The work is inspired by scientific understanding of fundamental forces of nature reflected in particle physics. The work involves custom analog hardware that synthesizes pure electrical signals. The video is also converted into sculptural objects.

Cat Mazza Stitch for Senate

A website launched on the 4th anniversary of the Iraq war seeks to examine what is expressed through wartime knitting: charity, symbolism, allegiance, patriotism, resistance, radicalism. A combination of traditional craft and new media. Stitch for Senate is an initiative of knit hobbyists making helmet liners for every United States Senator. The helmet liner pattern was adapted from a support-the-troops initiative for soldiers stationed in Iraq. All the senators will receive their own helmet liner, and can opt to send helmet liners to a soldier.

Morgan Miller One Day in the Life of a Professional Anarchist

"This country is out of order" proclaims a sloppy, wild-haired, lonely bystander on a street corner in New York City. The work is an animation short documenting one day in his life.

Adi Shniderman and Merav Ezer Body Bug

An experimental video using air as a primary material, part of a trilogy dealing with aspects of the human body. The first focused on a human face and the way the surface changes reflecting changes in a personal inner world. *Body Bug* focuses on arms and hands as they are used in interactions with others.

Chiaki Watanabe muxology

An experimental project exploring the relationship between audiovisual media and psychophysical states, using video installation and live performance. Kinetic abstract moving images and sound are associated with the scientific study of visual perceptions such as phi phenomenon, motion perception and color.

Ricardo Miranda Zuniga The War that Our Children Will Learn to Live With

A series of weapons for emotional comfort that will be presented on the street and exchanged with pedestrians through barter. The weapons are hand-crafted scale guns and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) with circuitry. Weapons are exchanged for something personal. - an object or an audio or video recording to leave behind a memory, observation or thought concerning the current state of the world. Each day the weapon owner sets the weapon to one of the sensibility levels - LOW (green), GUARDED (blue), ELEVATED (yellow), HIGH (orange), or SEVERE (red). Each setting will trigger a philosophical phrase randomly chosen from a depository of phrases used by leaders at times of war and peace.

Marina Zurkow Boom! Darling

A 5 multiple monitor single channel pieces, a suite of animated scroll painting depicting a post-deluge landscape of waste dumps and human detritus. Solitary people appear, primarily a resolute female avatar. Scroll paintings from the 11th century are recalled - beatific even when depicting the grotesque.