



## **Project outline document V3.0 (08/01/04)**

**International Art + Technology Festival.  
Scottish/Russian collaboration.**

# **MACHINISTA GLASGOW 2004**

- Machines as artists – Artists against machinic standards – Full screen robovision -

## **OFFLINE EVENTS: 7-9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2004**

The Machinista festival celebrates artificial intelligence in the Arts, presenting an international selection of works where Artists and Machines explore their changing roles within the creative process.

Initiated in the remote City of Perm in the Urals (closed to westerners and Russians until 1992 due to its sensitive industries) the first Machinista festival (April 2003) achieved international recognition on a budget of \$6000. The open online submission format of the festival provided a new curatorial strategy to attract and represent AI artists and scientists from diverse backgrounds on its web gallery and CD-rom.

Glasgow based artist group Pointless Creations were the only non-Russian performers to make it to the event and the plan to further the next festival with an extended offline event was then formulated.

Machinista 2004 is currently being developed as a collaboration between the original Russian team and a newly formed Machinista Glasgow group. Our experience lies in art event organising using alternative curatorial strategies (taking part in projects such as: The Chateau ,Free gallery, and Switchspace). With this project, we are trying to join forces with theoreticians, open source programmers, free party organisers, Low to No budget filmmakers, Hacktivists and other artist collectives interested in contributing to an ambitious cross discipline international programme. Glasgow's offline festival will provide a landmark in the emergence of a thriving interdisciplinary network as well as long term benefits for a variety of Scottish artists, scientists and organisations.

Mainstream and alternative venues have already committed to the project whilst a network of experts and volunteers have pulled resources together during a successful series of events (Pointless Cinema) conceived as a build-up to the festival.

[www.machinista.org](http://www.machinista.org) (in development)  
[www.machinista.ru/en](http://www.machinista.ru/en)  
[www.machinista.org.uk](http://www.machinista.org.uk)  
[www.pointlesscreations.co.uk](http://www.pointlesscreations.co.uk)  
[www.chateaugateau.co.uk](http://www.chateaugateau.co.uk)



## **MACHINISTA 2003**

Subject of the "Machinista 2003" international festival is the new interaction of machinic and human in art and culture. The focus is on a machine as a human artist's co-author, or as an independent author and a contender for its own spot under the sun of art.

In its first edition over 120 artists uploaded their work (artistic software, video documentation, website/link, showreel) on the online gallery which was then compiled onto a CD-ROM acting as a directory for an emerging network for digital artists within this field.

Organised in Russia (Perm-Ural region and Moscow) by media artist/ curator Sergei Teterin, the small Machinista team has used a web-based curatorial strategy to attract worldwide interest on a small budget.

In 2003, there were 3 categories:

- the machine as the artist
- the machine as the co-author
- human VJs versus visualiser software.

A category supervisor committee selected the best entries who received prizes and extended reviews on the festival's CD-ROM. The final events took place in Perm and Moscow where screenings, installations, presentations and club events were organised and attracted enthusiastic audiences and international press.

Some category winners included: Open source music software, chat-bots, web identi-kits, spray painting robots, interactive installations, visualiser software, autonomous art software, politically modified PC games, and a russian visual rap amongst others.

4 Scottish audio-visual artists (Pointless Creations) received a SAC travel grant to perform at the event and research the possibility of holding a similar event in Scotland.



## **MACHINISTA 2004**

Building up on its success and its versatile online nature, Machinista is gearing up to become a migrating festival, organised as a collaboration between the Russian online team and offline hosts in a new country each year.

### 2004 Categories:

- 1."Art from the Machine: gleams of the inhuman". Works created completely or mostly by a machine.
- 2."Artists against machinic standards". Breaking, destroying, hacking, unexpected (non-utilitarian?) usage of customary programs as an art experiment.
- 3."Full-Screen Robovision". Moving image works (experimental imaging, audiovisual code, short films, animation and VJ mixes) illustrating "the world as 'seen' by the machines".

The Machinista 2004 offline event is currently being developed by David Bernard (Pointless Creations), Robb Mitchell (Free Gallery, The Chateau) and a 10 strong uk-based team of curators, consultants and event organisers within the newly formed Machinista Glasgow 2004 not for profit organisation.

The 2004 offline event is planned to take place over the 7-9 may 2004 weekend and will include:

- opening/ talks/ screening event (CCA + Glasgow Science Centre)
- 3 performance/ installation clubnights (Arches, The Art School, Warehouse)
- exhibition ( CCA or mobile, The Arches foyer)
- Machinista DVD production.
- A comprehensive website documenting/ promoting the events.

The event will involve 3 commissioned artists from the Machinista selection, 4 organisers from the Russian team, 4 UK based event curators, selections of festival entries and 6 category supervisors (1 russian + 1 UK per category).



## **MACHINISTA FESTIVAL BUILD-UP**

### **-CALL FOR CATEGORY SUPERVISORS: (deadline 15 october 2003)**

2 supervisors per category (1 from the offline Glasgow team, 1 from the Russian online team).

Category Supervisors will compile a written report for the festival publication as well as presenting the selection during the panel.

Category supervisors will receive a fee of £150 + travel.

Machinista.org.uk

### **-LAUNCH OF MACHINISTA 2004 EVENT: (Nov 2003)**

A Pointless Cinema (#3) event dedicated to the work produced for Machinista 2003 will be organised at the Chateau with performances from Scottish artists who submitted pieces for last year's show. Present at the show via weblink Sergey Teterin, festival organiser, introduced the 2004 edition and revealed the new program.

### **LAUNCH OF MACHINISTA.ORG WEBSITE: (Jan 2003)**

Designed by the Russian team and based on the existing site (machinista.ru), the site will contain the 2004 theme and call for new artworks. All uploaded work will be exhibited on the online gallery. Deadline for works submission: 28<sup>th</sup> february 2004.

### **-ARTISTS SELECTION/ BOOKING:**

Submission deadline: 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2004 (machinista.org website)

Selection winners announced: March 2004 (machinista.org website)

The category winners are selected after screening/deliberation from the Russian/ UK category supervisors who will produce written pieces to be included in the festival brochure.

Artists/performers contacted and booked: March 2004 (machinista glasgow team)

The performance program is completed by the event curators in collaboration with the Russian and UK category supervisors. Booking offers and visa/ administration work undertaken by the Glasgow organisers.

### **-LAUNCH OF FULL MACHINISTA.ORG.UK WEBSITE/ BROCHURE (march 2004)**

The Glasgow event website containing all events information and reviews of the featured artists. A dynamic Flash based site to suit the festival theme designed by Pointless Creations. The brochure and associated promotional material will be produced and tied in with the website by Graphic designer FI\$T.

### **-MACHINISTA CD-ROM AND DVD. (release April 2004).**

The CD-rom will contain all submission as an extended offline version of the website to be distributed for free, designed by the Russian web designers. The DVD will contain 90 minutes of the best visuals produced for the VJ category of the festival. The authoring will be undertaken by Glasgow visualisation company Once Were Farmers.



## MACHINISTA FESTIVAL EVENTS

-MACHINISTA OPENING / SCREENING EVENT.

CCA Friday May 7th 2004, 5-7pm, £1. (tbc)

Curator: Robb Mitchell Panel: Category supervisors (AI, Visuals), Russian and uk organisers, invited artists.

Event presentation, selection and category winners presentation, DVD extract screening.

-MACHINISTA SEMINAR: AI, A-Life and Emergent Systems in the arts. Glasgow Science Centre (tbc). Saturday May 8th 3-7pm.

Curator : Josh Hale

-MACHINISTA EXHIBITION.

CCA and/or Mobile exhibition, Arches foyer (1 month)  
Friday to Sunday

Curator: Torsten Lauschmann

Interactive display of the machinista.org website / CDrom containing all entries. Features on the category winners. Intervention by invited artists. Screening of the DVD.

-MACHINISTA INSTALLATIONS/ PERFORMANCE/ SOUNDSPACE.

*Body Mechanic: Techno Theatre/ cabaret.*

Friday May 7th 2004, 9pm-3am. £6 (tbc)

Venue: The Warehouse (Finnieston, tbc)

Curator: Geraldine Greene/ Radar.

Featured guest artist/ Machinista produced artwork, DJs/ VJs, installations.

-MACHINISTA INSTALLATIONS/ PERFORMANCE/ MULTI-CLUB

*AI music club.*

Sat May 8th 2004, 11pm-3am. £6 (approved by GSASA)

Venue: Glasgow School of Art

Curator: Marianne Greated/

Eskrima (Electronica) + Divine (60's sci-fi)+ freakmoves (robotic hip-hop) Clubnights.

Featured guest artist/ Machinista produced artwork, DJs/ VJs, installations.

-MACHINISTA SUNDAY SOCIAL.

*Robovision Lounge.*

Sun May 9th 2004, 4pm-12pm. £5 (tbc)

Venue: The Arches (tbc)

Curator: Rod McLachlan / AVIT community(Vjcentral.com).

Featured guest artist/ Machinista produced artwork, DJs/ VJs, installations. Intervention from Russian organisers.



## **MACHINISTA GLASGOW TEAM**

Aside from the Russian organisers who will be developing the international program and website, the Glasgow event has secured commitment from the following individuals:

### **MANAGEMENT:**

- David Bernard: (audio-visual artist, Pointless Creations).  
duties: Technical director, venues co-ordinator, artist networking.  
Visuals Category Supervisor, technical manager, web design.
- Robb Mitchell: (artist, curator, Free Gallery, The Chateau)  
Duties: Funding, promotion, admin, recruitment.  
Talk/ screening curator.

### **CURATORS:**

- Torsten Lauschmann (software artist)  
Duties: Exhibition curator
- Geraldine Greene: (event organiser, stage designer, printmaker)  
Radar/Pointless, Giant productions.  
Duties: Friday event curator, T-shirt printing.
- Marianne Greated (artist/ curator, switchspace, impact arts)  
Duties: Saturday event curator.
- Rod McLachlan: ( VJ, Cube cinema founding member, Big Chill)  
Duties: Sunday event curator.

### **CONSULTANTS**

- Francis McKee: (writer, lecturer, Head of New Media @ CCA)  
Duties: festival consultant.
- Josh HALE (PhD AI) - (Researcher , Glasgow University)  
Duties: academic consultant, conference curator.
- Willie Sullivan (Campaign + corporate affairs adviser)  
Duties: business + communication consultant.
- Guy VEALE (MA, promoter) Duties: Music consultant

### **OTHER COLLABORATORS:.**

- Caroline Darke (Mphil, 2D/3D motion graphics) - Access Project
- Once Were Farmers: (digital productions)- Duties: DVD authoring.
- Ben Longstaff (aka FI\$T): (graphic designer, printmaker)
- Rachel Graham: Glasgow School of Arts events convenor.
- Teresa Dillon (performer, Nesta futurelabs),
- Clem Cecil (The Times Moscow correspondent)
- Jay-go + Silo designs (the Chateau/ Pointless)

An online workgroup has been set to share resources and co-ordinate efforts since september 2003.



### **MACHINISTA.ORG TEAM**

The original Machinista organisers and new category supervisors.

#### ORGANISERS:

- Sergey Teterin: Media Artist and Curator from Perm.  
Festival director
  
- Danya Lebedev: co-ordinator, Fundraiser
  
- Danja Vasiliev + Sonia Mavzalevskaya:  
Web designers + support

#### CATEGORY SUPERVISORS:

##### 1: Machines as Artists

- James Coupe (UK) (AHRB funded Media Artist, senior lecturer at South Bank University)
- Roman Arefiev (KAZ) (Art manager/ programmer *for Soros center for Contemporary Arts*)

##### 2: Artists against Machinic Standards

- Maria X: (uk/ Greece)(Cyber-Theatre artist, Media Arts festival organiser/ *Fouros/ Medi@terra*)
- Rustam Sabirov (RU) (Editor of Moscow magazine *Fakel*)

##### 3: Full Screen Robovision

- David Bernard (uk/ Fra) (Audio-Visual instruments designer and performer/ *Pointless Creations*)
- Vadim Epstein (RU) (VJ and Video art curator)