



DOORS OF REGISTRATION FOR ISEA2014, NOW OPEN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN
THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

October 30 – November 8, main location Dubai

Zayed University will be hosting the 20th International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA2014) from 30 October to 8 November 2014 across the United Arab Emirates.

ISEA is the major annual nomadic international academic gathering of artists and scientists in the field of electronic and emergent arts. It has been held in 4 continents and over 20 cities world-wide, since 1988. It entails an academic conference, accompanied by a variety of art events such as exhibitions, concerts, performances, and public events. A number of workshops and tutorials aimed at finding the connections between East and West, local culture and modern media arts will be offered.

Keynote presentations will be given by leading professionals in the field of art, science and technology including:

- media archaeologist **Erkki Huhtamo**
- cultural theorist **Sally-Jane Norman**

The theme of ISEA2014 “*Location*” will focus on the following:

- ***Technology, Science, and Art: East Meets West***
- ***Emerging Economies/Emerging Identities***
- ***Nomadic Shifts & Digital Archaeology***
- ***Nomadic Highway—Bridging Media***
- ***Collaborative Spaces and Fibers & Sensory Mediation***

Over 200 scholars, artists, and institutions will present at ISEA2014’s academic conference. There will be more than 50 sessions and related events throughout the 3-day conference from 3 to 5 November.

A number of panel/research paper discussions will include:

“The Jazeera Al Hamra Digital Heritage Project: A Model for Digitally Preserving the Heritage of the Arabian Peninsula”; to be discussed by Seth Thompson.

“Enactive Affective Systems in Art and TechnoScience: Vital Experiences of Displacement in the City”; to be explored by Tiago Franklin Rodrigues Lucena, Cristiano Jacques Miosso and Diana Maria Gallicchio Domingues.

Questions of interaction and engagement in **“Locating East West Robot Culture”** will be looked at by Kirsty Boyle, Angela Ndaliansis and Leah Barclay.

“Maraya, where is here? reflections on practice-based research as engagement strategy”; to be presented by Glen Lowry, Henry Tsang, and M. Simon Levin.

Stahl Stenslie will present how mobile and ubiquitous technologies add new layers to the arsenal of medias potential for perceptual manipulation in **“Haptic Media Across Cultures.”**

Peter Anders, Edward Shanken, Christiane Paul, Oron Catts, Paul Thomas, and Brandon Ballengée will address the influence of scientific developments on art and the emergence of themes within the Art/Science genre in the panel **“Genesis: Trends and Trajectories within the Art/Science Genre.”**

In the stream of music and sound, Ricardo Dal Farra will be presenting **“The Echo Project** (where electronic art meets environmental actions)” and a listening room presenting **“Life Resistance”** and **“From Latin America to the Arab world** (building bridges with new music -a program of e-music from ten countries of Latin America created between 1957 to 2013). A presentation on **“Delocalized Pedagogy Through Digital Music Programming Instruction”** will also be given by Ajay Kapur.

In the context of the **ISEA2014 Education Forum**, the *Location* theme indicates a site of pedagogical variance including cultural similarities/differences, and diverse socio-political issues. Global education systems are presently under a considerable amount of pressure. The last decade has seen an exceptional interest and rapid growth in higher education in the Middle East. Several countries have invested in developing new or invited educational institutions from the U.S., Canada and Europe to establish local campuses. How should we define the ubiquitous process called the internationalization of higher education presently around the world?

For the full Preliminary ISEA2014 Conference Program see:

http://www.isea2014.org/files/contents/082014_SymposiumProgram_Web_Conference.pdf

Some background information is enclosed

ISEA2014, <http://www.isea2014.org>, [isea2014edu\[at\]zu.ac.ae](http://isea2014edu[at]zu.ac.ae)

Some more Background Information for the Press:

One of the dedicated themes, *Public Space: My Location, My Sense of Belonging*, recognizes the importance of public space and the interrelationship of art, technology, and design in the city. This program aims to discuss the role and influence of creative disciplines and technology on public interactions and the possibilities for enhancing urban spaces. This program will host a series of short paper presentations, poster presentations, workshops (2-3hrs) and public programming along with external events such as a public round table discussion on Public Space and Public Art.

ISEA2014 marks the 20th edition of the ISEA symposium and consists of three aspects of the peer-reviewed conference, juried exhibitions, and various in-conjunction and other partner events. As the conference will examine research and development, both locally and internationally, it is our intention, through the theme *Location*, to bridge and highlight ideas presented in previous editions, and to highlight local innovation or ideas that have made an impact in the United Arab Emirates.

ISEA2014 will present a unique experience for the presenters and attendees. The UAE is built on visionary thinking and explorative initiatives as its people thrive on the generation of new ideas and modern development. Its location creates a central ground for surrounding changes in the Middle East – culturally, socially and politically. With its focus on the burgeoning field of art and technology in the Arab World, it would provide a unique opportunity for ISEA to connect audiences and artists from the Middle East with the international art community.

