

Press Release



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**Internationally Recognized Boston Cyberarts Festival Comes to Waltham.**

**Waltham, MA** - The Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation is excited to participate in the Sixth Annual Boston Cyberarts Festival hosted April 24<sup>th</sup> through May 10. Working in cooperation with local Waltham artists Marjorie Minkin, Jamie Robertson, and Vermont artist and "Phish" band member Mike Gordon, and the Art and the Anthropology Departments of Brandeis University, the museum will host two art exhibits, an evening of performance art, and a major art installation on the falls of the Moody Street Dam.

The Sixth Annual Boston CyberArts Festival is a collaboration of 260 visual and performing artists, cultural organizations, educators, and high-technology professionals. The festival takes place at museums, galleries, theatres, schools, and public spaces in and around the Boston area, and online at [www.bostoncyberarts.org](http://www.bostoncyberarts.org). The biennial event has become an eagerly anticipated part of the Boston-area arts and technology scene. George Fifield, Director of Boston Cyberarts, noted: "The Boston area has been a center of art and technology for decades, since the pioneering work done by institutions like WGBH, Polaroid, and the MIT Media Lab. We're proud that for the past decade we have been able to shine a spotlight on both the rich history of art and technology, and on the visions for the future."

Art Exhibitions: April 24 – May 10

**"Another Side of In"** features the work of three Waltham based artists; Marjorie Minkin, Jamie Robertson, and the internationally recognized bass player of band "Phish," Mike Gordon. The installation consists of 5 36" x 30" Lexan wall sculptures. The custom designed embedded processing technology in each sculpture interacts with viewers in novel ways. Each piece can internally generate and alter sounds based on viewer proximity and communicate wirelessly to the other pieces. Information about viewer positions is also used to dynamically alter lighting, both on the individual pieces as well as in the entire space. The result is an experience that is interactive, non-repetitive, and driven by the participation of all the people in the space.

**“Go Modelmental!”** is an exhibition of Brandeis University student and faculty work exploring the increasingly complex interplay between the virtual and the actual through a blend of multimedia, digital, and traditional modeling techniques with an emphasis on 3D printing sculpture, installation, video and animation. The exhibit organized by Claudia Bucher includes work by Brandeis Fine Arts Faculty including Markus Baenziger, Claudia Bucher, Tory Fair, participation by the Brandeis Electro-Acoustic Music Studio (BEAMS), works by Eric Chasalow, Christian Gentry, James Borchers, and others, and animation from the Brandeis Computer Science Department. In addition to the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation space, a satellite exhibit will be hosted in the Lincoln Building on Moody Street, in Waltham.

April 24, 2009, 6:00 to 9:00 PM

**A Night of Performance Art and Exhibit Opening**

The Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation opens two interactive technology-based art exhibits as part of the 2009 CyberArts Festival. The event will include musical performances, and light refreshments. Admission to the opening is \$20.00; Brandeis student’s admission is \$10.00. Reservations required. For more information or to make a reservation call 781 893 5410 or email [elln@cmri.org](mailto:elln@cmri.org).

May 1, 2009 8:30 pm to 11:00 pm

**Memories of the Charles Waterfall Project.**

The Water Fall Project is a one-night experimental public art/public memory initiative. This interactive art installation, on display May 1, 2009 from 8:30 PM through 11:00 PM, is a complex series of still and moving images projected onto the Moody Street waterfall and the adjacent millpond. These digital loops, edited by students in Professor Mark Auslander's "Museums and Public Memory class" and the graduate program in Cultural Production at Brandeis University. Program move audiences through time and through different moments in the city’s rich and complex history. The waterfall, whose energy drove the creation of the American industrial revolution in the early 19th century, becomes a "portal" into the city’s past. Student-developed electro acoustical soundscapes, incorporating the class interviews with community members as well as the river’s diverse soundscapes, will accompany the video projection.

All events will take place at the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation, located at 154 Moody Street, in Waltham, MA 02453. General Admission to the museum is \$5.00 per adult, \$3.00 per child student or senior, children under 6 and active US military are free. The museum is open Thursday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. For more information call 781 893 5410 or visit [www.crmi.org](http://www.crmi.org)

**About the Artists:**

**Marjorie Minkin** was born in Cambridge, MA and received her art education at Skidmore College and The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. She has worked in studios at the Eclipse Mill in North Adams and in Waltham. Her abstract art experiments with color and with new plastics and acrylic resins including light reflective pigments. She has been featured in over 80 museums and galleries across the globe from Boston to Paris, to Seoul, South Korea, including Fontainebleau International Art Center, Macherin, France, Museum of Contemporary Art, Palm Beach, FL, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA, and more.

**Jamie Robertson** has over 28 years of experience designing and deploying electronic systems for the music technology and entertainment industries. He served over 10 years as a director of research & development for Walt Disney Imagineering, developing key technologies including the industry's first interactive digital audio system for roller coasters and theme park rides. Jamie has consulted with major music technology companies, designing hardware and software for milestone electronic musical instrument products, including the Synclavier Digital Music System, the Linn9000 drum machine and most recently a line of wireless musical keyboards for M-Audio. He has designed interactive exhibits for a number of museums, including the Boston Children's Museum and the New York Hall of Science. Jamie has a degree in physics and engineering, and is also an accomplished guitarist, composer and recording artist.

**Mike Gordon** was a college freshman when Phish was formed in 1983. Over the course of thirteen albums and thousands of concerts, the band earned a reputation for musical imagination, instrumental chops, and improvisation. By the mid-1990s Phish had become one of the top concert draws in the country. In 1994, Gordon directed the rock video, DOWN WITH DISEASE, and a short film, TRACKING, to accompany the release of Phish's "Hoist" album. In 1996, he began directing his first feature, OUTSIDE OUT, an "experimental narrative" which went on to win an Audience Award at SXSW 2000. After completing RISING LOW, a documentary about the sessions that produced the Gov't Mule album "The Deep End," Gordon collaborated with legendary guitarist, Leo Kottke; to record a duet album, "Clone." He also reworked the music from OUTSIDE OUT in order to produce a soundtrack CD, aptly titled, "Inside In."

**Claudia Bucher** is a Los Angeles based installation-performance artist with a practice spanning two and a half decades. Her work often explores ideas about embodiment and identity in relation to the culturally constructed environment while also investigating liminal boundary areas, such as those between human and nonhuman, synthetic and organic, animate and inanimate. She has an MFA from Art Center College of Design, a BS in Studio Art from Florida State University and has also studied at RISD and MIT's Center for Advanced Visual Studies. She is a recipient of a '06 Individual Artist Fellowship from the City of Los Angeles and a '08 Artist Resource Completion Grant from the Durfee Foundation. She has exhibited at the Getty, LACE, Track 16 Gallery, L2 Kontemporary and many other Los Angeles venues. Her work has been reviewed by the LA Times, the LA Weekly, Performance Research, Flash Art, Art Papers and artnet.com. She is currently Avnet Artist-in-Residence in Sculpture at Brandeis University.

**Mark Auslander** is Director of the interdisciplinary Master's program in Cultural Production and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology. He is a sociocultural anthropologist with strong interests in political and symbolic processes in Africa and the African Diaspora. He received undergraduate and graduate training in Anthropology at the University of Chicago. He has consulted at the Smithsonian on the "African Voices" exhibition project and worked on "Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America" (at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site in Atlanta). With his students and community members, he has collaboratively curated exhibitions of African and African American art, as well as family and cultural history. With his graduate and undergraduate students, he works closely with historically excluded communities in the greater Boston area and elsewhere to develop collaborative exhibition and cultural enrichment projects. Dr. Auslander also serves as coordinator of the Greater Boston Anthropology Consortium.

About the Museum: The Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation is located on the scenic banks of the Charles River in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Boston Manufacturing Company textile mill complex, on the National Register of Historic Places as America's first factory. The historic site has exhibits that allow visitors to explore the inventions that powered America into the modern-age - steam engines, generators, timepieces, machine tools, bicycles, automobiles, and hundreds of other gizmos. The museum also offers a memorable backdrop for unique social or corporate events and functions. For more information, please visit [www.crmi.org](http://www.crmi.org).

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