

# Computer Baroque: defining works in the history of digital moving image

An online exhibition - curated by Richard Wright - animateprojects.org until 14 July 2009



(Images: Polly Gone, Shelley Lake, Heliocentrum, Jason White & Richard Wright)

Animate Projects presents Computer Baroque, an online exhibition of films by pioneers of computer animation, hailing from the UK, US, Japan, France, Hungary, Australia and Canada. The programme includes works from the 1980s and 1990s, a period when artists undertook audacious experiments in technique.

Curator Richard Wright says, "Artists wanted to push the computer as far as it would go, to create visual transformations that defied previous traditions, to blend image, music and text, and to apply scientific ideas as new sources of inspiration."

The films range from earlier, technologically progressive works by Karl Sims and William Latham, to the more ironic and satirical works by Shelley Lake and the Butler Brothers. Plus, the programme includes work by Ruth Lingford (Professor of Animation at Harvard), and Oscar winner Chris Landreth.

The films can be seen online at animateprojects.org until 14 July. Programme notes and an essay by curator Richard Wright accompany the exhibition.

# Notes to editors:

### The sixteen films are available to watch online at animateprojects.org.

The Computer Baroque programme includes: Particle Dreams, Karl Sims Primordial Dance, Karl Sims Eggy, Yoichiro Kawaguchi Evolution of Form, William Latham Ex Memorium, Beriou The Garden (video version), Tamas Waliczky These are the Days, John Tonkin Data Driven: The Story of Franz K, Chris Landreth Neo Geo: An American Purchase, Peter Callas A New Life, Simon Biggs Maxwell's Demon, James Duesing What She Wants, Ruth Lingford Free Society, Paul Garrin Polly Gone, Shelley Lake The City is No Longer Safe, The Butler Brothers Heliocentrum, Richard Wright & Jason White

The programme was launched at Tate Modern, as part of the <u>Animation Breakdown</u> <u>Weekend</u>, 20-21 March 2009.

## **About Animate Projects:**

Animate Projects commissions artists to make work that explores the relationship between contemporary art and animation, for broadcast, gallery, cinema and digital exhibition. Over 100 groundbreaking films can be viewed on animateprojects.org, alongside interviews with artists, essays and other background material. Our recent projects include Primitive, a multi-platform project by Apichatpong Weerasethakul, and Jane and Louise Wilson's Unfolding the Aryan Papers, where the artists were invited to make a work in response to the holdings of The Stanley Kubrick Archives. In May 2009, we will be launching Engine, a new online space for critical debate and discussion across the broad range of moving image and digital creativity, supported by UK Film Council.

Animate Projects is funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and by Channel 4. Visit us at <u>animateprojects.org</u>

#### About the curator:

Richard Wright is a visual artist who has worked in animated media for nearly 20 years. His films include Heliocentrum (1995) and LMX Spiral (1998), both commissioned by Animate for Channel 4. His screensaver project The Bank of Time was nominated for a BAFTA in 2001. Since 2004 he has collaborated with Graham Harwood and Matsuko Yokokoji, initially as the artists' group Mongrel; their project Tantalum Memorial won the prestigious transmediale 09 Berlin award.

#### Further press information, preview copies, images and interview requests:

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