

JASON DAVID DITMARS

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BIOGRAPHY (ENGLISH)

Born in Los Angeles on April 24, 1971, Jason Ditmars has exhibited internationally since 1990. Using electronic technologies to bring interactivity to his sculptures, Ditmars focuses on the interface between the body and the machine, inviting you to engage both physically and intellectually with his objects. Sometimes crass and sparkly, sometimes elegantly functional, the installations create new and fantastic spaces. Jason has an MFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a BA from UC San Diego, and is now living and working in Berlin, Germany.

BIOGRAPHIE (DEUTSCHE)

Der am 24. April 1971 in Los Angeles, CA (USA) geborene Jason Ditmars stellt weltweit seit 1990 aus. Seinen Master of Fine Arts machte er 1997 an der School of the Art Institute of Chicago, seinen Bachelor of Arts: Visual Arts (Studio) 1993 an der University of California in San Diego. Darüber hinaus besuchte Ditmars das Pembroke College in Cambridge, England sowie das Studio Art Centers International in Florenz, Italien, über das er die Meisterwerke Michelangelos im Salle de Dessin im Louvre-Museum, Paris, studierte.

Zu seinen beruflichen Erfahrungen gehören fast ausschließlich Tätigkeiten, die sich mit dem Zusammenwirken von Kunst und Technik auseinandersetzen. So arbeitete er unter anderem als Labortechniker für elektronische Einrichtungen am The School of Art Institute Chicago, als freier Bauunternehmer zur Realisierung anderer künstlerischer Installationen, Ausstellungen und Performances und auch als Setdesigner und -konstrukteur am Redmoon Theater, Chicago. Spezialisiert auf computergesteuerte interaktive Installationen, gibt Jason Ditmars seit 1993 Unterricht und hält Vorlesungen zum Zusammenwirken von Technik und Kunst und in Grundlagen der Elektronik. Derzeit ist er als Dozent an der School of Visual Arts in New York City tätig.

EDUCATION

1995-1997 SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

Chicago, Illinois

Master of Fine Arts

Graduate Advisors: Jerry Saltz (Critic)

Chris Bratton (Video)

Werner Herterich (Performance)

Michael Myers (Performance)

Barbara DeGenevieve (Photography)

Shawn Decker (Art and Technology)

Vanalyn Greene (Video)

Steve Waldeck (Art and Technology)

1989-1993 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT SAN DIEGO

La Jolla, California

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Advisors: Alan Kaprow, Sally Ride, Kip Fulbeck, Italo Scanga, Patricia Patterson, Sheldon Brown

1992 PEMBROKE COLLEGE

Cambridge, England

Studied master drawings at British Museum & Fitzwilliam Museum

1991-1992 STUDIO ART CENTERS INTERNATIONAL

Florence, Italy

Studied master drawings at Gabinetto dei Disegni degli Uffizi, Florence, Italy

Studied Michelangelo drawings at Salle de Dessin, Musée Louvre, Paris, France

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- Time Going Backwards & Neon "B"*, Former headquarters of the East German state news agency ADN (Allgemeiner Deutscher Nachrichtendienst), Hugo Boss Party, 62nd Berlinale, Berlin-Mitte Feb. 15, 2012
- The Head*, Tape Club, Heidestrasse 14, Berlin Oct.7, 2011-
Feb.17, 2012
- Venus Pinball @ Tape Modern #19*, Tape Club, Heidestrasse 14, Berlin Jan. 14, 2011
Curated by Amir Fattal
- "Simultan" – Kunst und Schach*, Galerie Alte Brennerei, Kunstverein Ebersberg, DE July 10-31, 2005
Curated by Hannelore Sahn & Georg Schweiger
- Fakespace*, HERE Gallery, 145 6th Ave., New York, NY Jan. 20-Feb. 17, 2001
- JASON DITMARS: TheTerrible-Tempered Mr. Bang!* Mar. 19-July 30, 2000
Butler Institute of American Art, 524 Wick Ave., Youngstown, OH
Curated by Lou Zona
- ART2D2 Bathroom Installation*, HERE Gallery, 145 6th Ave., New York, NY Dec. 4-Jan. 8, 2000
- Exhibition 1998*, Northern Arizona University Art Museum, Flagstaff, AZ Mar. 26-May 22, 1998
- "Eat More..." Locker Installation*, Gallery 2, 847 W. Jackson, Chicago, IL Apr. 10-May 9, 1998
- "Fantasy" @ Emulsion*, Gallery B-12, 1645 N. Ivar, Hollywood, CA Oct. 17-Nov. 16, 1997
- Some Young Fun*, Richard Heller Gallery, Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, CA Sep. 6-Oct. 4, 1997
- Inter-penetration*, NIU Art Museum Gallery in Chicago, 215 W. Superior, Chicago, IL Sep. 5-Oct. 4, 1997
Curated by Marjorie Franklin
- Re:Degenerate*, Century Building, 202 S. State Street, Chicago, IL Sep. 22-27, 1997
Curated by Jason Ditmars & Jennifer Reeder
- Hybrid*, Gallery 2, 847 W. Jackson, Chicago, IL Sep. 5-Oct. 14, 1997
Curated by Annette Barbier, Paul Brenner, Simon Anderson
- BANG (Venus)*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL Apr. 5-19, 1997
Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition
- Virtual Wheelchair @ ARS Electronica 1996*, Hauptstrasse 2, Linz, Austria Aug. 7-14, 1996
- Cityspace & the Wheelchair Ramp Interface*, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA Dec. 3-9, 1995
- Virtual Wheelchair: A Change in Perspective*, San Diego Supercomputer Center, La Jolla, CA Sep. 9, 1995-1998
- Siggraph '95 Art Gallery*, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, CA Aug. 6-11, 1995
Curated by Ken O'Connell
- Siggraph '95 Interactive Communities*, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, CA Aug. 6-11, 1995
Curated by Coco Conn
- InSITE '94: Apparitions*, University Art Gallery, UC San Diego, CA Sep. 23-Oct. 30, 1994
A Bi-National Exhibition of Site-Specific Installation Art
- Jason Ditmars & Ronen Mintz: Computer Controlled Sculptures* Nov. 16-19, 1993
Mandeville Annex Gallery, La Jolla, CA
- Jason Ditmars & Ronen Mintz: Drawings & Sculptures from Italy* Feb. 16-19, 1993
Mandeville Annex Gallery, La Jolla, CA

<i>8 Large Drawings</i> , Roma Gallery, La Jolla, CA	Jan. 14-28, 1993
<i>3 Drawings and 3 Sculptures</i> , Studio Art Centers International, Florence, Italy	Apr. 18-25, 1992
<i>Italia - U.S.A.: Passion per l'Arte</i> , Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, Italy Curated by the Comune di Firenze	Mar. 20-Apr. 4, 1992
<i>Art-Making Machine</i> , Price Center Plaza, UC San Diego, CA	May 17-23, 1991

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder/Owner of <i>Ditmars Custom Signs</i> Custom microcontroller design, construction, and implementation for artists Aluminum, vinyl, & neon sign creation and installation	2003 -
Director of Technology, interactive scape GmbH (Berlin) Project Management, Elektronik Design & Construction, Concept & Research Facilities Management, Materials Ordering, CAD/CAM Design & Production Microcontroller Programming & System Design, on-site Installation (Paris)	Apr. 2009- Dec. 2009
Elektronik Design for Architectural Models, werk5 GmbH (Berlin) Electronic Design & Construction, Programming, on-site Installation (Dubai, NYC)	Aug. 2008- Mar. 2009
Instructor at Universität der Künste Berlin Taught workshops on Arduino Microcontrollers for Interactive Installations	May-Oct. 2008
Instructor at Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weißensee Teaching electronics design & construction classes in the Product Design Department	2006-2011
Faculty at the School of Visual Arts (New York City) Designed course curriculum and syllabi Taught various graduate and undergraduate classes in Art History, Electronics, & Computer Art Advised students on thesis projects, Maintained electronics facilities	1998 - 2004
Lab Technician: Electronics Facilities at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago Authorized students on MIG welder, mill, lathe, chopsaw, bandsaws, tapsets, Circuit board etching, drills, grinders, maintained facilities	1995-1997
Artist's Assistant to electronic artist Sheldon Brown, UCSD	1993-1994

SKILLS & PROFICIENCIES

Computer Software:

C Programming for Microcontrollers (Arduino & PIC Families)
 EAGLE 5.4 (CAD program for circuit design and production)
 Rhino 4.0 (CAD/CAM design for laser and milling machines)
 Adobe Graphic Design suite CS4 (Illustrator, Photoshop, Premier, InDesign, Dreamweaver)
 Microsoft/Open Office word processing and spreadsheets (Word/Writer, Excel/Calc)
 Inspiration 8 IE (block diagrams and flow charts)
 Point Grey FlyCap2 firewire camera capture & image manipulation
 Invision Power Board v2.1.7 (web publishing & administration, portal newsgroups & graphics, embedded objects)

Electronics & Hardware:

Custom circuit board design & fabrication; layout, lighting, etching, milling, stuffing, soldering
 Laser (Trotec) & milling (Isel CAM) machine operation
 PC Computer system & devices – building, installation & maintenance
 Infra-Red Lighting, LED lighting, CCFL fluorescent lighting, neon lighting – installation & maintenance
Construction work for Interiors: walls, doors, windows, mouldings, painting, electricity, lighting, plumbing
Metal shop: welding, cutting (table saw, miter saw, vertical bandsaw), planing, drilling, mill & lathe, grinding & filing
Foundry: bronze & aluminum traditional lost-wax casting, steel sand casting, patinas
Molds and casting: plastic, rubber & plaster mold-making, fiberglass casting, plastic vacuum forming
Signmaking: Design & layout, plotter/cutter software & hardware operation, vinyl weeding, vinyl application
Audio: Digital recording, engineering, mastering, CD production
Languages: English (fluent), German (proficient), Italian (novice)

MEDIA

"Festschrift 40 Jahre Schachunion Ebersberg-Grafing", edited by Georg Schweiger	Jul., 2005
"Moon Trip", by Bloater	Feb., 2003
"80% Other Fish", by Bloater	Mar., 2001
NY arts, "Mob Rule: The Heart of Things"	Apr., 1999
Williamsburg Weekly, "ArtSeen"	Feb., 1999
Rage Magazine, "The Buzz: Pin Balling"	Aug., 1997
F News Magazine, "Shopping in the Art Supermarket"	May, 1997
ARS Electronica 1996 Proceedings Catalog	Sep., 1996
"Cerberus Bites" CD by DOG FACE (Jason Ditmars & Tadd Fernée)	Aug., 1996
Chicago Tribune, "Science shaping art"	Apr. 21, 1996
London Sunday Times, "Safer virtual reality"	Mar. 17, 1996
Gather/Scatter, "SDSC Vislab supports higher end needs"	Dec., 1995
IEEE's Parallel & Distributed Technology Vol.3, No.4, "Virtual wheelchair"	Winter, 1995
Leonardo On-Line, Vol.3, No.9, "Siggraph '95 Art Gallery review" by A.Bureau	Sept., 1995
VISUAL PROCEEDINGS: Art and Interdisciplinary Programs of Siggraph '95	Aug., 1995
Siggraph '95 Multimedia CD-ROM	Aug., 1995
San Diego Supercomputer Center Image of the Week	Aug., 1995
San Diego Union Tribune, "La Jolla's InSITE works multifaceted"	Oct. 4, 1994
Apparitions Program	Sep., 1994
InSITE '94 Catalog & Review	Sep., 1994
Los Angeles Times CALENDAR, "Janos Negyesy still bucking the party line"	Nov. 7, 1990

REFERENCES

Dipl. Ing. Ulrich Mangold
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