Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation Ministry of Culture of Kaliningrad Region National Centre For Contemporary Arts (Kaliningrad Branch, Russia) National Art Gallery (Kaliningrad, Russia) Ford Foundation (The Moscow Office) The Dynasty Foundation (Moscow, Russia)



# evolution hautecouture

## искусство и наука в эпоху постбиологии art and science in the post-biological age

The National Centre for Contemporary Arts (Kaliningrad branch, Russia) and the National Art Gallery (Kaliningrad) presents the collection of the videodocumentaries of the art projects which use high technologies of the XXI century as a medium of implementation artificial life, robotics, and bio- and genetic engineering.

Project curator: Dmitry Bulatov

The National Centre for Contemporary Arts (Kaliningrad Branch, Russia)

#### **International Coordination Council**

- Roy Ascott, Professor of Technoetic Art, University of Plymouth, United Kingdom
- Dmitry Bulatov, Senior Curator, NCCA, Kaliningrad branch, Kaliningrad, Russia
- Oron Catts, Art Director, The Art & Science Collaborative Research Laboratory, The School of Anatomy & Human Biology, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
- Ken Rinaldo, Professor of Art & Technology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA
- Stephen Wilson, Professor of Art & Technology, The San Francisco State University, USA

FORD FOUNDATION

#### **Participating Artists**

Paula Gaetano Adi (Argentina) Mauro Annunziato & Piero Pierucci (Italy)

James Auger and Jimmy Loizeau (UK)

Brandon Ballengee (USA) Laura Beloff (Finland)

David Bowen (USA) Oron Catts and Ionat Zurr (Australia)

Adrian David Cheok (Singapore)

Carlos Corpa (Spain)

Critical Art Ensemble (USA)

Joe Davis (USA)

Marta de Menezes (Portugal)

Louis-Philippe Demers (Canada)

Erwin Driessens and Maria Verstappen (The Netherlands)

Tagny Duff (Canada)

Arthur Elsenaar and Remko Scha (The Netherlands)

Julie Freeman (UK) George Gessert (USA)

Ken Goldberg (USA)

Isa Gordon (USA)

Andy Gracie (UK) Paul Granjon (Wales) Mateusz Herczka (Sweden) Floris Kaayk (The Netherlands) Verena Kaminiarz (Canada) Leonel Moura (Portugal) Orlan (France) Nicolas Reeves (Canada) Julia Reodica (USA) Ken Rinaldo (USA)

Marcel.lí Antúnez Roca (Spain) Kathleen Rogers (UK)

Phill Ross (USA)

SymbioticA (Australia) and The Potter Lab (USA)

Stelarc (Australia) Paul Thomas (Australia)

Tanja Visosevic & Guy Ben-Ary (Australia)

Bill Vorn (Canada) Natasha Vita-More (USA) Adam Zaretsky (USA)

Press-conference 8 August 2008 at 4 p.m. Exhibition opening 8 August 2008 at 5 p.m.

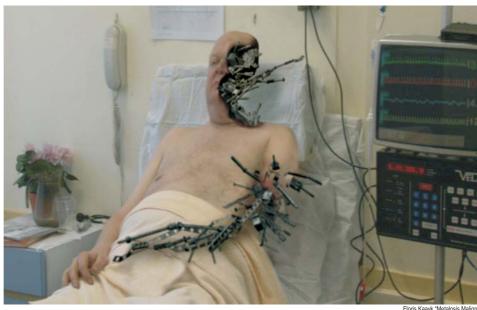
#### Welcome address:

- Elena Tsvetaeva, Director, National Centre for Contemporary Arts (Kaliningrad branch, Russia)
- Galina Zabolotskaja, Director, National Art Gallery (Kaliningrad, Russia)
- Rosa Hatskelevich, Vice-Director, Dynasty Foundation (Russia)
- Vitaly Patsukov, Senior Curator, National Centre for Contemporary Arts (Moscow, Russia)



National Art Gallery, Kaliningrad, Moskovsky prospekt, 60-62 Opening Hours: Tue-Fri 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat, Sun 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Mon closed Public Relations Department of KB NCCA tel. +7(4012) 595 109, tel./fax +7(4012) 595 105 pr@ncca.koenig.ru; www.ncca-kaliningrad.ru





Science may be the last remaining taboo in contemporary art.

#### About the project

What is radicalization and redundancy of technological and scientific progress? What is the evolutionary potential of the basic technological trends of the XXI century - robotics, bio- and genetic engineering, nanotechnology - like? Each of these trends actualize the traditionally formed boundaries of beginning and end of human existence, the demarcation of norm and pathology and the distinction of the non-(or semi-)organic model or entity. These - and many other issues - cannot be taken into consideration without the experience of contemporary techno-biological arts; the representatives of which do not so much confirm the technological versions of contemporaneity, as determine their boundaries. Art that is created under the new conditions of postbiology - under the conditions of an artificially fashioned lifespan - cannot help but take this artificiality as its explicit theme. However, time, duration, and life cannot be shown directly but only as documentation. The dominant genre of postbiological art is thus technological documentation: plans, drafts, and videos. It is precisely at this point where documentation becomes indispensable, and produces the life of the living thing: the documentation inscribes the existence of an object in history, and gives the object a lifespan which this existence (independent of whether this object was 'originally' living or artificial).

### The project is divided into several parts

- Artificial but Actual (Artificial Life)
- Limits of Modeling (Evolutionary Design)
- Shining Prostheses (Robotechnics)
- Body as Technology (Technobody modification, WearComp, Biomechatronics)
- More than a Copy, Less than Nothingness (Bio- and Genetic Engineering)
- Semi-Living (Tissue Engineering)
- Post-Sodom and Post-Gomorrah (Nanoengineering)

#### **Media Partners**

"Moscow Art Magazine" (Moscow, Russia) http://xz.gif.ru/

"Art" (Moscow, Russia)

"ArtChronika" Magazine (Moscow, Russia) http://www.artchronika.ru/index\_en.shtml

"NOMI" Magazine (St. Petersburg, Russia) http://www.worldart.ru/

"PH" PRO\_contermporary art edition (Kaliningrad, Russia) http://www.ncca-kaliningrad.ru/ph/

"ZA ART" Magazine (Yekaterinburg, Russia) http://www.zaart.ru/

Culture Information Agency (Russia) http://www.gif.ru/

ARTINFO Multimedia Publishers (Russia) http://www.artinfo.ru/

#### Credits

Idea of the project and sci-art-composition: Dmitry Bulatov

Video-engineering: Oleg Bljabljas

Sound: Danil Akimov

Exhibition design: Eugeny Umansky Design, logo, web: Pavel Saveliev Design, printing: Oleg Bljabljas Engineering: Eugeny Palamarchuk

PR: Anastasia Karpenko

Translations: Sergey Mikhailov, Eugeny Volkov, Tatiana Burikhina, Ekaterina Shamova