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Understanding the New Dynamic *Art, Technology & the Mind*

January 19-20, 2006
Cleveland, Ohio

Prospectus

Case Western Reserve University, working with the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Cleveland Institute of Art, the New Media Consortium, and others, is planning to convene an interdisciplinary group of thought leaders from the arts, cognitive sciences, technology, museums and education for an in-depth series of discussions intended to explore how recent developments in the arts and the cognitive sciences can inform how we apply technology to communication, to learning, and to creative expression.

The event will be held in conjunction with a major exhibition of digital art at the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, January 19-20, 2006, and will include three major components over two days, each of which will stimulate increasingly focused and substantive dialog around new ideas and possibilities emerging at the intersection of art, technology, and cognitive science.

The first component will be the launch of a major series of lectures in Cognitive Science sponsored by Case Western Reserve University. The opening lecture in this series will feature leading scientists and artists from around the world brought together for a live, interactive global conversation hosted by Merlin Donald, the new Chair of Cognitive Sciences at Case. The lecture will set the stage for the entire event, and provide an intellectual context for participants to draw upon as they attend the opening of a special exhibition of digital art curated by Margo Crutchfield of the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, and a special dinner dialog with the artists and museum community. The third component of the gathering, to be held all day Friday, January 20, will be an extensive interdisciplinary dialog intended to produce a road map for the continued exploration of the relationship between art, technology and cognitive science.

The specific goals of this third component are to:

- 1) foster high-level dialog and discussion;
- 2) agree on a common language that will encourage and support substantive discussion;
- 3) identify common ground amid the range of perspectives and viewpoints; and most importantly,
- 4) develop actionable recommendations that will inform continuing research and practice in this emerging and highly dynamic field.

Preparations for the event are well underway, and at the present time, the host institutions are working to identify the world-leading cognitive scientists, neuroscientists, technologists, museum and art educators, artists, authors, and thought leaders that will be invited to participate in the event. A planning committee of leaders in each of these fields has been recruited to help in this effort, with the goal of identifying the optimal participants. Nominations for participants are both solicited and encouraged.

For additional information, or to submit a nomination, please contact

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