

ISLA HANSEN & TUCKER MARDER

*with support from the UCLA Arts Initiative, UCLA Design Media Arts,
UCLA Art|Sci Center, and the UCLA Center for Musical Humanities
present*

ENGCONTERING THE UNSEEN

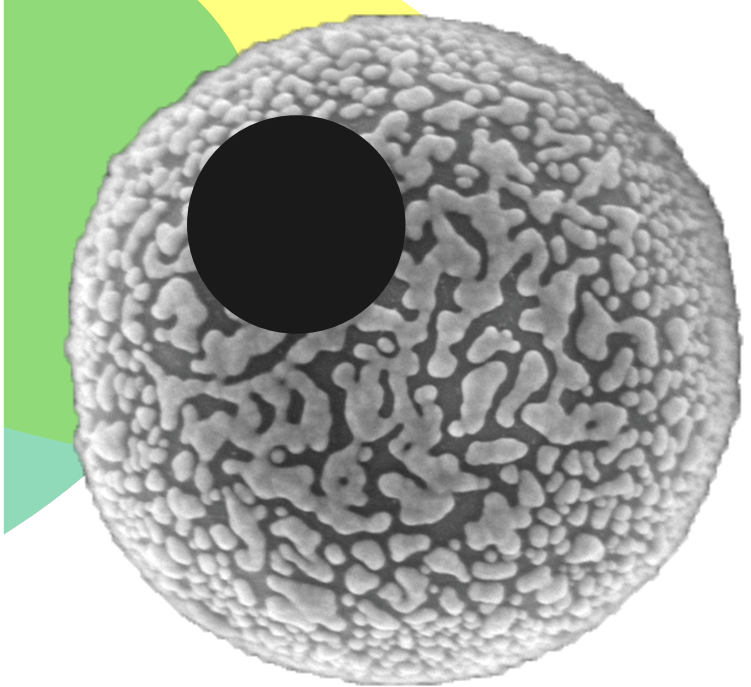
ARTIST-ACTUALIZED LECTURES ON TOPICS IN
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENGINEERING

JAN POPPER THEATER

MAY 19, 2019

Susan Simpson, Rachel Mason, Anna Wittenberg, Jonathan Moore, WeBreak ft. Chris Ebiya, Ervin Buenaobra, Alex Hok; Felipe Zapata, Jim Gimzewski, Mayank Mehta, Nandita Garud, Amir Sheikhi, Heather Lockie, Nigel Wilson, Haylee Nichele, Kevin Zambrano, and Clay Schmitt

JAN POPPER THE



ARTIST-ACTUALIZED LECTURES ON TOPICS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENGINEERING

THE UNSEEN ENCOUNTERING

FELIPE ZAPATA x SUSAN SIMPSON, accompanied by HEATHER LOCKIE

FELIPE ZAPATA Assistant Professor of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, UCLA
Felipe Zapata is director of the Zapata Lab at UCLA, a group of organismic biologists interested in understanding how biodiversity originates and evolves, with a special focus on plant biodiversity. In his work, Felipe integrates approaches from phylogenetics, ecology, evolution, genomics and computational biology in an effort to understand how species, genes and phenotypes originate and evolve in a changing world. Most of his work has focused on flowering plants from tropical and temperate South American forests and the California Floristic Province, including Southern California, a "biodiversity hotspot" for plant species. Before coming to UCLA, Felipe was an Assistant Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University. He completed his BSc in Biology at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia and received his PhD in Ecology, Evolution and Systematics at the University of Missouri St. Louis and the Missouri Botanical Garden. Felipe also did postdoctoral research at the University of California, Berkeley and Brown University.
<https://www.eeb.ucla.edu/indivfaculty.php?FacultyKey=11611>

SUSAN SIMPSON LA-based artist, Founder of Automata
Susan Simpson is a Los Angeles based, multidisciplinary artist and designer. Her practice includes puppet theater, dioramas and animation. She makes performances and interactive public art works that engage viewers in intimate viewing. Her works often investigate the history, mythology and social dynamics of the sites where they are located. Since 2004 she has been the Co-Artistic Director, of Automata, an organization dedicated to puppet theater and other lost and neglected forms, with a storefront theater in Chinatown. Original puppetry performances which Simpson design and directs have been presented at HERE in New York, The Museum of Jurassic Technology, The Santa Monica Museum, REDCAT, Automata among other venues. She has received funding from Creative Capital, The MAP Fund, The Center for Cultural Innovation, The Jim Henson Foundation, The California Community Foundation, The Durfee Foundation. She is a recipient of Center Theatre Group's Richard E. Sherwood Award. Simpson taught at CalArts 2000-2014.
Her writing has appeared in Puppetry International, Double, and Ecumenica.
<http://www.susanwsimpson.com>

HEATHER LOCKIE LA-based artist, musician, performer, composer
Heather Lockie is a performer-composer, teaching artist and visual artist based in Los Angeles. She plays viola and piano, writes songs, plays in several contemporary musical groups, writes and arranges music, teaches music, gardens, and uses paints for both fun times and for compositional work. She has a BA in Comparative Literature (French, English) from Occidental College and an MFA in music composition and viola performance from the California Institute of the Arts. Her latest project is called Marshweed, which released a cd called "Marshweed in the Garden" in 2017. Other recent projects include writing string arrangements, recording, and live playing for David Kendrick (DEVO, Sparks), OCS (These Oh Sees) and Cory Hanson (Ward). In the teaching world, her students are a continually important part of her life. Musically, she has played and toured as a backing musician with international artists including Syd Straw, Fun, Spiritualized, Arthur Lee/LOVE, Eels, OCS, Cory Hanson, as well as with various independent bands (Listing Ship, Leather Hymn, Wild Acoustic Chamber Orchestra). She has performed in a wide variety of musical venues that reflect the diversity of her musical output: the Royal Albert Hall in London, The David Letterman show, and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Museum of Jurassic Technology, The Hammer Museum, artist-run galleries and theaters, and various DIY spaces throughout America.
<http://www.heatherlockie.com>

JAMES GIMZEWSKI x ANNA WITTENBERG

JIM GIMZEWSKI Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry, UCLA
Jim Gimzewski is a Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at the University of California, Los Angeles, Faculty Director of the Nano & Pico Characterization Core Facility of the California NanoSystems Institute, Scientific Director of the ArtSci Center and Principal Investigator and Satellites Co-Director of the WPI Center for Materials NanoArchitectonics (MANA) in Japan. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society. Prior to joining the UCLA faculty, he was a group leader at IBM Zurich Research Laboratory, where he research in nanoscale science and technology from 1983 to 2001. Dr. Gimzewski pioneered research on mechanical and electrical contacts with single atoms and molecules using scanning tunneling microscopy (STM) and was one of the first persons to image molecules with STM. His past accomplishments include the first STM-based fabrication of molecular superstructures at room temperature using mechanical forces to push molecules across surfaces, the discovery of single molecule rotors. He also developed new micro-nano sensors based on nanotechnology, which explore ultimate limits of sensitivity and measurement. Recently his research has focused on self organization and emergent behavior using a device called the atomic switch network (ASN) which aimed at creating a synthetic neocortex using self assembly atomic switches that act as synthetic synapses. Dr. Gimzewski is also involved in numerous art-science collaborative projects that have been exhibited in museums throughout the world.
<http://jim.chem.ucla.edu/content/brief-bio>

ANNA WITTENBERG LA-based artist
Anna Wittenberg (b. 1985, Houston TX) is an interdisciplinary artist based in Los Angeles. She received her BA in Media Studies at Pitzer College in 2008 and an MFA in visual art at the University of California Riverside in 2017. Anna employs both installation and performance in association with video to explore the corporeal dimension of experience. Her work has increasingly focused on questions around performativity and interactivity, and their cultural and biological significance in today's highly mediated landscape. Many of her projects use video and sound to push, alienate or distance, and pull, draw-in or coax, in an effort to interrogate contemporary and historical cultural mores.
<https://www.annawittenberg.com>

MAYANK MEHTA x RACHEL MASON, accompanied by NIGEL WILSON, CHENHUI MAO, HAYLEE NICHELE, AND KEVIN ZAMBRANO

MAYANK MEHTA Professor of Physics and Astronomy, Neurology, Neurobiology, UCLA
During his PhD Mayank investigated the effects of quantum fluctuations on the structure space-time. His subsequent research has focused on understanding how the brain creates the perception of abstract space and time, out of concrete things like lights, sounds and smells. His theory suggests that the brain uses the same mechanisms to create other abstract perceptions such as the meaning and memory of a conversation, and other intelligent behavior. To test these theories, his laboratory measures the activities of many individual neurons simultaneously while the subjects are learning and during the subsequent sleep. They also use virtual reality to manipulate perception of space. This reveals surprising effects of virtual reality on neural dynamics and elucidates how brain rhythms coordinate activities of millions of neurons during behavior and during sleep to form lasting memories in normal humans and how this gets impaired in neurological diseases.
<http://www.physics.ucla.edu/~mayank/> @Neuro_Physics

RACHEL MASON LA-based video and performance artist
Rachel Mason is an artist, musician and filmmaker from Los Angeles. Her second feature film, Circus of Books, is a documentary about her parents' landmark gay adult video and magazine store and was acquired by Netflix after its world premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2019. Mason's work occupies the intersection between live performance of music, dance, and moving image with a focus on both satirical and alternative memories of historic events. In 2018 she created a piece for the REDCAT inspired by gravitational waves with dance artist, Oguni featuring interviews she conducted with CalTech's Kip Thorne and Rana Adhikari. As a songwriter, Mason has recorded 13 albums, has toured, exhibited sculpture, video and performance at the Whitney Museum, Queens Museum, LACMA, Detroit Museum of Contemporary Art, School of the Art Institute in Chicago, Henry Gallery in Seattle, James Gallery at CUNY, University Art Museum in Buffalo, Sculpture Center, Hessel Museum of Art at Bard and Occidental College, Kunsthalle Zurich, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, The New Museum, Park Avenue Armory, Art in General, La Mama, Galapagos, Dixon Place, and Empac Center for Performance in Troy among other venues. Reviews include New York Times, Village Voice, Los Angeles Times, Flash Art, Art in America, Art News, and Artforum. Her first feature film, The Lives of Hamilton Fish, toured festivals and museums internationally and was released
<http://RachelMasonArt.com>

NIGEL WILSON LA-based composer and sound designer
Nigel Wilson is a composer and sound designer living in LA. Between performance gigs he designs sound installations (virtual and tangible) and arranges for avant-garde chamber synth group, Bigg Booga.
@cakeflaps

HAYLEE NICHELE LA-based dancer, choreographer
Born and raised on the west coast of Canada, Haylee Nichelle received her early professional training at Art Umbrella (Vancouver, BC) and her post secondary training at The Julliard School (BFA, 2011). Haylee now works as a freelance dancer, teacher and actor in LA. She's worked for Punchdrunk's Sleep No More, Third Rail Projects Then She Fell, Brian Brooks Moving Company, and the Met Opera. In LA she was adjunct faculty at LMU, has danced for BODYTRAFFIC, ClairObscur, and Heidi Duckler Dance and has acted in both Legion and Chained: A Victorian Nightmare by Justin Denton.
<http://heididuckler.org>

KEVIN ZAMBRANO LA-based dancer, choreographer
Kevin Zambrano is a multidisciplinary artist, interested in storytelling through dance theater. Kevin is a Burbank native and BFA graduate from CalArts who teaches and coaches contemporary dance in the Los Angeles Area. During his time at CalArts, Kevin choreographed and directed three full-length works. The first premiered as part of the acting school's New Works Festival, the second earned him the CalArts Interdisciplinary Grant Award and the third was an hour-length solo performed by Kevin, premiering at REDCAT in LA. Kevin has studied dance at the Korean National University of the Arts in Seoul, the Centre national de la danse in Paris, under Ralph Lemon and Damien Jalet, and the Henry Juriens Studio in Amsterdam, under Andej Petrovic from the Akram Kahn Company. While overseas, Kevin presented his choreographic work Fregoli's Limbo at the Seoul International Choreography Festival in Korea and dance film, 012345, at

the Henry Juriens Studio Solo Concert in Amsterdam. In Los Angeles, he has worked with multiple dance companies including WeWolf, No(One) Arthouse, TL Collective, Szalt, Rosanna Gamson World/Wide, and Borderline Movement. In addition, Kevin has performed as a chimney sweep in the Soundsational Parade at Disneyland, for pop artists Charli XCX and Dorian Electra, at the Troubadour for PERTA, and in the dance film Metatronia, directed by Solange Knowles. He has assisted artists Bret Easterling of Batsheva, New York based choreographers Gerard and Kelly and CalArts Faculty Julie Bour. Kevin is interested in movement as a means of depicting the natural essence of the human being. The creature without ego. The creature without humility.
<https://www.kevinzambranodance.com/>

AMIR SHEIKHI x TUCKER MARDER and JONATHAN MOORE, accompanied by CLAY

AMIR SHEIKHI Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering, Pennsylvania State University
Amir Sheikh is currently a post-doctoral fellow in Bioengineering, working in the lab of Ali Khademhosseini. In August, Amir will begin a position as Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering at Pennsylvania State University.
<https://tissueeng.net/team/postdoctoral/amir-sheikhi/>

TUCKER MARDER LA-based Artist, Lecturer Design Media Arts, UCLA
Tucker Marder is an artist and filmmaker currently living in Los Angeles. Working in a wide range of mediums including puppetry, film and landscape design, Tucker uses humor and absurdity to promote an exuberant environmental ethic. He has exhibited at the National Aviary, Phipps Botanical Garden, and the Store Front for Art and Architecture. Tucker's performance "STAMPEDE!", comprised of over 200 live Crested Runner Ducks and large motorized abstract puppets premiered as part of the 2015 Parrish Art Museum's Road Show. In 2016 he was named a Redford Center Grant Honoree. Tucker co-directed the film "The Tree Prophet" which won the audience choice awards for short documentary at the 2018 San Francisco Independent Film Festival. He received his MFA from Carnegie Mellon University in 2016 and has been an artist in residence at the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation and SymbioticA at the university of Western Australia. Tucker is the founder of the Folly Tree Arboretum, a collection of over 200 rare and unusual trees intent on showcasing nature's sense of humor.
<https://www.tuckermarder.com/ABOUT>

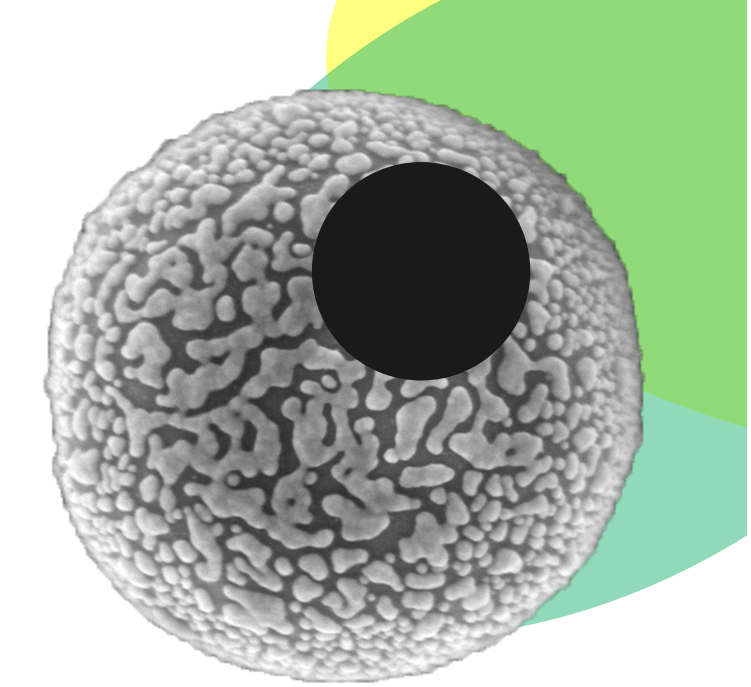
JONATHAN FLETCHER MOORE LA-based Artist
Jonathan Fletcher Moore is an LA based kinetic sculptor, filmmaker, and immersive installation artist. His practice uses robotics, performance, and cartoon horror to create immersive kinetic environments that examine collective anxieties surrounding innovations in automation, ai and the simulation of reality. His work often examines the performative labor of work and leisure within the everyday "non-places" of airports, corporate offices, and convenience stores. Moore's practice is heavily influenced by his past experience as an artist in the animation and advertising industries, and their connection to scripted space, the manufacture of desire, and utopian dreams of simulated paradise. His kinetic installations and performances explore themes of angst, uncertainty, and the blurring of reality in everyday life. Previously, Jonathan has worked as an artist, technical director, and creative technologist for DreamWorks Animation, Walt Disney Animation Studios, and various creative agencies. He is the 2019 recipient of the Japan Media Arts, New Face award. His art has been featured by Artillery Magazine, The Hammer Museum, Wired, Neural Magazine, Creative Applications, Juxtapoz, and Fast Company.
<https://www.polygonfuture.com/About>

CLAY SCHMITT LA-based musician / composer
Sound Designer, Creative Director for Canopy LA

NANDITA GARUD x WEBBREAK, ft. Ervin Buenaobra, Chris Ebiya, and Alex Hok

NANDITA GARUD Assistant Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA
Nandita Garud is an assistant professor in the department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UCLA. Her lab is focused on understanding how natural populations evolve. She has been focusing on evolution in two natural populations: bacteria in the human microbiome and *Drosophila melanogaster*. In recent work, Garud and her collaborators have quantified the evolutionary dynamics of roughly 40 prevalent species of gut bacteria. They have found that gut bacteria can evolve in humans in the space of just six months, but that over our lifetimes, the bacteria inside us are completely replaced. These results suggest that gut bacteria can evolve on timescales relevant to our health, but that they do not become so personalized that they cannot be replaced.
Before joining UCLA, Nandita completed her M.S. in Statistics and Ph.D. in Genetics at Stanford University. She later completed her postdoctoral work at the Gladstone Institute at UCSF.
<https://garud.eeb.ucla.edu/people/>

ATER MAY 19 2019



WEBREAK LA-based Hip Hop Dance Company
WeBreak Hip-Hop Dance Company is a mobile hip-hop dance company that prides ourselves on offering high quality breakdance classes for students of all shapes, sizes and colors! We are committed to leveraging the art form of breakdancing by teaching it's techniques, principles and values to our students. We recognize these values and have created programs for all ages that fosters and promotes proper breakdancing techniques, self confidence, discipline, self-expression, health & fitness and teamwork.
<http://webbreakdance.com/about/>

ERVIN BUENAOBRA LA-based dancer, choreographer, teacher
Ervin Buenaobra is a dancer, coach, Bboy, and choreographer. At the early age of 9, after attempting his hand at many different sports, Ervin fell in love with dancing. It was through the art of b-boying that he found true freedom of expression. Since then, Ervin has danced on Future Shock Los Angeles, Cerritos All Male, Pac Modern, and now Family Bizzness in Alhambra, CA. Ervin is currently a hip-hop instructor at WeBreak, Quest and an active coach for Cerritos DDT and Tetzlaff MS Dance Team.

CHRIS EBIYA LA-based dancer, choreographer, teacher
Chris Ebiya is an Artist and Entrepreneur. Chris grew up in Inglewood, and the circumstances surrounding his hard up-bringing inspire his work in Dance, Music, Clothing and his Hip Hop Culture Collective brand *Urban Influence*. Chris is a manager instructor at Webreak, a mobile hip hop dance school, where he is dedicated to positively impacting youth. Chris is Currently a Hip-Hop Instructor at Webreak and owner of Urban Influence.

ALEX HOK LA-based dancer, choreographer, teacher
Chris Ebiya is a dancer, choreographer, and instructor for WeBreak Hip Hop Dance Company.

PRODUCTION
Producer, organizer, curator of event
ISLA HANSEN Assistant Professor Design Media Arts UCLA
Isla Hansen is an artist working to reinterpret and complicate the relationship between the human body and technological progress. Her solo and collaborative installations, systems, and performances have been exhibited at the Akron Art Museum, the Columbus Museum of Art, MoCA Cleveland, the Hammer Museum, the Parrish Art Museum, Guild Hall Center for Visual and Performing Arts, and the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. Isla has been the recipient of numerous grants and awards, including a Robert Rauschenberg Foundation Residency, the Dedalus Foundation Master of Fine Arts Fellowship, the American Austrian Foundation Seebacher Prize for Fine Arts, and has been the recipient of multiple Frank-Ratchyve Fund for Art at the Frontier grants from The Studio for Creative Inquiry. Isla was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and received her BA from Columbia University and her MFA from Carnegie Mellon University's School of Art. She currently lives and works in Los Angeles, where she is an Assistant Professor in Design Media Arts at UCLA. In fall of 2019 she will begin a position as an Assistant Professor at the School of Art at Carnegie Mellon University.
<http://islahansen.com>

Production assistant
IVANA DAMA
Ivana Dama studies Design Media Arts at UCLA's School of Arts and Architecture. Born and raised under a post-communist regime in Serbia, Ivana explores the infusion of technology with traditional art practices. While only a young child when the bombings began, images of the destruction still clearly permeate her mind. The memories of living in a small shelter, with the sounds of bombs and vibrations, contributed to her interests in sound and space ranging from microscopic, architectural, and satellite scale. Ivana uses the variety of mediums including audio visual installations, metal engraving as well as a range of open source software for creative coding.
<https://www.vivanadama.com>

<https://www.annawittenberg.com>