



Epiphyte Chamber (2013). Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art. Seoul, Korea. Credit : PBAI © 2013

Distinguished Speakers Series

PHILIP BEESLEY :

CONDENSING AND DIFFUSING ARCHITECTURE

Public Lecture

May 7th, 2015

6-8pm

Hexagram – Black Box

Concordia University

EV 0S3-845/855

1515 Saint-Catherine St. West

Free Admission

In English

As part of *Place, Architecture, and Responsive Environments* (P.A.R.E) – a three-week research-creation residency hosted by the Topological Media Lab (TML) of Concordia University – Hexagram Distinguished Speakers Series in collaboration with the TML is proud to present world renown architect and installation artist, Philip Beesley.

Beesley will present recent work by the Living Architecture Systems group from Waterloo. The collective combines the crafts of lightweight textile structures, dense arrays of distributed computer controls with machine learning, and early systems of artificial-life chemistry. New architectural installations within the collaboration feature dense reticulated grottos with breathing, reactive, near-living qualities. Thin layers of voided hovering filters are tuned for delicate kinetic and chemical responses taking the form of expanded physiologies, sharing space with viewers.

Biography

Philip Beesley is a professor in the School of Architecture at the University of Waterloo. A practitioner of architecture and digital media art, he was educated in visual art at Queen's University, in technology at Humber College, and in architecture at the University of Toronto. His Toronto-based practice PBAI is an interdisciplinary design firm that combines public buildings with exhibition design, stage and lighting projects. Beesley's work contemplates the ability of an environment to be near-living, to stimulate intimate evocations of compassion with viewers through artificial intelligence and mechanical empathy. The conceptual roots of this work lie in 'hylozoism', the ancient belief that all matter has life. His work was selected to represent Canada at the 2010 Venice Biennale for Architecture, and he has been recognized by the Prix de Rome in Architecture, VIDA 11.0, FEIDAD, two Governor General's Awards, Architizer A+ Art Award and as a Katerva finalist.

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www.philipbeesleyarchitect.com

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Distinguished Speakers Series is one of Hexagram's public events which eminent figures in the field of media art and digital culture are invited to participate through events of presentation and exchange. Visiting lecturers conduct a public lecture and a graduate student seminar/workshop.

TOPOLOGICAL MEDIA LAB
 Research Atelier-Lab at Concordia University