

ETIENNE REY, Biography

Artist / Sculptor

Master's degree graduate in Visual Arts, at the Aix-en-Provence University, and **Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture** specialized in digital creation from the GAMSAU laboratory (Research group for the application of scientific methods in architecture and urbanism).

Works with ZINC/ECM Belle de Mai, since 2001, as a visiting artist at *la Friche la Belle de Mai* (a multidisciplinary artistic centre in Marseille).

Etienne Rey's chosen artistic fields lie at the intersection of sound, space and the sculpture. It is these dimensions that constitute the primary elements, the raw material, enabling the construction of evolving forms.

All of Rey's work pursues one single objective: to approach our world from a phenomenological perspective so as to reveal organizing principles and generic relationships. It is, moreover, a principle of coexistence that every element or entity is in relation with, and acts on its surroundings, just as its surroundings, in turn, act on it. The aim, therefore, is to uncover these organizing principles, these mutually responsive mechanisms, through their interrelationships.

The question of interrelationships is at the heart of his artistic process and is expressed through collaborative work with musicians, engineers, researchers, who also transpose a type of writing process.

The first stage of his work revolves around the question of interactive writing. In this process, three artworks led to the creation of an artificial intelligence motor, which links social intelligence to movement and sound generation.

The second stage, which started in 2007, brings together matter with a virtual dimension. It invites us into this system, to play out our perceptions in order to question the relationships we have with the world. These relationships are based on principles of coexistence founded on our presence as well as our actions.



Diffraction (detail) 2009 / photo by Pierre Gondrard

Etienne REY / atelier des Ondes parallèles / Friche la Belle de Mai
41 rue Jobin 13331 Marseille cx 3
etienne.rey@lafriche.org

www.ondesparalleles.org

Projects/Creations

diffraction 2008 2009



model diffraction / expérimentation volume 1, dimensions 6m/3m/2m. Ph. Pierre Gondard

diffraction, in a state of weightlessness, stopped clear in its progress, revealing each and every color of the chromatic circle. This plastic installation involves phenomena of resonance and light reflection.

The installation Diffraction is protean; each angle of exposure allows you to discover and experience a new shape (burst of light, echo, vortex, explosions...) questioning space, gravity, and perception.

Production : ZINC, Mécénat Cabus & Raulot, Philips

delay~ 2007 2008

delay~ means echo chamber in English and ~ is the symbol for sound
Variable dimensions, for a space from 300 to 600 m²



At the interface between the virtual and the physical, this installation combines various phenomena involving sound, light and vibrations that make contact, come to life, in order to reveal, through energy flows, our minute, even invisible, different coexistences with space.

An ever-expanding installation that makes use of space, matter, biological phenomena and thought, a system at the intersection of objects and beings, *delay~* expands to inhabit spaces. It is made up of vibratory elements, of lights, water and sounds.

This installation amplifies, transmits, coexisting sensory relationships so that objects and beings come into contact. At the junction between matter, senses and thought, this creation is both universe and organism.

delay~ inhabits spaces. Threads, stretched out like a spider's web, create a spatial network. The installation fills the exhibition space, creating resonances with existing spatial volumes.

Various elements - glass balls filled with water, mirrors, magnets – are suspended in mid-air, separately or together, according to the form of the network. Whether static or moving, their weight pulls them towards the ground, but they remain in suspension. The magnets are the driving force, generating movement through variations in the magnetic field and causing the air-borne web to oscillate.

All these elements in suspension are driven by the contact that they have with the ground. By generating vibratory, oscillatory movements, the ensuing variations illustrate the relationships, which coexist between the pieces that make up the installation.

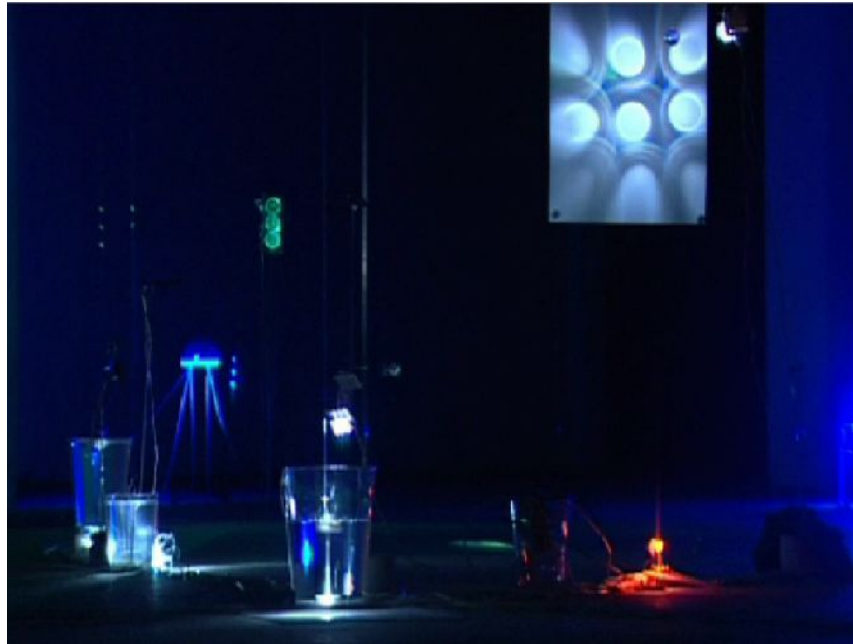
Different volumes are to be found on the floor: some to do with sound, others light, moving or static... All the elements are composed, organized, following certain principles of connection that mark the points of impact, the connecting paths between concomitant or distant elements.

The movements originate from variations in the environment: human movements, sounds emitted in the area surrounding the installation are picked up and generate frequencies. Some variations act on all the elements. Others are more local, smaller, and act in a limited space.

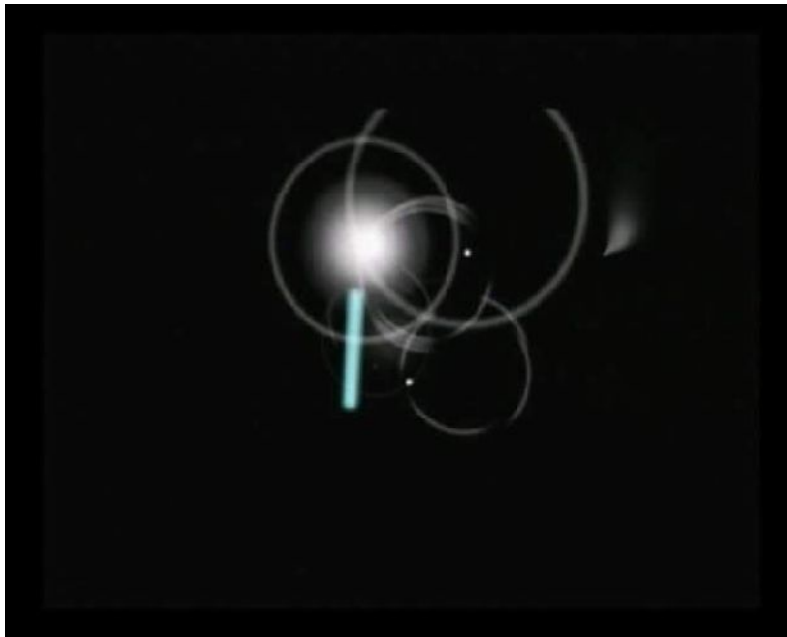
All these relationships are active and uncover similarities, between thought and perception, between the biological and the material, the physical and the psychological.

Tiny phenomena are amplified and contribute to the meeting of physical and imaginary environments. The piece is concerned with linking the everyday, that which is present permanently, with parallel visions, other possible states.

delay~ explores and exhibits the space in between beings and things.



mille mondes 2004-2007



mille mondes with Alice Keller

Following on from the approach developed in *dirigeable*, *mille mondes* examines sound generation through the links between artificial intelligence and real-time sound creation.

In creating *mille mondes*, Rey was also concerned that his approach should meet and overlap with that of other artists interested in these questions. *mille mondes* received funding from CNC for the first two residences.

mille mondes is a journey through virtual worlds inhabited by intelligent artificial creatures. These entities each have both sound and gestural identities and tend towards socialization. They are aware of each other, are attracted to one another, reject each other, their energy fluctuates depending on their mood and their main aim consists of expressing their musical qualities together.

www.millemondes.org

Production : ZINC, CECDC, 3bisF, CAC musique, CNC Dicréam



mille mondes with Lydwine van der Hulst

Phytosphère 2005



A generative installation, modified version of dirigeable. A plastic and sound creation, **phytosphère** is based around the hypothetic tones, which could be generated by microscopic underwater plants' activity.

Production : ZINC, Système Friche théâtre, Euphonia

dirigeable 2001-2003



dirigeable, a multi-media installation which questions the relationship between the notions of interactivity and generativity with the production of sounds, a sound-language.

The *dirigeable* project was formed around a production team including various partners (Euphonia and the CNRS, equivalent to SERC in Great Britain or NSF in the USA) and resulted in the creation of an installation exhibited on several occasions at the Friche la Belle de Mai and at several festivals (Imagina, Arborescence, Villette Numérique/Emergence).

Production: ECM, Système Friche théâtre, Euphonia, CNC Dicréam, In partnership with the oceanographic institute of Villefranche-sur-mer.

www.dirigeable.org

Collaborations :

Musicians, artists: eRikm, Lucien Bertolina, Fabrik, Alice Keller, Yann Norry, Lydwine Van der Ulst, Scanner...

CNRS Laboratory: Oceanographic Observatory of Villefranche-sur-Mer, Professor Gabriel Gorsky

Technological University of Compiègne: Indira Touvenin, Réalité virtuelle

Engineers/developers: Julien Chemet, Nicolas Lesbats, Thibaut Lefèvre

Seminars:

Ingémédia, Digiart, Toulon, November 2007

Art and new media, Marseille, June 2006

Web cast Fnac digitale, Paris, October 2005

Art and new media, Marseille, March 2004

Colloquium CNC DICREAM, Paris, September 2004

Arborescence, Aix-en-Provence, September 2003

Co-producers:

ZINC / ECM (Multi-media Cultural Space) Belle de Mai

SFT (System Friche Theatre)

Euphonia (Sound creation, radio creation)

CECDC (European Centre for Cultural Creation and Development)

3bisF (Contemporary arts space)

Patrons: Cabus & Raulot / Philips

Exhibitions:

Residence and exhibition at NRA Marseille (specialist lighting company), November/December 2008

Ososphere Festival, exhibition of delay~, La Laiterie, Strasbourg, September 2008

Seconde Nature Festival, exhibition of delay~, Friche la Belle de Mai, Marseille, June 2008

Seconde Nature Festival, performance Cie C. Haleb La Zouze delay~, Friche la Belle de Mai, Marseille, June 2008

Les Fées d'hiver [Winter fairies], festival Le cauchemar de la primevère [the primrose's nightmare],

Embrun, April 2008

Duplex Gallery, Toulouse, February-March 2008

Illumination, Energy and Electricity, Santral Istanbul, Istanbul, November 2007

Cité du Livre Aix-en-Provence, September 2006

Residence and exhibition at 3bisf, Aix-en-Provence, January/June 2006

Salon Linux, Paris, February 2006

Videomunuto, Florence, September 2005

Digitalemeute [digitalriot], Territoires électroniques [Electronic territories], June 2005

Biche de Bère Gallery, Natural digital, Paris, May/June 2005

Norapolis Festival, Metz, April 2005

Fnac digitale, Paris, October 2005

Biopicture Festival, Marseille, October 2004

Villette numérique / émergence [digital / emergence], Paris, September 2004

Champ Libre Festival, Montreal, September 2004

Agora des Sciences, Marseille, September 2003, February 2004

Arborescence Festival, Aix-en-Provence, October 2003

Jarring Effects, Friche la Belle de Mai, April 2004

RIAM (Research and Innovation in the audiovisual and multimedia) Conference, April 2003

Imagina, Monaco, February 2003

Cabaret aléatoire [Aleatory/Random Cabaret], Friche la belle de Mai, Marseille, January 2003