

L'Œuvre Ouverte : An Open Source Electronic Art
International Festival in Montreal

L'Œuvre ouverte | PureData* Convention 07
Tuesday August 21st to Sunday August 26th, 2007

www.pure-data.ca

Montreal, August 7th - The 2nd international PureData convention, held in Montreal from the 21st to the 26th of August 2007 will animate the city's electronic art scene. The Society for Art and Technology [SAT], McGill and Concordia universities, Oboro and StudioXX will be the hosts of this gathering of the PureData Free and Open Source Software art community.

L'Œuvre ouverte will include the work of more than seventy artists, musicians, developers and theoreticians from over 10 countries, much of which will be seen in Montreal for the first time. The event is organized by the **PureData Convention Collective** with the help of the Montreal Pure Data community, one of the most prominent and active Free and Open Source Software art community in the world.

With a rich program including installations, audio-visual performances, conferences and workshops, **L'Œuvre ouverte | PureData Convention '07** will be a great opportunity to experience Free and Open Source electronic art culture and meet the communities that surround it.

THE EXHIBITIONS

The central exhibition site, on the main and lower floors of the SAT, will house nine installations selected by curator Marc Fournel and the Convention's artistic committee. Each of these multimedia installations integrates the PureData programming language. Some artists such as Lorena Salomé (CA), with **Untitled (solenoids)-v2**, and Erki De Vries & Tim Vets (BE), with **Poltergeist**, use the software to control motorized objects while others such as Ben Bogart (CA), creator of **SOOS1 (Self-Other Organizing Structure #1)**, uses it to modulate image and audio content. The two above mentioned works are installed in the front windows of the SAT, visible from the street. **Unité 1**, an interactive sound installation by Jérôme Abel (FR) is presented in the Parc de la Paix, next to the SAT, on St. Laurent Boulevard. The exhibition will be open from the 22nd to the 26th of August. The opening is on Wednesday August 22nd, at 7pm, at the SAT.

Parallel to the main exhibition, Videographe presents **Auditory Tactics**, by Philippe-Aubert Gauthier and Philippe Pasquier. This public art work is a interactive sound installation consisting of a network of sixteen speakers which allow for audio beams to be controlled, creating a spatialization effect. The work is situated in the hallway on the main floor of Concordia University's EV building, at the corner of Guy and St. Catherine streets. This exhibition will be open from August 22nd to September 22nd, 2007. The opening will take place on Wednesday August 22nd, at 5pm.

THE PERFORMANCES

During the evenings of August 21st, 22nd and 24th, at the SAT café, **L'Œuvre ouverte** will present nine sound and multimedia performances. Performers, such as Dan Wilcox (USA), creator of **Robotcowboy** and Georg Holzmann (AT), creator of **The Electronic Unicorn**, work as both musicians and electronic instrument makers and build their own interactive and wearable interfaces. These two performances will be presented on August 21st, at 9pm. On the 22nd of August, Montreal artists Thomas Ouellet Fredericks and Danny Perreault will present **Tvestroy**, an electrovideoacoustic performance that makes use of televisions to generate sound and images. On the same evening, the legendary Convolution Brothers (Zack Settel (CA), Cort Lippe (USA), Miller Puckette(USA)) will unload their frequencies by presenting the **Convo. Bro's Guide to Live Performance**. On Friday August 24th, at 9pm, **L'Œuvre ouverte** will present Sven König's (SUI) mindblowing performance **sCrAmBlEd?HaCkZ!** and Frank Barnecht's (DE) performance **Faltig**, as well as **Music for Solo Performer** (Alvin Lucier 1965), a piece performed by Maxime de la Rochefoucauld (CA) and Andrew Brouse (CA), that transforms EEG signals from the human brain to create new sounds and compositions. Entry to all performances costs 5\$ at the door and is free of charge for those registered for the convention.

In addition to this series of performances, **Takeover** by Tristan John Evans (UK) with pianist Pamela Reimer, will be presented on Wednesday August 22nd, at 1pm, at Tanna Schulich Concert Hall of McGill University's School of Music. This score for this work has been composed with the aid of a computer.

THE CONFERENCES

Over 25 conferences will be presented at McGill University between the 22nd and 25th of August. The presentations, divided into six sections, have been selected by an international jury coordinated by Andrew Brouse. The first three days of conferences will be presented at Tanna Schulich Concert Hall under the themes of: Performative Strategies and Art Aesthetics Theory [August 22nd]; Core Hardware and Software [August 23rd]; Virtual Environments and Extensions to PureData [August 24th]. The final day of the conferences, addressing the theme of Generating and Managing Complexity [August 25th], will take place at McGill University's Pollack Hall.

The **PureData Convention 07** will be opened on the 21st of August by keynote speaker Miller Puckett, the initiator of PureData, who will present the current state of the arts of the software and its community. During the Convention, participants will have the opportunity to attend presentations including those by IOhannes M Zmölzig (AT) on collaborative programming with PureData, by Alejandra Maria Perez Nunez (CL) on PureData as a feminist tool for meaningful learning and by Edward Kelly (UK) on a new approach to polyphony in PureData.

THE WORKSHOPS

The **PureData Convention's** seven workshops will be hosted at Oboro and StudioXX, local artist run centers situated at 4001 Berri street. Open to convention participants, these practical workshops present diverse techniques and tools for PureData. Bobbi Kosniuk (CA) will present a workshop on the use of sensors data and USB devices. As well, three active members of Pdmtl (our regional PureData users group); Patrick Coulombe, Alexandre Quessy and Thomas Ouellet Fredericks will present the PD MTL library of abstractions.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

The **PureData Convention 07** will also present a number of special activities such as roundtable discussions and a "coding spree", a collective programming gathering in the SAT café, on August 25th, from 1:30-7pm. From 1pm to 9pm on the same day, the public is invited to visit the installations and meet with the artists and the curator of the **L'Œuvre ouverte** exhibition. On the evening of August 25th, all are invited to the closing party at Espace B, 6545 Durocher avenue, Suite 401. The entrance price is 5\$ at the door and free for those registered for the Convention.

In addition to these activities, the Convention will co-host special editions of local monthly gatherings. **ShareMTL** will be presented on the 23rd of August at 8pm in the Parc de la Paix, next to the SAT. **MixSessions** will take place following the ShareMTL event on the 23rd of August from 11pm to 2am at the SAT. **Dorkbot** will be held on Saturday, August 25th from 3pm to 5pm at the SAT.

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***PureData** is a graphical programming language dedicated to the creation of real-time computer music and multimedia works. It is freely distributed on the web and maintained by Miller Puckette, associate director of CRCA (Center for Research in Computing and the Arts) at the University of California. PureData is an Open Source software with a community of developers and users who take part in creating new objects and contribute to the improvement of its general functionality. Other users - artists and creators - use it as a new technological and aesthetic tool for audio and video performance and interactive installations. For more information visit: <http://puredata.org/>

L'Œuvre ouverte | PureData Convention '07 is an initiative of the **PureData Convention Collective**: Andrew Brouse, Alexandre Castonguay, Marc Fournel & Darsha Hewitt. The collective acts as the organizational committee with the help of Dr Ichiro Fujinaga and Martin Renaud.

PureData Convention Collective gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Canada Council for the Arts, le Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and the Fondation Langlois.

PARTNER ARTIST-RUN CENTERS

Artengine is a non-profit, artist-run centre that fosters democratic and innovative approaches to electronic art and its evolving relationship to society. <http://www.artengine.ca/>

Oboro is an artist centre that favours the development of art practices locally, nationally and internationally. OBORO's sphere of activity encompasses visual and media arts, new technologies, new performing arts and emerging practices. <http://www.oboro.net/>

The Society for Arts and Technology [SAT] is a transdisciplinary centre dedicated to research, creation, production, presentation, education and conservation in the field of digital culture. <http://www.sat.qc.ca/>

StudioXX is a feminist digital art centre for technological exploration, creation and critique that highlights the territories, perspectives and creative actions of women in cyberspace and aims to demystify and deconstruct digital technologies by critically examining their social and cultural aspects. <http://www.studioxx.org/>

Vidéographe is an art centre dedicated to the creation, diffusion and distribution of independent media art. Its mission is to encourage innovative practices in media arts: video art, documentaries, shorts and new media and interactive installations. <http://www.videographe.qc.ca/>

COLLABORATORS

ShareMTL is an open jam, not just for digirati, but for all new culture lovers. Participants bring their portable equipment, plug into our system, improvise on each others' signal and perform live audio and video. We bring the amplification and projection, you bring your creativity. <http://www.videographe.qc.ca/share/index.htm>

MixSessions is a DigitalLab for audio and video artists:: we organize an evening party every month (or so):: these nights are an initiative from VJs or Djs in collaboration with other artists from MixSessions or from outside... :: we are open to senior as well as newcomers:: MixSessions is a new expression platform for audio and visual languages...SAT[MixSessions] is a place for meeting and exchanging ideas between djs/musicians & vjs [Live Visuals Performances]. Produced and proposed by the artists, in collaboration with the SAT, the [MixSessions] are held at the SAT. <http://www.mixsessions.net/>

The purpose of **Dorkbot-mtl** is to:

- establish a forum for the presentation and promotion of new art works /technology /software /hardware.
- help establish relationships and foster collaboration between people with various backgrounds and interests.
- give artists/programmers/engineers an opportunity for informal peer review
- give us all a chance to realize our weirdest electrical ideas

<http://dorkbot.org/dorkbotmtl/>

ACADEMIC PARTNERS

Concordia University | Design and Computation Arts |
<http://www.concordia.ca/>

McGill University | Schulich School of Music |
<http://www.mcgill.ca/music/schulich>

Ontario College of Art and Design | Integrated Media |
<http://www.ocad.ca/>

University of Plymouth | Interdisciplinary Centre for Computer Music Research |
<http://cmr.soc.plymouth.ac.uk/>

Université catholique de Louvain | Communications and Remote Sensing Lab |
<http://www.tele.ucl.ac.be/>

University of Ottawa | Visual Arts Department |
<http://www.visualarts.uottawa.ca/>