

Le Musée  
d'art contemporain  
de Montréal

presents

TURBULENCE<sup>2</sup> series

3<sup>rd</sup> edition

0100415  
2003

# artificiel

Digital Creation – Sonic Art  
November 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2003 at 9 p.m.



MUSÉE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN DE MONTRÉAL  
Québec



# Turbulences 1

Wednesday, November 5  
9 p.m.

Artificiel, Montreal

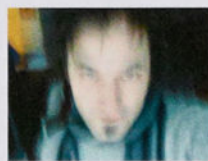
Dj-FM, Montreal

Iconoclastic playwright, director and composer Jean-Frédéric Messier stands out for the originality of the various "worlds" he creates.

Jaroslav Kapuscinski, Stockton, California  
5 CONVERSATION PIECES

"I am particularly interested in working the poetry that emerges BETWEEN aural and visual layers."

Artificiel, Montreal  
Free experimentation



Jean-Frédéric Messier



Jaroslav Kapuscinski

TURBULENCES SERIES

Sound exploration  
Experimental music  
Digital creation

Throughout November 2003, the MACM's Beverley Webster Rolph Hall will be transformed into a realm of sound exploration. Artists prominent on the local and international scene — experimental musicians and composers — will investigate the acoustic potential of the "Bulbs Project", a device created by Artificiel.

Artificiel is the name used by Alexandre Burton, electroacoustic composer and digital artist, Jimmy Lakatos, visual designer, and Julien Roy, sound artist, musician and composer, to develop acoustic and visual creation projects using digital technology as their raw material. For them, Artificiel is a living laboratory in which digital technology takes physical form in evolving devices and performances that foster discovery and new experiences. Each project contains the germ of the next one, in a living, open creative process.

The "Bulbs Project" was born in winter 2002, in the course of an experimental performance where Artificiel launched its investigation of the acoustic properties of large light bulbs of the kind generally used in filmmaking. Taking the sound produced by the incandescent filaments as their sole acoustic material, the three designers fabricated a device made up of a number of bulbs, all evenly spaced and hung about a metre above the floor so as to form a field of light controlled by computer. One of the first versions of the project, and comprising 16 bulbs, yielded a 25-minute study of sound. Following this initial experiment, the three artists designed intentionally "noisy" dimmer switches, in order to expand the acoustic palette of their device. They made its controls more sensitive and developed various computer programs and algorithmic tools to manipulate this imposing network of dimmers in an expressive, intuitive, "live" way.

For this presentation at the MACM, Artificiel has created a vast expanse of acoustic light composed of 64 giant 1,000-watt bulbs spaced far enough apart to allow the public to move around within this field of sound conceived as an immersive space.

Continuing the project's spirit of investigation and openness, every Wednesday evening in November Artificiel will welcome artists and composers of experimental and digital music, from the local and international scene. All will come and explore the acoustic properties of the device and, following their own approach and aesthetics, will draw out of it a particular acoustic texture. Artificiel will open each evening with a live digital session, which will be followed by the performance of two of the other artists. These are: AEIab, Jaroslav Kapuscinski, Thomas Köner, Jean-Frédéric Messier, Monolake, Maxime Morin, Cristian Vogel and Nancy Tobin. All of them were spontaneously attracted by this project — some for its simplicity, the close connection between the device's acoustic and visual structure, and its "ultra minimal" aspect, and others for its rational yet "mystical" or even hypnotic environment — where they rediscover their penchant for exploration and shared experimentation.

# Turbulences 2

Wednesday, November 12  
9 p.m.

In copresentation with ELEKTRA

Artificiel, Montréal

Maxime Morin, Montreal

"I'm going to work the bulbs so that they chase one another, like a fugue. It remains to be seen whether I can program a fugue! One thing is certain, though: My intention is definitely playful."

Cristian Vogel, Barcelona, Spain  
Boundless energy with intense sonorities

Artificiel, Montreal  
Free experimentation

Preview presentation for the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of Elektra  
www.elektrafestival.ca



Maxime Morin



Cristian Vogel



Alexandre Burton

# Turbulences 3

Wednesday, November 19  
9 p.m.

Artificiel, Montreal

AEIab, Montreal

Stéphane Claude is an electronic musician, video maker and sound engineer. His artistic interests revolve around the conveying of a formal aesthetic, a phenomenological experience symbolic of the electronic medium.

Thomas Köner, Dortmund, Germany

"What I am aiming for is the quality of a certain presence: an acoustic presence that refers to nothing, that allows and arouses a state of total consciousness, free from concepts, thoughts, dreams or illusions."

Artificiel, Montreal  
Free experimentation



Stéphane Claude



Thomas Köner



Jimmy Lakatos



Julien Roy

# Turbulences 4

Wednesday, November 26  
9 p.m.

Artificiel, Montreal

Nancy Tobin, Montreal

TUNGSTEN [ W ] GLORIES  
Sound artist Nancy Tobin's creations have been presented at most of Montreal's theatres as well as at the World Stage Festival, the Festival d'Avignon, the Edinburgh Festival and the Berliner Festwochen.

Monolake, Berlin, Germany

"My work can be described by words like 'space, time, continuous change, rhythm.' I like this idea of music as something which could go on forever, like a sculpture in time."

Artificiel, Montreal  
Free experimentation



Nancy Tobin



Monolake

This third edition of the Turbulences series has been made possible by the support of a great many collaborators. We would like to thank Mario Gauthier, Alain Mongeau and Alain Thibault for their research assistance; Isabelle Painchaud for her support at every stage of the project's evolution; and Andrée Duchaine for introducing us to the work of Artificiel and its "Bulbs" project right from its first version. Lastly, we wish to express our appreciation to Alexandre Burton, Jimmy Lakatos and Julien Roy for being so generous with their time throughout the development of the project. Our gratitude also goes to all the artists who accepted the invitation to take part in the Turbulences series and to all those who, directly or indirectly, helped make it a reality.

Louise Ismert, Turbulences series coordinator.

Artificiel receives support from the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts de Montréal and the Service du développement culturel de la Ville de Montréal. The "Bulbs Project" is a production of Groupe Molior Inc., created and produced by Artificiel. The Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal is a provincially owned corporation funded by the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec. The Musée receives additional financial support from Canadian Heritage and the Canada Council for the Arts.

## Performances

Beverley Webster Rolph Hall  
Regular: \$18  
Package: \$50 for 4 performances  
Students: \$12

Tickets on sale from Admission:  
(514) 790-1245  
1 800 361-4595

The public will be able to visit the Artificiel installation from November 6 to 30, starting at 2 p.m.

# artificiel