

LEAD Chat Transcripts now available!

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Abstract

As the year closes, LEA editor in chief, Nisar Keshvani shares that the new LEA web platform continues to receive positive feedback. Researchers, artists and educators find the accompanying downloadable pdf's and MLA/APA citations very useful. The LEAD: Leonardo Electronic Almanac Discussion around the New Media Poetics and Poetry issue was well-received by the community. Chat transcripts are available online: <http://leoalmanac.org/resources/lead/nmp/index.asp>

This November, Dene Grigar and Sue Thomas guest edit a special issue on "Wild Nature and Digital Life." The double-themed anthology explores the "Emergent and Generative" and "Performative and Locative". Read the essays by Peter Hasdell, Tara Rodgers, Dave Burraston, Andrew Martin, Jennifer Willet, Adam Gussow, Dr Kathryn Yusoff, Jeremy Hight and Brett Stalbaum. Packaged with a small but powerful accompanying gallery exhibiting Karl Grimes, Elisa Giaccardi, Hal Eden and Gianluca Sabena.

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As we approach, the end of another calendar year, the Leonardo Electronic Almanac, continues to receive positive feedback from all across the globe to our new web platform.

Researchers, artists and educators, are relishing our accompanying downloadable pdf's and MLA/APA citations. Our latest venture – the Leonardo Electronic Almanac Discussion (LEAD) was extremely well-received. Launched with our new media poetics and poetry special guest edited by Tim Peterson, the forum generated heated discussion.

Besides being an exercise in community-building, it was an opportunity for authors to interact with their audience, and for readers to engage in critical discussion. Guest moderator, Sandy Baldwin aptly describes:

"Discussion is something else. Discussion is dispersion, setting free, and shaking. (Look it up in the dictionary.) If the essay is an array and arrangement, discussion is disarray and derangement. Rather than the delimited site of the essay, discussion creates a variable bandwidth of authority. In fact, discussion is not added on to the

essay but returns to it as extensible experiment. The assemblage of essays plus discussion is always partially written, always partly ready for use and extension. With discussion, the issue is never closed or complete.”

If you missed the action, fret not, you can access transcripts of the online chats with John Cayley, Loss Glazier, MEZ, Stephanie Strickland, Manuel Portela and Jason Nelson. Visit our LEAD resources section at:
<http://leoalmanac.org/resources/lead/nmp/index.asp>

This November, Dene Grigar and Sue Thomas guest edit a special issue on “Wild Nature and Digital Life.” Yet another, foray into the unknown, it started off with an email exchange with Sue Thomas who had just left trAce. Dene Grigar was quickly roped in, and about 50 submissions later, we present a double-themed anthology for your reading pleasure.

The first wave explores a range of issues relating to the “Emergent and Generative” in nature, the digital, and art. Whilst the second, features essays that are “Performative and Locative” in scope. Read the essays by Peter Hasdell, Tara Rodgers, Dave Burraston, Andrew Martin, Jennifer Willet, Adam Gussow, Dr Kathryn Yusoff, Jeremy Hight and Brett Stalbaum. Packaged with a small but powerful accompanying gallery exhibiting Karl Grimes, Elisa Giaccardi, Hal Eden and Gianluca Sabena.

This issue, Marcus Bastos and Ryan Griffis are our guest moderators. Once again, we have in place:

- A discussion forum to allow readers to engage with our renowned Wild Nature and Digital Life scholars. This forum will become active from 12 December October 2006. Sign up by sending an email to:
leadigitalwild-subscribe@googlegroups.com
- A live online chat with our scholars where you interact, engage and discuss new media thematics with them. Watch this URL: http://leoalmanac.org/journal/Vol_14/lea_v14_n07-08/forum.asp for details on the venue, theme and timings of the live chats.

We’re planning our 2007 issues, so if you have any essay, gallery or thematic issue proposals, we welcome you to drop a note to: lea@mitpress.mit.edu

Do keep your feedback coming and watch this space for more exciting developments.

Enjoy!

Author Biography

Singaporean Nisar Keshvani is a consultant, Internet journalist, web developer, educator and new media specialist. In the last decade, he has worked across five continents (Asia, Africa, Europe, North America and Australia/Oceania). He is editor-in-chief of the Leonardo Electronic Almanac (<http://LEA.mit.edu>) and International Co-Editor of fineArt forum (<http://www.fineartforum.org>) - one of the Internet's longest running arts publication. He has worked for various international magazines and newspapers since 1993.

Keshvani sits on the board of the Art, Science, Technology Network (ASTN), Leonardo/International Society for the Arts, Sciences & Technology; fineArt forum and on SIGGRAPH's Singapore Chapter Management Committee. He is Program Advisor (Asia Pacific) of the Brisbane Multimedia Art Asia Pacific (MAAP) Festival. Keshvani has extensive experience developing and maintaining websites and was an online journalism educator at Queensland University of Technology, Australia, examining internationalization issues and changing work practices in the online newsroom. He was also Digital Media Lecturer and module leader for Web Design Applications with Ngee Ann Polytechnic's School of Film & Media Studies in Singapore. In 2003 - 2004, Keshvani was on consultancy with the Aga Khan Development Network (a group of international development agencies working in health, education, culture and rural and economic development, primarily in Asia and Africa).

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Nisar Keshvani, Editor-in-Chief

Established in 1993, Leonardo Electronic Almanac is, jointly produced by Leonardo, the International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology (ISAST), and published by MIT Press, is an electronic journal dedicated to providing a forum for those who are interested in the realm where art, science and technology converge. For over a decade, LEA has thrived as an *international peer reviewed electronic journal* and web archive covering the interaction of the arts, sciences, and technology. LEA emphasizes rapid publication of recent work and critical discussion on topics of current excitement with a slant on shorter, less academic texts. Many contributors are younger scholars, artists, scientists, educators and developers of new technological resources in the media arts.

Wild Nature and the Digital Life

Guest edited by **Dene Grigar and Sue Thomas**

Generative and Emergent

- :: Artificial Ecologies: Second Nature Emergent Phenomena in Constructed Digital - Natural Assemblages - *Peter Hasdell*
- :: Butterfly Effects: Synthesis, Emergence, and Transduction - *Tara Rodgers*
- :: Digital Behaviors and Generative Music - *Dave Burraston and Andrew Martin*
- :: Bodies in Biotechnology: Embodied Models for Understanding Biotechnology in Contemporary Art - *Jennifer Willet*

Locative and Performative

- :: Kudzu Running: Pastoral Pleasures, Wilderness Terrors, and Wrist-Mounted Technologies in Small-Town Mississippi - *Adam Gussow*
- :: Mapping the Disaster: Global Prediction and the Medium of 'Digital Earth' - *Dr. Kathryn Yusoff*
- :: Views From Above: Locative Narrative and the Landscape - *Jeremy Hight*
- :: Paradigmatic Performance: Data Flow and Practice in the Wild - *Brett Stalbaum*

Wild Nature and the Digital Life Gallery

Curated by **Dene Grigar and Sue Thomas**

- :: Future Nature - *Karl Grimes*
- :: The Affective Geography of Silence - Towards a Museum of Natural Quiet - *Elisa Giaccardi, Hal Eden and Gianluca Sabena*

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