

From Tangible to Intangible and Back Again: An Open Laboratory on Sounding Artefacts

with Karmen Franinovic and Yon Visell

**February 14 to 17, 2008
at OBORO's New Media Lab**



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WORKSHOP

This event is a collaborative exploration of interactive sound in sculptural and everyday artefacts. Participants will create interactive sculptures that respond to human action through sound. Everyday artefacts will be used for new creations in which they are repurposed as experiments in form, material, behaviour and sound in an open studio setting. Critical focus will address issues regarding the interaction between people and such sonic artefacts, with topics drawn from participants' interests and from theoretical texts.

Sonic interaction will be facilitated by a software tool set, including free components for Max/MSP, with sensors and actuators the workshop facilitators will provide. We will make some sculptural prototyping materials available to assist this— for example, modelling putty, foam rubber, epoxy, etc.

Please note that the workshop will be given mostly in english but the instructors are bilingual.

INSTRUCTORS

Karmen Franinovic works with interactive media as an architect, interaction designer and artist at Zero-Th Association and in academic contexts. She leads research projects on sound and movement in tangible interaction at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts in Zurich. Her artistic work explores critical and playful uses of interactive technology embedded in architecture, urban space and everyday life. Her work has been presented at and commissioned by Ircam/Centre Pompidou (Paris), SF Camerawork (San Francisco), Fondazione Sandretto (Torino), MoMA Ljubljana, FEME (Taipei), DEAF (Rotterdam), UbiComp (Tokyo) and The Junction (Cambridge) and others.

Yon Visell is an artist, engineer, and physicist who is interested in the subtle dynamics of physical phenomena and the design of interactive artefacts and architectures. His background ranges from theoretical physics, to interaction design, machine learning, musical signal processing, auditory display, and interactive media design at Zero-Th Association, which he co-founded with Karmen Franinovic. He has lectured in the Intermedia and Cyberarts program at Concordia University, in the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at McGill University, and is visiting professor in the master's program in Sound Design and Drama at the Nuova Accademia di Belli Arti in Milano. He is currently undertaking research in the Centre for Intelligent Machines at McGill University in Montréal and at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts in Zurich.

<<http://www.zero-th.org>>

TOPICS COVERED IN THE WORKSHOP

- Interactive sound;
- Tangible interfaces and interaction;
- Physically based sound synthesis models;
- Performance in relation to sonic feedback;
- Sound embedded in artefacts;
- Conceptual issues (privacy, presence, mood, performance, gender, identity, intimacy, violence, etc.);
- Social interaction through sound;
- Public soundscapes and installations.

PREREQUISITES

- Be a professional artist, creator or cultural worker, and be a self-employed worker or a salaried employee in an enterprise not subject to 1 % Training Investment*;
- Be an artist, designer or other creator interested with new opportunities for everyday sound in interaction (non screen-based);
- Have prior experience with audiovisual media software;
- Bring a computer if available;
- Bring along found objects, small sculptural or construction materials, or other item to be use to create works.

SCHEDULE

February 14 to 17, 2008
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Maximum of 12 people

COST

\$ 100 per person

LOCATION

OBORO's New Media Lab

TO REGISTER

Before Friday, February 1, 2008

Submit a short summary of your area of practice, and a brief statement (1 paragraph) of your interest in the workshop to openlab@zero-th.org AND lab@oboro.net.

Confirmations will be given Monday, February 4, 2008.

PAYMENT

Before Thursday, February 7, 2008

For further information, please contact Annie Tremblay, Lab services coordinator.

Tel: 514 844-3250, ext. 230 Fax: 514 847-0330
lab@oboro.net www.oboro.net

**Any enterprise whose total payroll is \$1.000.000 or more is subject to the Quebec 1 % Training Investment.*