

## There Is A Time For Everything (Grant Proposal)

### Project Description:

Sometimes action is needed, other times observation and contemplation is required. Life has it's time for all things in their right place. This piece explores the use of action and non-action as equal stances of leverage to make things happen or an impediment to the natural flow of life. Sometimes action is needed in order to get something done, sometimes action gets in the way of a natural process. Sometimes non-action allows for an opportunity to be missed, sometimes it allows for things to develop on their own.

I will be creating an installation piece where a wireless device is decorated and displayed by a single light in a dark room and visitors are prompted by a sign to interact with the device.

Depending upon the visitor's arrival time, one of two events will welcome them:

1. The room will be silent and dark, with a single light on the device.
2. The room will be filled with video and sounds emanating from a series of hidden projectors and speakers, with a light on the device.

Once the visitor's take note of the sign and begin their interaction with the device, it will result in one of two possible events depending upon the state of the room:

1. If the room is silent and dark, interaction with the device will result in a triggering of a series of video and sounds with the visitor may control based-upon the movement of the device. If the device is laid to rest the room will return to silence and darkness.
2. If the room is full of video and sounds, visitor's interaction with the device will result in removal of the video and sounds and rest in silence and darkness. If the device is laid to rest the video and sounds will return to the room.

The timing in which the two modes will oscillate will be determined by a random event generator which represents the natural flow of life.



## Budget Description:

The electronics I will purchase with this grant money will be two WiiMote controllers with advanced accelerometers costing about \$50 each, a pair of high quality Bose speakers costing about \$150, and a Panasonic PT-AX200U 720p 3LCD Home Theater Projector costing about \$650 used off of Amazon. The WiiMote controllers are used to connect to a computer via Bluetooth using a freeware program called OSCulator. This allows the computer to receive incoming information from the WiiMote and convert this information into OSC or Midi messages which then can be sent to other software programs running on the computer. The advanced accelerometers allow for more refined information from the WiiMote Controllers with a smoother response and dynamic control. This is like the difference between an old Dodge truck and a new BMW convertible. I had considered building my own wireless communication device, but this would increase the cost and extend my schedule and however impressive such a feat may be I decided to stick with tried and true methods of wireless communication. No need to reinvent the wheel. The Panasonic PT-AX200U projector is know for having excellent color contrast despite being only 2000 lumens. I could have chosen a projector with more lumens for around the price, but through my experience being an event VJ and personal experiments with my friend's projectors I noticed the color contrast plays a more significant roll in the quality of the image when the location of the projection is already dark. A higher lumens projector might be more useful when used outside during the day, but this installation will be set in a dark room indoors and most shows I VJ at are at nighttime. Which brings me to my next point about this projector, after serving it's initial use for this installation what will the projector be used for next you may want to know. Well, I perform VJ sets regularly in the Los Angeles and Bay Area usually having to borrow or rent someone else's projector. This projector would not only be used creatively to experiment with new installation and performance ideas but also serve as a stage projector for my VJ sets. During these sets I will include an interactive ad recognizing Rhizome as the official sponsor of this projector. This is not absolutely necessary, but I would like to help Rhizome for helping me. Now back to the uses of this specific project; the projector along with a computer and a speaker system will be hidden in the room so that it is not apparent that any technology is in the room. Even the WiiMote will be decorated so that It is not obvious that it is an electronic device.

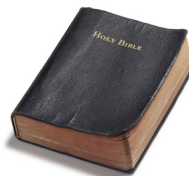
I have not come to a definitive conclusion as to what the WiiMote will be decorated as, but am playing with three ideas presently:



a. Hammer



b. Crystal Wand



c. Bible



d. Unknown

A hammer can represent work and the necessity to work sometimes and not too much, I'm not sure if it fits with the aesthetic of sounds and images. A Crystal Wand fits with the aesthetic more so than the hammer, but conceptually I am unsure of how it represents action and non-action except through a magical means, which I am gravitating towards. The Bible could be interesting to represent knowledge and how to use it, but the Bible has such a wide array of prescribed associations with it that it might confuse people more than clarify a point. So I am allowing myself to spend \$50 in decorating the WiiMote using paint/fabric/wood/incidental materials, and using the other \$50 to spend on black fabrics to cover the projector, computer, and speaker system. The reasoning behind hiding all of the electronic components of this installation piece move the focus of the visitor away from the actual technology itself, and redirect this focus on what is being said through the technology and to convey a sense of awe and mystery into how the whole process is happening. In doing this, I am attempting to make an environment that reflects our own condition as Humans who do not wholly understand how the universe works and the wondrous thrill that comes when encountering the unknown.

Purchasing software licenses, will allow me to install the necessary programs to run this installation piece on multiple computers and allowing for multiple installations to be going on around Los Angeles at the same time. These licensees also will encourage even more advanced work to be created in the future taking advantage of having multiple platforms to work from. For this piece the software I require is Isadora & Ableton Live, costing \$300 & \$350 respectively. Isadora is a motion-graphics software developed at the school I just graduated from, CalArts. I will be using it to take the incoming Midi and OSC data from the WiiMote via OSCulator and then route this information to control aspects of the video like colors/shapes/effects. Next this data is sent from Isadora to Ableton Live where it is then used to control aspects of the sound such as the pitch/timbre/effects. For a better sense of the aesthetic that will become the video and sounds please refer to my performance piece *Psychic Potential*. I plan on doing something similar to this, but with a much higher quality video and sound design. Also take a look at the short clip from my performance of *Psychic Potential* at the CalArts Alumni Reunion. Higher quality video and sound design will reinforce the impression of the message upon the visitor's to this installation piece. This is why I will be collaborating with programmer and video graphic artist John Knott. I have chosen to collaborate with John Knott because of his dedication to high quality interactive video graphics, and his knowledge in programming and working with the WiiMote, OSCulator, Isadora, & Ableton Live. This man himself is an up and coming video-graphics pioneer in his own right with his super high definition multi-layered interactive color matrixes he has programmed using Isadora. I have included some still shot samples of his work in this document, including some links to his video work available online. The programmer/video artist fee will go towards the labor and transportation costs for John to travel from Phoenix to Los Angeles to work with me on the design, programming, and aesthetic of this installation piece.

Here is a list of links to examples to John Knott's interactive video graphics:

John Knott's Demo Reel:

<http://vimeo.com/13529955>

What Is Isadora?:

<http://vimeo.com/5477839>

E=MC2 Face In Dark With Lazer:

<http://vimeo.com/6975310>

Nuclear Drumkit:

<http://www.iiiproductions.com/film/shorts/nucleardrumset.html>



## Previous Works:

Psychic Potential is an Interactive Music/Visual Inspirational Story I created for my graduation concert from CalArts in 2010. I use a flashlight to control music and visuals using motion tracking software and a camera connected to a computer. I go through a series of visual and musical events wherein I tell a story of my life and an out-of-body experience I had that taught me about the magic life has to offer us if we use our minds in a creative fashion.

Here is a list of links to view videos of the performance:

Performance of Psychic Potential (From View Of Screen):

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1DPvrn\\_H7A&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1DPvrn_H7A&feature=related)

Sample Clip from Visitors Interacting With Psychic Potential at the CalArts Alumni Reunion:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRhNnQc1GXY&feature=related>

Performance of Psychic Potential (View From My Friend's iPhone):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVO8c9mm7yw>



## Musical Trampoline (BOING) Featured in Wired Magazine

BOING, the Body Oriented Interface 'n Gymnastics Instrument, is a musical trampoline that combines aerobics with musicianship.

The Greeks believed that the perfect education involved the correct synthesis of musical skill and gymnastic ability. Now that the BOING has been created, new emergent possibilities in musical and aerobic applications can be realized for attaining the ideal learning experience. Education starts at a young age, and it is important to use the right tools to develop and guide our youths minds and bodies in a progressive and productive fashion. BOING renders this ideal possible by integrating the intellectual interest of harmonious music with a full body work out synthesized into one interface to inspire our spirits



## UNDERWIRE

THE BEAT GOES ON

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### Machine Orchestra Features Hacked Guitar, Trampoline-Triggered Music Cues

By Hugh Hart | May 13, 2010 | 5:14 pm | Categories: music

to reach for greater heights.

Here is a list of links to view the Musical Trampoline in action:

Musical Trampoline Controlling Robot Ensemble with the Machine Orchestra

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uu1ufhm\\_GPc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uu1ufhm_GPc)

Sample 1 of Musical Trampoline in action:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmGxqFWGWFQ&feature=related>

Sample 2 of Musical Trampoline in action:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvK\\_j1EFeAo&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvK_j1EFeAo&feature=related)

Musical Trampoline Test with Robot Ensemble:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QnFzvHHEzPk>



Sensor-embedded trampolines, accelerometer-hacked guitars and robotic glockenspiels take center stage Thursday when the Karmetik Machine Orchestra goes live in a Southern California concert. Brainchild of CalArts robotic engineer/sitar player Ajay Kapur and tech sculptor Michael Darling, the ensemble meshes 20 human musicians with eight whirring, clanking, glowing pieces of robotic machinery.

**308** "I'm sick of going to concerts, and all the stuff is stuck behind speakers," says Kapur. "All these bands being put out of business by DJs who show up and play prerecorded music — that's ridiculous."

Instead, Kapur says, "What we're trying to do here is to bring performance back into electronic music. We don't want a human sitting behind a computer typing. That is absolutely not allowed."

As in its previous gigs (viewable in the video embedded below) the Machine Orchestra performs a mixture of world music compositions and improvisational numbers flavored with specially rigged instruments drawing on Indian traditions. At Thursday's concert, the orchestra will unveil several new devices invented by students enrolled in the Robotic Design for Music and Media class that Kapur teaches with Darling, head of the technical direction program.

"Our students have built a ton of crazy things," Kapur says proudly.

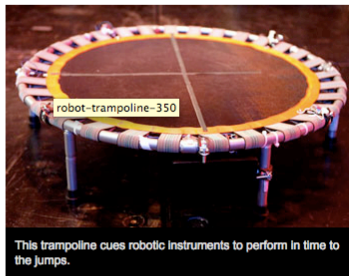
#### The Machine Orchestra

The Machine Orchestra brings together custom-built robotic musical instruments and human performers with modified instruments, un...

[The Machine Orchestra](#)

#### WIRED VIDEO

Check out 100s of videos at [wired.com/video](http://wired.com/video)



I have also included a .pdf file on the website to download the BOING Project Summary.

Live Electronic Music Of The Future is a series of videos demonstrating the ability to motion track a light through a camera in the computer and use the location of the light to determine musical and cinematic attributes. Here is a list of links to watch a new motion tracking instrument is in the process of being born:

Live Electronic Music Of The Future Demo 1:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uY6ByMyKj78>

Live Electronic Music Of The Future Demo 2:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ys2O5jR6hLc>

Live Electronic Music Of The Future Demo 3:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BLSsGbVXpg&feature=related>



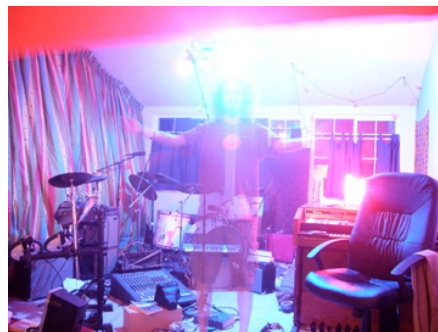
## Budget & Schedules:

Category	Items	Price
Electronics	Wireless Controllers, Projector, Speakers	\$900
Software	Software licenses for Ableton Live 8, Isadora	\$650
Materials	Wood, Paint, Fabrics, Incidental	\$100
Artist Fee		\$1,000
Programer/Video Artist Fees	Fees for collaborating with programmer and video graphic artist	\$1,000

I plan on exhibiting this installation piece in at least two galleries per month once it has been fully completed starting around the third month into it's creation.

Here is a list of gallery and exhibit locations around Los Angeles that I plan on touring at:

Location:	Projected Time Of Exhibit:
Synchronicity Space	Mid August
Machine Project	Late August
Temple Of Visions	Early September
The Hive Gallery Studios	Mid September
The Smell	Late September
Subliminal Projects Gallery	Early October
Pherspace	Mid October
Think Space Gallery	Late October
Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions	Early November
Project Space	Mid November
Scion Installation L.A.	Late November



Here is a schedule of the expected progress over a 7 month period of the programming, design, & exhibition of this installation piece: "There Is A Time For EveryThing"

Thank You Rhizome!

Month	Progress
Month 1	Complete Programming and Inter-Application Communication Connection, Talk With Exhibit & Gallery Owners about Scheduling and Finalizing Installation Performance Dates
Month 2	Complete Sound and Visual Design, Talk With More Exhibit & Gallery Owners about Scheduling and Finalizing Installation Performance Dates
Month 3	Complete Prop and Stage Design, Talk With Exhibit & Gallery Owners, Finish Final Design Details and Prepare for Installation
Month 4	Tour With Installation Around Los Angeles Spaces, Document Installation
Month 5	Continue Tour, Documentation, Post Online
Month 6	Continue Tour, Documentation, Post Online
Month 7	Continue Tour, Documentation, Post Online