WHAT’S ON

SEPTEMBER—DECEMBER 2016
Based in Brooklyn, NY, Phillip Stearns is the creator of the Year of the Glitch, a yearlong glitch-a-day project, and Glitch Textiles, a project exploring the intersection of digital art and textile design. He received his MFA in music composition and integrated media from the California Institute of Arts in 2007 and his BS in music technology from the University of Colorado at Denver in 2005.


Blender is an open-source modeling, animation, visual effect, and gaming software that is a jack of all trades 3D software. While not specializing in one particular function, it’s a powerful tool for visualizing and creating 3D work. Visiting artist Phillip Stearns will walk you through the fundamentals of the program, going from the interface to creating models, texturing and working with assets.

Bring a laptop with Blender already installed from www.blender.org/download/

Registration is required.
Monira Al Qadiri and Siebren Versteeg in conversation with Shumon Basar.

This talk inaugurates the Art Gallery’s fall exhibition, Invisible Threads: Technology and its Discontents. The artists discuss the themes of the exhibition, from information technology to artificial intelligence to our imagined future.

Al Qadiri’s solo exhibitions include shows at the Sultan Gallery, Kuwait; and Tokyo Wonder Site, Japan. She has participated in collective international exhibitions in CCA Warsaw, Poland; Kunstverein Dusseldorf, Germany; Maraya Arts Center, Sharjah, UAE; Hong-Gah Museum, Taiwan; Edge of Arabia Projects, London; Beirut Art Center, Lebanon; Home Works 6, Beirut, Lebanon; Sultan Gallery Kuwait; Watermill Center, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo Japan, Moscow Center of Contemporary Art and most recently the Sursock Museum in Beirut Lebanon.

Al Qadiri is a founding member of the artist collective GCC, and is currently participating in a residency at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam until 2018.

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Siebren Versteeg (b. New Haven, CT, 1971) lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. He received a BFA from the School the Art Institute of Chicago and received his MFA from the University of Illinois, Chicago.

Versteeg employs algorithmic programs to access, extract and distill from a vast library of online imagery, which he presents in gallery as painterly abstractions on canvas or digital displays. Arriving at the intersection of the digital world and art history, his work addresses the ideas and perceptions of agency, choice and chance. This can be seen in New York Window (2008) in which Versteeg employs “computerized painting actions,” a reference to Action Painting, a term synonymous with Abstract Expressionism and the New York School.

Solo exhibitions of his work include the Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita, KS; the Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH; the Museum of Art at Rhode Island School of Design, Providence; the Art Institute of Boston; Bellwether Gallery, New York; Ten in One Gallery, New York; Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago; and 1R Gallery, Chicago.

Versteeg was the recipient of an Illinois Arts Council, Fellowship, and a Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture Merit Fellowship.

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Shumon Basar is a writer, thinker and cultural critic. He is co-author of The Age of Earthquakes: A Guide to the Extreme Present with Douglas Coupland and Hans Ulrich Obrist (Penguin/Blue Rider, 2015). His edited books include Translated By, Cities From Zero and Hans Ulrich Obrist Interviews Volume 2. He is Commissioner of the Global Art Forum in Dubai, editor-at-large of Tank magazine and contributing editor of Bidoun magazine, director of the Format program at the AA School, and a founding member of Fondazione Prada’s “Thought Council.”
The NYUAD Art Gallery invites young people and their families to create sculptures and scenes using dough, then bring them to life with light and sound.

Ages: 4+, alone or with their adult family or friends. All materials will be provided. All workshops are free and open to the public. Spaces are limited. Book your seat now!

Registration is required.

Craig Protzel is a creative technologist whose work lies at the intersection of web development, education, video, and storytelling. He spent nine years working as a producer-editor in the entertainment industry creating feature film trailers, documentaries, commercials, and digital shorts. In more recent years, Craig has been designing and developing creative web products for a range of clients including NYU Langone Medical School, Vimeo, and O’Reilly Media. He is actively involved in the NYU Entrepreneurs Institute and teaches courses at NYU Tisch’s Graduate Interactive Telecommunications Program.

Dr. Nicolas Collins, internationally renowned musician, composer, educator, and author of Handmade Electronic Music will show you how, with a few simple items, to make your own electronic instruments. Participants in this workshop will learn some very basic skills including soldering, building a contact microphone, and various other principles of electronic instrument building. Open to the public, and no previous experience required.

www.nicolascollins.com

Registration is required.

Originally from New York, Nicolas Collins lived in Amsterdam and Berlin in the 1990s before joining the Department of Sound at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. An early adopter of microcomputers for live performance, Collins also makes use of electronic circuitry, conventional acoustic instruments, and hybrid electro-acoustic instruments. He is editor-in-chief of the Leonardo Music Journal, and his book, Handmade Electronic Music: The Art of Hardware Hacking (Routledge), has influenced emerging electronic music worldwide. Collins has the dubious distinction of having played at both CBGB and the Concertgebouw.
October

WEDNESDAY 26, 6.30—8pm

TALK/DISCUSSION

THE ART OF OUTER-SPACE IN THE INFORMATION AGE

Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi in conversation with Wafaa Bilal, Ibrahim Al Qasimi and NYUAD students Ahlam Al Qasim and Maryam Al Hammadi.

This conversation explores art and technology in the context of the NYUAD Art Gallery exhibition Invisible Threads: Technology and its Discontents, framed by the region and upcoming Emirates Mission to Mars. The speakers lead a discussion about the philosophical and creative drive behind humankind’s desire to travel into space.

This panel is in Arabic and simultaneous English interpretation is provided.

Ibrahim Al Qasimi leads the Strategic Planning for Emirates Mars Mission in addition to being the project manager of the UAE’s first cubesat mission, Nayif-1. He has focused his career on capacity building through education and the promotion of STEM throughout the UAE. Ibrahim started his career at EIAST, joining the Space Program Department as the first non-engineer. He worked as a representative of international affairs and was in charge of managing EIAST’s international agreements and collaborations. Ibrahim then moved to the Project Management Office where he was assigned as project manager of the high school satellite initiative, CanSat. In 2014, Ibrahim was assigned as the Head of Strategic Research at EIAST.

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Ahlam Al Qasim is a senior who studies at NYUAD. After pursuing both arts and science in high school, she majored in physics for her degree. She is also taking minors in applied mathematics and art history to broaden her perspectives and make use of the liberal arts education that NYUAD provides. Using her past experiences at the Italian Space Agency, Yahsat and Gran Sasso’s Underground Physics Laboratory, Ahlam hopes to be able to contribute significantly to the UAE’s space program and work in that field in the near future.

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Maryam AlHammadi is a third year student at NYUAD. She has an interest in the intersection of the sciences with the arts, particularly reading and creative writing. She has been encouraged, both by her high school background in science and the multi-disciplinary education of NYUAD, to pursue a degree in physics. In her future career, she hopes to contribute to sustainability in space travel as well as education whilst also fostering her creative side.

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Based in the United Arab Emirates, Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi is a columnist on Arab affairs and an MIT Media Labs Director’s Fellow. Rising in prominence during the Arab Spring, Sultan’s tweets became a major news source, and Time magazine listed him in the 140 Best Twitter Feeds of 2011. In 2014, Arabian Business placed Sultan in its list of World’s 100 Most Powerful Arabs under the Thinkers category.

Sultan is also the founder of the Barjeel Art Foundation, an independent initiative established to contribute to the intellectual development of the art scene in the Arab region by providing a prominent and publicly accessible art collection in the UAE.

Wafaa Bilal (b. Kufa, Iraq, 1966) is an Iraqi-American artist and an Associate Arts Professor at Tisch School of the Arts, NYU in New York City. He holds a BFA from the University of New Mexico and received his MFA in Art and Technology from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Bilal was named 2008’s Artist of the Year by the Chicago Tribune. His work can be found in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL; and MATHAF: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Doha, Qatar; amongst others.

NYUAD Conference Center

Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi, Wafaa Bilal, Ibrahim Al Qasimi, Ahlam Al Qasim, Maryam AlHammadi
IM WEARABLES (HALLOWEEN EDITION)

The NYUAD Art Gallery invites you to create a Halloween-inspired wearable technology.

Participants will learn how to sew conductive threads and make LED patterns on black masks just in time for Halloween!

Ages: 16+
All materials will be provided. All workshops are free and open to the public. Spaces are limited.

Registration is required.

Khulood Alawadi, a Dubai native, is an industrial designer and the Assistant Manager of Advanced Manufacturing at NYU Abu Dhabi. She received her Bachelor of Industrial Design in 2012 and has since worked to create a bridge between design and scientific research. Khulood's interdisciplinary focus aims to make design, digital media and advanced manufacturing technologies an integral part of the scientific research and laboratories at NYU Abu Dhabi.

George Korres was born and raised in Athens, Greece. He studied Applied Mathematics in the School of Science & Engineering at the University of Crete. He was involved for several years with the development of educational software and hardware regarding educational robotics. The last three years he has also dealt with industrial automation (mainly in the field of recycling industry). His research interests focus on development of new sensors and actuators as well as the use of these in human computer interaction.

TECHNOLOGY WILL SAVE US: DIY SYNTH KIT

The NYUAD Art Gallery invites young people and their families to discover the joys of electronic music by building your own synthesizer! Experiment with pitch, frequency and volume to make electronic music like Kraftwerk.

Ages: 12+, alone or with their adult family or friends. All materials will be provided. All workshops are free and open to the public. Spaces are limited. Book your seat now!

Registration is required.

Jonny Farrow is a multi-disciplinary artist working in sculpture, installation, printmaking, sound, and performance. His work investigates cultural, architectural, and imaginary spaces with found and made objects, sound, image, and text in order to reframe established cultural narratives with the aim of sparking meaningful, culturally critical dialogue. He holds an MFA in Studio Art from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and an MA in Music from The City College of New York (CUNY). He has presented his work at various galleries, museums, cultural institutions and festivals all over the United States, Europe and the UAE. He is a Lecturer in Visual Arts and Interactive Media at New York University Abu Dhabi.
ADULT WORKSHOP
SCRAPYARD CHALLENGE WITH JONAH BRUCKER-COHEN

The Scrapyard Challenge Workshops are intensive workshops where participants build simple electronic projects (both digital and analog inputs) out of found or discarded “junk” (old electronics, clothing, furniture, outdated computer equipment, appliances, turntables, monitors, gadgets, etc.). So far the workshops have been held 100s of times in 14 countries, on 5 continents with 3 different themes. At the end of the day or evening, the workshop participants have a small performance, concert, or fashion show (depending on the workshop theme) where they demonstrate and present their creations together as a group.

www.scrapyardchallenge.com

No electronics skills or any experience with technology is necessary to participate in the workshops.

This workshop is in collaboration with startAD and Expo 2020 Youth Connect.

Registration is required.

Jonah Brucker-Cohen, Ph.D., is an award winning researcher, artist, writer, and Assistant Professor of Digital Media and Networked Culture at Lehman College/City University of New York. He received his Ph.D. in the Disruptive Design Team of the Electronic and Electrical Engineering Department of Trinity College Dublin. He is also Executive Vice President at Lively Event, Inc., a company that focuses on engaging audiences in public spaces with mobile devices.

His work has been exhibited and showcased at venues such as San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, MOMA New York, ICA London, Palais du Tokyo, Tate Modern, Ars Electronica, Transmediale, and his project “Bumplist” is included in the permanent collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art. His writing has appeared in publications such as WIRED, Make, Gizmodo, Neural and more. His Scrapyard Challenge workshops have been held in over 14 countries in Europe, South America, North America, Asia, and Australia since 2003.
The NYUAD Art Gallery invites young people and their families to experiment with LittleBits. LittleBits are small, open source, modular electronics components that snap together with magnets to form larger circuits. Learn how to use LittleBits to create electronics and artwork that lights up, beeps, spins and turns with LittleBits.

Age: 8+, alone or with their adult family or friends. All materials will be provided. All workshops are free and open to the public. Spaces are limited. Book your seat now!

Registration is required.

Matthew Karau is an electronics engineer from the United States who specializes in designing interactive systems. He is a research associate and guest instructor at New York University in Abu Dhabi. Matthew has spent much of his career teaching in European universities and working in interdisciplinary research organizations (MIT Media Lab, Media Lab Europe, and Distance Lab). In industry, he has provided engineering and design consulting services for a diverse range of companies.

September 7—October 8
LITTLE MONSTERS
Photography exhibition by Emirati photographer Yousef Al Habshi with Professor Claude Desplan and Professor Justin Blau.

October 18—31
EAST-EAST: JAPAN MEETS UAE
Curated by NYUAD student Sophie Arnie
Artists: Ahmed Alanzi, Al Anood Al Obaidly, Amna Al Maamari, Khalid Mezaina

The Project Space
Located in the The Arts Center. The Project Space is a non-commercial gallery dedicated to Abu Dhabi community projects. The Project Space is supported by the museum-trained staff of the NYU Abu Dhabi Art Gallery. The Project Space gives priority to exhibitions from within the academic and regional community, including the annual Senior Capstone Festival, faculty-curated exhibitions, experimental projects, and the work of regional emerging artists.

For inquiries, contact Bana Kattan, Curator, NYUAD Art Gallery, at bk78@nyu.edu.

November 8—29
JOHN TORREANO
NYUAD Faculty, a solo exhibition

December 13—17
STUDENT SHOWCASE
The Art Gallery is open to the public during the timings listed below, and all are welcome. The gallery and the NYUAD campus are open to the public, no advance booking is required.

The Art Gallery invites you and your group to make an advance appointment for a curator-led tour of Invisible Threads.

Register for Events at nyuad-artgallery.org

ADMISSION
The Art Gallery is free and open to all.

EXHIBITION OPEN HOURS
Monday through Saturday: 12—8 pm.
Closed on Sunday.

CONTACT US
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