

Večpredstavnost in različni brkljalni "priključki" (Flash, Shockwave ipd.) so vsebinsko in estetsko močno zabrisali mejo med net.artom in CD-ROM artom.

Teo Spiller (net.artist iz Ljubljane, ki se med drugim posveča tudi raziskovanju odnosov umetnostnega trga do net.arta in možnostim trgovanja s spletnimi umetninami, s katerim je začel pred dvema letoma z odmevnim mednarodnim spletnim forumom "net.art.trade forum" [<http://www.teo-spiller.org/forum/>]) je v sodelovanju s Timothyjem Murrayem (profesorjem filma in videa na Cornell University in kustosom svetovno znane razstave CD-ROM arta "Contact zones") pripravil CD-ROM, ki naj bi vseboval natisnjena dela (off-line) net.arta, ki bi tako načela nekatera vprašanja, vezana na digitalno umetnost (ali "umetnost"). Poleg razmišljanja o (ne)ustreznosti sedaj že vsesplošno uveljavljenih pojmov "net.art" in "CD-ROM art", ki jo poudarja že paradoksalni naslov "(off-line) net.art", ju je zanimala tudi problematika "izginjanja zgodovine" in minljivost zapisa skozi prehajanje informacij iz "oprijemljive" oblike na informacijske strežnike. Lastniki strežnikov namreč postajajo gospodarji "resnice", saj lahko vsak trenutek spremenijo kateri koli podatke o sedanosti in preteklosti.

Tretja tema, vezana na digitalno "umetnost", pa je razmerje kopija-original. Udeleženci sejma INFOS (tako kot tudi bralci revije *M'ARS*) so dobili v dar 34 (originalnih?) umetniških del, ki jih lahko neomejeno naprej razmnožujejo in spreminjajo.

Tako je nastal mednarodni natečaj za spletno umetnino *INFOS 2000 (off-line) net.art contest* s finančno in logistično podporo Infos, d.o.o. Nanj se je prijavilo 34 umetnikov iz Avstralije, Estonije, Francije, Gane, Grčije, s Hrvaške, iz Italije, Izraela, Kanade, Kolumbije, Nemčije, z Nizozemske, s Poljske, iz Romunije, s Tasmanije, iz Vietnama in Združenih držav Amerike. Žirija, ki so jo sestavljali Igor Zabel (predsednik žirije), Timothy Murray, Teo Spiller in Igor Štromajer, je nagrade podelila naslednjim delom:

1. nagrada: Ian Campbell (Kanada): *Bandana*;
2. nagrada: Calin Man (Romunija): *The last man standing*;
3. nagrada: Gary Zebington (Avstralija): *Termite*.

Vsebina natečaja je zaščiten po licenci, podobni GNU GPL, ki omogoča kopiranje in spreminjanje vsebine natečaja z nekaterimi omejitvami. Več o tem, kakor tudi o konceptih, razmišljanjih, samem natečaju in pa seveda 34 originalnih digitalnih umetniških, pa poiščite na priloženi zgoščenki.

Tehnično navodilo: v okolju Windows vložite zgoščenko v pogon. Samozagon bo pognal začetno stran zgoščenke in tam kliknite "NET.ART". V drugih okoljih odprite direktorij /spiller/ in s spletnim brkljalnikom odprite datoteko "index.htm"

Multimedia and various browsing 'connections' (Flash, Shockwave) have contextually and aesthetically obscured the border between net.art and CD-ROM art.

Teo Spiller (net.artist from Ljubljana engaged, among other things, in the exploration of the relationship between art market and net.art and of prospects of net.art trade, started two years ago with the resounding international 'net.art trade forum' [<http://www.teo-spiller.org/forum/>]) and Timothy Murray (professor for film and video at the Cornell University and curator of the world renowned CD-ROM art exhibition, entitled 'Contact Zones') have made a CD-ROM containing printed net.art works (off-line) with the aim to pose certain questions related to digital art (or 'art').

Apart from considerations about the (un)suitability of now universally adopted notions of 'net.art' and 'CD-ROM art', expressed also in the paradoxical title of the project, '(off-line) net-art', they have also been interested in issues concerning 'the decline of history' and the transitory character of inscription in the process of transferring information from the 'graspable' form to informational servers. Namely, server owners are becoming masters of 'truth', for they can change every data about the present and the past whenever they want.

The third subject connected with the phenomenon of digital 'art' is the relationship between the copy and the original.

Participants at the INFOS fair (as well as readers of the *M'ARS* magazine) are given a present comprising 34 (original?) artworks, which they can freely multiply and change without limitation.

The result is *INFOS 2000 (off-line) net.art contest*, an international contest for net.art works with the financial and logistic support of Infos Ltd. Thirty-four artists applied (from Australia, Canada, Columbia, Croatia, Estonia, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Italy, Israel, the Netherlands, Poland, Rumania, Tasmania, Vietnam and the United States of America). The jury, consisting of Igor Zabel (the president of the jury), Timothy Murray, Teo Spiller and Igor Štromajer, awarded the following works:

- First award: Ian Campbell (Canada): *Bandana*;
Second award: Calin Man (Rumania): *The Last Man Standing*;
Third award: Gary Zebington (Australia): *Termite*.

The contest topics are protected with copyright similar to GNU GPL, which enables copying and changing of the contents with certain limitations. All information in this connection, as well as concepts, reflections, the contest itself and, of course, the 34 original digital artworks can be found on the accompanying compact disk.

Technical note: In the Windows environment, insert the compact disc into your disc drive. Autorun will open the first page of the compact disc; next you click 'NET.ART'. In other environments, open the /spiller/ directory and use browser to open the 'index.htm' file.

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