

2008 in High Definition

FACT is delighted to announce its investment in a range of new high-brightness and High-Definition projection equipment in readiness for 2008 and beyond. This significant investment in technology infrastructure will benefit artists, exhibitors and cultural organisations locally and nationally, incorporating a new 20 000 ANSI Lumen projector for external projection, plus a range of 3-chip and single chip HD and SXGA+ installation and exhibition projectors for high impact display. Arts and cultural organisations in Liverpool and beyond now have access to these technologies at subsidised rates, as well as a wealth of in-house presentation and production support from leaders in the field.

For more information contact Lian Harter [0151] 707 4433.



tenantspin Academy

tenantspin will continue its hugely successful training programme, utilising the latest state-of-the-art technology available in FACT. tenantspin's year-long training programme offers citizens creative tools to express and debate their opinions. Web-streaming, film-making and studio management are just some of the skills being continuously explored by the team.

www.tenantspin.org

FACT Online Archive

FACT's new online Archive, launched in August 2007, gives access to the world's first online directory of groundbreaking work commissioned and presented by FACT's *Video Positive* festivals between 1989 and 2000. The living archive is constantly evolving and reflecting FACT's diverse programme: making old and new work available to communities and audiences around the world.

www.fact.co.uk/archive



FACT Newsflash

Be the first to hear about FACT events and news by signing up to our new e-flash service. Simply send an e-mail with "SUBSCRIBE to E-FLASH" in the message header to mailinglist@fact.co.uk

FACT Membership

What better time to become a FACT Member than in 2008? With a whole range of benefits from three FREE cinema tickets on sign-up; regular cinema ticket discounts (and no booking fee); invitations to special screenings, events and previews; discounts in the FACT café and bar, as well as with partner restaurants, bars and shops close to FACT.

Enjoy year-long benefits for an annual membership of £27 (single), £42 (joint, 2 people at same address) or £22 (for students, over 60s, and those on income support). To join now or to purchase as a gift call 08707 583217 (9.30am-8.30pm) or ask in person at the Ticket office.

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FACT



EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE
2008 PROGRAMME



humanfutures

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In 2008 FACT devotes its programme to *Human Futures* with exhibitions, events and debates which will inspire new ways of thinking about life and art – now and in the future.

Advancing technology is accelerating the evolutionary process and changing collective notions of who we are and how we live, work and play. We are moving towards being able to increase longevity, prevent disease, improve intelligence and spread beyond the confines of Earth. Yet it is human nature that will dictate how this technology is harnessed and applied. The future is ours to shape.



humanfutures mybody mymind myworld

Where are humans headed? What does the future have in store for our children's children? What choices could we make? What futures do we want to create?

Throughout the year *Human Futures* presents innovative works by internationally renowned artists which transcend the borders between the physical, virtual, biological and digital. Their focus on convergence reflects the unfolding of a conceptual frontier in which art informs the world of technological, scientific and social research.

The works by artists featured in *Human Futures* can be seen as a clue to what art or life may look like in the future. Whether they reveal new ways of exploring and understanding our human biology or our ability to create and exist in virtual, digital or physical worlds, they comment on and extend current thinking.

The *Human Futures* programme is structured around three main areas: *My Body*, *My Mind* and *My World*. The interconnection between these areas unites us, and through *Human Futures*, FACT aims to activate us all to think about the fundamental changes coming our way in our mental capacities and relationship to the body and the environments we inhabit.

Linked to each area will be a major exhibition, special screenings, public talks and practical workshops which will encourage discussion and debate on the social, psychological and emotional consequences of living in a digital and technologically networked society.

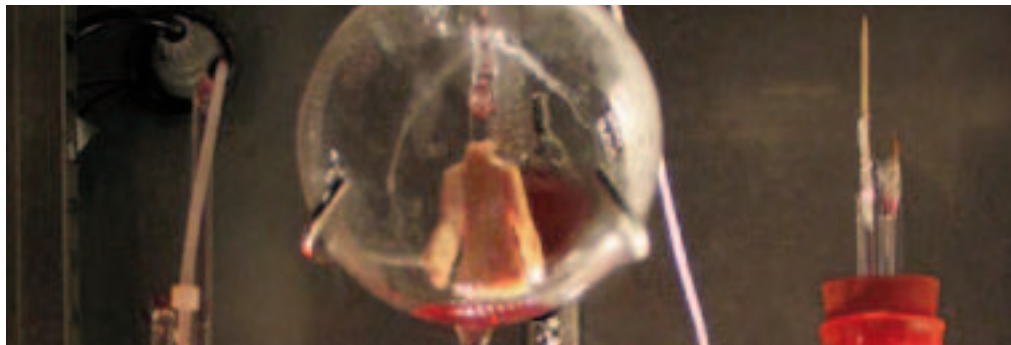
Towards the end of 2008, a publication and symposium will draw together the whole year of events and community involvement to engage public and professionals in discussion and debate around the *Human Futures* research questions of:

Who am I? Who are you? Who are we? How will technology affect human experience and awareness? What is the role of art and creative technology in shaping human futures?

The year at FACT closes with the focus on young people, the hope and guardians of our human futures; their games and creations may be virtual today – but could be our reality tomorrow.

This booklet gives a brief introduction to our programme: more will be revealed in 2008. In the meantime I hope you enjoy reading about what's happening at FACT and that you'll be a part of our *Human Futures* adventure.

Mike Stubbs
Director / CEO



my body

The biological environment and our relationship to the body.

SK-Interfaces

01 February – 30 March FREE Entry

Is it art or is it science? *SK-Interfaces* launches FACT's *Human Futures* programme, exploring the idea of skin and biology as a material for art. This is the first exhibition of its kind in the UK, featuring new commissions from international award-winning artists.

Visitors will experience an engaging and thought-provoking approach to how current technologies are changing our perceptions of the body and bridging the gap between science and art. The Australian group *Tissue Culture & Art*, will be in residence in Liverpool, supervising and feeding this 'living' exhibition of experiments with organic matter.

International curator Jens Hauser has worked with FACT to deliver the exhibition, which promises to be a landmark event in the history of contemporary art.

Exhibition supported by American Center Foundation

RELATED EVENTS

SK-Interfaces Conference

08 – 09 February

A hugely significant event discussing the aesthetic, philosophical and medical issues raised in the exhibition, and the wider debates on and around skin and its role as an interface.

Supported by Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation



Virtual Lives: Body Language

Virtual Lives is a research project that aims to develop a better understanding of the new media technologies used by the young people today, aiming to influence and challenge the long-term programming of three Northwest organisations: FACT, FOLLY and Cornerhouse.

Placing young people at the heart of the research, the project gives them the opportunity to have a more active and responsible role, such as a researcher, commissioner or collaborator. Working together, the young people will create an interactive product to be presented to other young people in 2008.

Funded by:

en-quire

inspiring learning in galleries

Partners: Cornerhouse, FOLLY, LJMU and ICDC

SONICStreams: Sound Art, Science, Health

A creative collaboration between Alder Hey Children's Hospital and FACT, exploring the impact of sound on the human body.

Working with an established team of new media artists, medical professionals, education experts and young people, FACT and Alder Hey Children's hospital set out to explore the impact of one of the few sensory factors that can be changed within a health care environment: sound. The results of this collaboration will be presented and debated at the *SONICStreams* Conference in March 2008.

wellcometrust



my mind

The digital environment and our relationship to artificial life.

AI and AI

18 April – 08 June FREE Entry

History, celebrity, crime and music come together in AI and AI's spectacular computer-generated videos which radically re-invent contemporary pop-culture through celebrity icons, live action performance and animation special effects.

In their first major UK exhibition, AI and AI premiere a new commission developed through the artists' residency at the historical Edge Hill station, in partnership with Metal. In this multiple-screen video installation, popular contemporary icons are featured in a game-like environment, inspired by Liverpool's unique social, historical and political context. The new commission will be shown alongside two earlier works originally made for television, *Interstellar Stella* (2006) and *Perpetual Motion in the Land of Milk and Honey* (2004). Together AI and AI unite the timeless power of the imagination with the boundless possibility of cutting-edge technology, to tell the story of a world running parallel to our own.

RELATED EVENTS

Special Effects: On the Edge of Reality

During the period of the AI and AI exhibition, FACT and Picturehouse will present a special programme of films and events celebrating developments in special effects and computer-generated images in film.

Special Effects: Young People's Commission and Film Preview

The culmination of a truly momentous year for two *Young Liverpool Film Night* award winners, as they premiere their feature film productions at the *Special Effects* event.

A life-changing opportunity, the prize-winners each received a production budget to recruit a film crew, gain access to industry specialists and gain valuable experience developing professional film-making skills. Sign up to our new e-flash for the latest news on this and all forthcoming FACT highlights. See page 7.



my world

The physical world and our relationship to the natural and built environment.

Pipilotti Rist

27 June – 31 August FREE Entry

One of Europe's leading contemporary artists Pipilotti Rist (Switzerland), presents a major UK solo exhibition. Famed for her stunning sculptural video installations that are often presented in unusual locations, the exhibition will traverse the natural to the industrial world.

With a new FACT commission and the UK premiere of *Gravity, Be My Friend*, Rist's spectacular and beautiful video installations celebrate the power of self-invention and the creation of new rules for humans living together. Fantasy and the everyday are remixed into a humorous and kaleidoscopic exploration of the female voice and body in contemporary culture.

RELATED EVENTS

City of the Future: Social Media and Geo Mapping

Following his residency at Weatherhead High School, Liverpool-based artist Ross Dalziel will work with young people to use social media and geo-mapping to produce a carbon-neutral city of the future. Using 2.0 applications like Google SketchUP and Google Earth, they will explore the possibilities for new ways of living. The public can explore and experience this virtual 3D environment.

Electric Blanket

tenantspin continues its development into North Liverpool and builds on its strong community links in South Liverpool, with the launch of *Electric Blanket*, a new commission designed to unite the city through creative work.

The patchwork quilt has long been a way of drawing communities and artists together to mark important events. tenantspin updates this idea to engage with groups across the city through creative technologies. This blanket will not be flat or still, but alive with stories for all to share and enjoy.

Human Futures Community Debates

Cultural Commentators in the Community

FACT's pioneering webcasting project tenantspin, supported by Arena Housing, will take a leading role during the 2008 Capital of Culture celebrations by engaging the community in creative conversations around Human Futures themes of *My Body*, *My Mind* and *My World*.

January will see the launch of *Cultural Commentators in the Community*, in which tenantspin becomes the voice of city residents as they showcase, document and inspire debate following their attendance and observation of the City's 2008 programme, including *Human Futures*.

For the last seven years, key decision makers and cultural voices, ranging from Lord David Puttnam to Will Self, have been on the tenantspin couch, adding their voice to debates on art and life in Liverpool. tenantspin has connected with thousands of the City's residents, debating politics, regeneration, society, economics and cultural change.

Creative Conversations

tenantspin will be running a series of *Creative Conversations* for local and international communities who are interested in public debates; exploring biological, digital and physical environments of the present and the future.

Healthy Futures

tenantspin will be inviting the public to take part in a series of events in Sefton Park, relating to health and wellbeing, including the opportunity to take part in *Human Futures* lecture banquets.

