Studio XX

Bulletin 51 Newsletter
12.2009

Stéphanie Lagueux, Paulina Abarca-Cantin, Britt Wray, Coco Riot, Jane Moloney, Dina Vescio. Salon Femmes br@nchées #75, photo: Jessica MacCormack.

**Studio XX will be closed from December 23rd, 2009 to January 3rd, 2010.
The XX Team is pleased to send this last Newsletter of 2009 to all our members, partners and collaborators with our best wishes for the holiday season!**

:: Director's Diary Dec 09: New Members on the Team and the Board
:: Call for Proposals: Artist in Residency Program at Studio XX [Feb. 15th, 2010]
:: Workshops at Studio XX in 2010
:: Become an XX member!

Director's Diary: Dec 2009

It was wonderful to see so many of you at **Wired Women Salon #75** chez Eastern Bloc last week! **Jessica MacCormack, Rae Spoon, Janna Graham** and **Carol Whiteman** gave us abundant inspiration to savour over the holidays while the NFB's luminous **Kat Baulu** presented the **First Person Digital** submission guidelines for 2010 projects.

If that was not enough, below you will find the guidelines for application to our **Resident Artist** stream, our **workshop** offerings and if critical discourse is your passion, do not forget **.dpi #17's Call for Papers**.

Sincere thanks to **Alliance Vivafilm, Aveda Salon Spa, Rouge Nail Bar, Saco Hair** and board member **J. Karène Rietschen** for the holiday gift certificates that made our WW #75's prize draw so much fun!

Studio XX is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dina Vescio** to the position of **Programming Coordinator**. Dina is a recent graduate of the Master of Art History Program at Concordia University (2009). Her thesis investigated webcam-based artworks by Canadian artists **Janet Cardiff** and **Cheryl Sourkes**, focusing on themes of surveillance and spectacle while drawing from feminist studies to explore how women achieve agency via the Internet. As a **DOCAM** Research Assistant at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (2007-2009), she performed case studies on digital video installations and published texts based on media art in museum collections and Internet art for the **Museums and the web** conference (2008) and the DOCAM and CHIN (Canadian Heritage Information Network) websites. Dina has co-curated a number of exhibitions for Concordia's FOFA (Faculty of Fine Arts) Gallery and has worked for artistic institutions in Montreal and Ottawa. With research interests in media art, feminism, museum studies and artistic creation, Dina brings vital new energy to Studio XX.

We are also delighted to announce the appointment of **Marguerite Gawrys** to the position of **Junior Web Developer.** Her solid background will be a great asset as she will work closely with Webmistress **Stéphanie Lagueux** on several project sites. Web artist **Antonia Hernandez** has also joined the team as designer of the First Person Digital site.

On the workshops and production front, **Britt Wray** is the Studio's new Workshops Coordinator, while **Darsha Hewitt** and **Valérie d. Walker** are hard at work on the XX Files Radio Project. **Jane Moloney**, **S.T** and **Coco Riot** have been a formidable Production Team over the past few months. The magnificent **Rashid and Rosetta** Web art project launch with **Isabelle Bernier, Rehab El Sadek, Heba Farid, Andrew Forster, Skawennati Fragnito** and **Hadil Nazmy** put our team to the test and it was a thing of beauty.

In the fall, we bid a fond farewell to **Bérengère Marin Dubuard** as longtime Director of Production and this past week, to Communications ace **Annie Briard**. We thank them for their substantial contributions and wish them every continued success.

The Studio's **Board of Directors** also welcomed two talented new members: interdisciplinary artist and lawyer-to-be **Maroussia Lévesque** and Communications Specialist **J. Karène Rietschin**. **Natacha Clitandre** is the newly elected Vice-President. Many thanks to departing Board member and busy filmmaker **Alexandra Guité**.

The Board will begin 2010 by realizing the next phase of the XX Strategic Plan with consultant **Myriam Grondin** thanks to a Flying Squad Grant.

We wish you joy, inspiration and peace at this very special time of the year...

Paulina Abarca-Cantin
Director General

Photos : 1. Studio XX, photo: Paulina Abarca-Cantin, 2009. 2. Wire Women Salon #75, Kat Baulu and Carol Whiteman, photo : Jessica MacCormack, 2009. 3. Wire Women Salon #74, Heba Farid and Isabelle Bernier, photo : Stéphanie Lagueux, 2009.

Call for Proposals : Artist in Residence Program at Studio XX

Studio XX is currently accepting submissions for its Artist in Residence program.

Deadline for 2010-2011 : February 15, 2010.

Selected projects are announced in April of each year.

Studio XX's Residency Program was created in keeping with the diversity of approaches that have been brought about by new and multiple methodologies and processes being practiced by artists working with new media and the Web as creative platforms. Residencies are offered each year through three major axes identified below. This offers a supportive context within which Québecois and Canadian women artists may conceptualize and create, and which can adequately accommodate the evolving realities of contemporary networked practices.

Residency Program

Three 8-week residencies are offered per year
In 2009-2010, the Studio's annual theme is resistance. However, all themes are eligible for consideration. We favour projects taking into account the Studio's orientation and commitment to open source software.

Artists may orient their submissions towards one of the following axes:

The Matricules Project Residency

This residency is centered around the use Studio XX's archives as source material for an artwork. Matricules, one of the world's largest archives of women's digital artworks, allows the Studio to post all of its archival material to date online. It is at once an image bank and a repository of all of the Studio's writings and documentary footage. All of the original source material is also available at the Studio.

The Matricules Project comprises more than 3400 images files, sounds, videos, written critical texts and press releases documenting all our artistic streams: The Wired Women Salons, The Artist Residencies, Co-productions and Collaborations, Projects and Special Events, training workshops, the HTMlles Festival, XX Files radio interviews and .dpi articles. The Matricules Project database allows the user to cross-reference individual artists, events and documents, switching from one event to another. Matricules' main interface offers an image table of contents by event type and by month, providing an historical trajectory of the Studio's activities.
This innovative prototype was developed with Drupal Content Management System (CMS): an open source tool for Web site creation.   [**http://studioxx.org/en/matricules**]

Virtual Residency

In response to a growing demand by women artists working outside of the Montreal region wishing to explore the different possibilities of on-line and/or networked collaborations, Studio XX is in the process of elaborating the mechanics of Virtual Residencies in order to facilitate the creation of works via other networks.

Open Residency

Open and self-directed, these residencies offer access to women artists wishing to deepen the experimentation phase of projects they are currently developing.

Image : Magali Babion, Onion Router Performance, Wired Women Salon 67.
Photo: Stéphanie Lagueux, 2008.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Studio XX favours interdisciplinary approaches and welcomes projects created or directed by women artists or collectives working in collaboration with other professionals. This axis responds to the growing number of trans-disciplinary projects and their inherent technological challenges and complexities. Selected projects must be undertaken using the Studio's available resources (equipment, technical knowledge, financial resources).

All submissions are reviewed by a Selection Committee. Selection of applicants is also based on at least two out of the three following criteria:

- Offering significant support and at an important point of the artist's development
- Resonant with Studio XX's priorities in terms of technical experimentation
- Relevant, captivating expression of theoretical, political and/or social engagement

Residencies are eight weeks in length. For accepted proposals, Studio XX offers:

- $2000 to be divided as an Artist Fee and/or towards up to 45 hours of instruction/technical support.
- Access to the Studio's equipment and Lab ($3335 rental value)
- Possibility of taking any of the Studio's workshops ($200-300 value)
- Distinct working space for the artist and her instructor

Studio XX will disseminate the artist's project on its Web site, with an artist's presentation to be given within its Femmes br@nchées Salon Series in the year following completion of the project. For participants working from afar, the presentation will take place on-line via streaming or chat. Residencies do not include travel costs, accommodation and per diem, and the artist is responsible for her living arrangements while in Montreal.

To submit a residency proposal - Online registration :
http://www.studioxx.org/node/add/residence-form

Co-Production Program

Throughout the year, Studio XX accepts co-production proposals from artists as well as from collectives and artist-organizations. Emerging and experienced artists working with new technologies and curators are invited to submit project ideas including technical specifications.

The Studio provides a Linux Lab and iMacs, video an digital audio resources. Projects are selected based on quality, the availability of the lab and technical requirements. Co-productions carried out at Studio XX demand full autonomy from the artists on both a conceptual and technical level. These residencies require autonomy on the conceptual and technical level but if necessary, the Studio can provide personalized technical support at the hourly rate of $25. The projects can stretch over a three-month period.

During the residency, artists can have access to Studio XX's computer, video and digital audio equipment. They will also have access to available space on one of the large bandwidth servers - ideal for network experiments and Webcasting - and to a dispatcher for wireless Internet connections. It will be necessary to provide a fixed schedule and to book time in the lab.

It is possible for the Studio to cover certain expenses for co-productions, such as training fees. The productions and co-productions are not housed on our web site but we do direct the artists towards servers that can accommodate their work. Studio XX actively seeks to program artworks produced within the co-productions at events as the Femmes br@nchées Salon series.

To submit a co-production proposal - Online registration :
http://www.studioxx.org/node/add/residence-form

Workshops at Studio XX in 2010
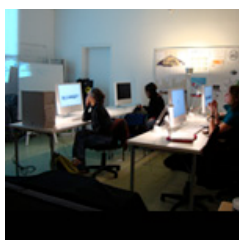
Autonomy and Activism :: Multimedia Creation on Open Source software

The workshop will give participants the opportunity to discover and develop the creative potential of multimedia design on the Linux platform. Participating artists will conceive and create a project and become proficient with the latest and most popular multimedia Open Source applications (freeware with Open Source code). Participants will work in a quickly evolving and dynamic creative space adapting the tools that are appropriate for them. **Two sessions of this exciting multipart workshop are left to choose from, or try them both** :

- **Linux** training and **Ubuntu Studio « Install Fest »** (12h) :

By the end of this course, participants will be able to configure and adapt their operating system and be able to acquire and install the freeware that corresponds to their needs;
With **Bérengère Marin Dubuard** and **Izaak Branderhorst**

Dates: **January 7th and January 14, 2010**

Cost: Linux systems and Install fest: $95 (includes GST + TVQ)

- Initiation to creating Web pages with **WordPress** (30h) :

Introduction to creating Web sites with WordPress, system for dynamic content management. Participants will produce a Web site to showcase a portfolio of their work. Projects will be made with digital images, animations, video and/or sound.
With **Jeremy Clarke**

Date: Cost: **February 4th to March 25th, 2010**

Cost: WordPress: $235 (includes GST + TVQ)

Patrice Coulombe, 2008
Photo : Stéphanie Lagueux

Media Space: MAX/MSP and Jitter

With **Patrice Coulombe**

This workshop will give artists the chance to acquire essential techniques and notions of MAX/MSP, Jitter and Micro-controllers : learn and master elements including: sound options, video manipulation and physical interactivity.
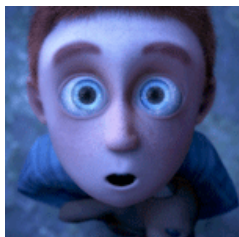
 The second session is now open for registration.

Dates: Sundays from 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Dates: **January 10th to April 11th 2010**

Cost: $225 (includes GST + TVQ)

* Prerequisite: A basic knowledge of computers and multimedia applications is recommended. Programming experience is an advantage.

Digital Ludology :: video game design, interactivity and 3D animation with Blender

Image : *Starry Night* @ Mathias Pedersen

With **Julien Beauséjour**
And **: Heather Kelley, Cindy Poremba** and **Marc Roberge**

This workshop offers participants the opportunity to deepen their understanding of digital creation by developing interactive components of their work. Participants will explore the world of 3D animation and uses in game art in particular.

Participants will learn the key technical components required for a 3D production:

- Modeling : Lighting, texture, materials and colours.
- Animation: Armature and animation techniques
- Real-time workflow incorporated into the game engine for Blender 3D
- Video integration

Topical presentations by professionals from the industry will be scheduled to coincide with appropriate dates during

the course. Theoretical aspects of design relating to the construction, content and interactive concept development will be explored to optimize the game structure in the artist's works.

Dates: Wednesdays from 6:00 to 9:00 PM

Session 1 (technical classes on the Blender Interface, specifically modeling, texturing, animation, rigging)
-> 1 week intro **January 20th, 2010**
-> 9 weeks of technical classes **January 27th to March 24th, 2010**

Session 2 (Blender Game Engine)
-> 6 weeks of classes from **March 31th to May 5th, 2010**

Cost: Session 1: $280.00, Session 2: $170.00 (taxes included)

For more information, please visit:
www.blender.org/
http://studioxx.org/en/node/2422

* Prerequisite: Basic computer knowledge and the desire to have fun!

For information: 514.845.0289 or please email **ateliers (at) studioxx.org**

Participants to Studio XX's workshops must be members of Studio XX.

These professional workshops offered at Studio XX are generously sponsored by Emploi Québec and are offered at a 10th of their market price.

Become an XX member !

Membership fees are:

Regular Membership $40,00
Community Membership* $60,00
Supporting Member $100,00 or more

* Reserved for non-profit organizations.
All community memberships include 3 regular registrations.
** All prices include GST + TVQ

Your membership will allow Studio XX to pursue pertinent and innovative projects and respond more adequately to the needs of people such as yourself. Members enjoy privileges such as:

- Small workshops in a friendly and supportive environment
- Technical assistance
- Customized courses
- Open Access to The XX Computer Lab
- Private and personalized workspace on our local server
- Free or reduced admission to all Femmes Br@nchées Salons, mini conferences and the HTMlles Festival
- Newsletter informing you of all of our other activities and preferred information regarding equipment sales.
- Right to vote at our Annual General Assembly

To become a member of Studio XX : **Download** (PDF file), print and fill out the registration form and send it along with your cheque made to the order of Studio XX. You will receive a membership card and become a part of a great community.

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ateliers : (514) 845-0289 / **http://www.studioxx.org**

Founded in 1996, Studio XX is Montreal's foremost feminist digital resource centre. Through a variety of creative activities and initiatives, the Studio works with women to demystify digital technologies, critically examining their social aspects, facilitating women's access to technology and creating and exhibiting women's digital art.

Studio XX thanks its members and Partners for their generous support: The Canada Council for the Arts, The Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Canadian Heritage, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, The City of Montréal, Emploi Québec and The Conseil québécois des ressources humaines en culture.

Studio XX is a member of and active in the following associations and organizations : Independent Media Arts Alliance (IMAA), Conseil québécois des arts médiatiques (CQAM), Culture Montréal, English-Language Arts Network (ELAN), Regroupement des centres d'artistes autogérés du Québec (RCAA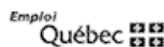Q), Koumbit, La table des groupes des femmes.