

Jam! – Art, science and beyond

One hundred scientists, artists, and students to participate in an innovative multimedia British Science Festival event at UCA Farnham

An unusual public event will take place at the University for the Creative Arts (UCA) at Farnham on Wednesday September 9, 2009. Around 100 scientists, science students, artists and interested members of the public will attend *Jam!* This will be a free evening event, with invited speakers, VJs, and opportunities to encounter artists and to socialise in a friendly informal atmosphere.

Supported by the University for the Creative Arts, the UCA Art Science & Culture Research Cluster and GaiaNova Productions, *Jam!* is part of this year's British Science Festival, hosted by the University of Surrey.

In a novel multimedia format, *Jam!* will present a dialogue between guest speakers Bronac Ferran and Tina Gonsalves. The evening will be punctuated by 'sandpit' style roundtable discussions amongst the audience-participants, 'in conversation' events with interdisciplinary artists, ambient visuals and sound from guest VJs Philip Mayer and Pedro Zaz of GaiaNova Productions, and refreshments.

Subtitled 'Art and science and beyond' *Jam!* will explore issues raised by cutting edge interdisciplinary work. Guest speaker, Bronac Ferran, is a former Director of the Interdisciplinary Arts Department at Arts Council England where she set up numerous initiatives including the ACE/AHRC Art and Science Research Fellowships programme and the Interact series of Artists Placements within research and industry contexts. She has a part-time role as Senior Tutor, Research for the Innovation Design Engineering department at the Royal College of Art and works nationally and internationally as a media arts and interdisciplinary researcher, writer and event producer.

Artist Tina Gonsalves' creative investigations integrate art, science and technology to produce embodied, interactive, audiovisual works that offer new ways of experiencing

the connection between our 'internal' body and its external environment. She is currently honorary artist in residence at the Institute of Neurology, UK, visiting artist at the MIT Media Lab, USA and artist in residence at the Nokia Research Labs, Finland.

Jam! has been organised by the UCA Art Science & Culture Research Cluster.

Professor Kathleen Rogers, a leading cluster member, explained some of the thinking behind the event. 'Artists making hybrid art projects have been combining bio- or other technologies and art for some decades with differing intellectual and aesthetic intent. Artists are positioned to understand the conceptual unity between different disciplines. Working outside of categories into shifting hybrid domains they can reach across and build bridges between many levels of complexity, from molecular genetics, for example, to the production of art. It is not longer enough to look at things as art or science – we need to go beyond these divisions.'

Fellow cluster member, Adrian Holme, added: 'we have produced an event that will enable people from different disciplines, along with interested members of the general public, to come together and exchange in an informal atmosphere, and to engage with cutting edge ideas on art, science and beyond. It will be a thought-provoking and stimulating experience, and it will also be fun.'

The *Jam!* event runs from 19.00 to 22.00 on Wednesday September 9th 2009 at UCA Farnham. Free tickets can be booked by visiting the www.britishsciencefestival.org or by phoning 0207 019 4947. Early booking is advised.

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Further information:

Event details

Jam!

Wednesday September 9, 2009, at 19.00 to 22.00

The John Luard Building

University for the Creative Arts

Falkner Road
Farnham
GU9 7DS

Free event

Booking: www.britishsciencefestival.org or phone 0207 019 4947

Refreshments provided

Speakers:

Bronac Ferran

Tina Gonsalves

Web links:

www.boundaryobject.org

Bronac Ferran

www.tinagonsalves.com

Tina Gonsalves

www.ucreative.ac.uk

University for the Creative Arts

www.gaianova.co.uk

GaiaNova Productions

www.britishsciencefestival.org

British Science Association

Acknowledgements

Jam! is sponsored by University for the Creative Arts; The UCA Art, Science & Culture Research Cluster; GaiaNova Productions.

For further information contact:

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