

Science vs Art

Entertainment and Education

17th September 2009, Bombay Bar, Zürich

Film: Are You The Favorite Person of Anybody? (4:10)

Film: Force 1 TD (12:00)

Speaker: Scientific Visualization: Science x Art (10:00)

-- Break --

Film: Ballistic Jaw Propulsion of Trap-Jaw Ants (3:40)

Film: Bigfoot: A Beast on the Run (excerpt) (16:00)

Speaker: Q & A with Director David Thayer (5:00)

-- Break --

Film: Melbourne Years (0:52)

Film: Drunk Bees (6:55)

Speaker: Evidence-based Medicine and the Placebo Effect (10:00)

Film: The Discipline of DE (9:00)

Speaker: Things Learned From Making Games (10:00)

-- Break --

Speaker: Colors of a Black Hole (10:00)

Film: Tripping With Caveh (31:00)

-- Music until late --

Acknowledgements

Many of the films tonight come from Wholphin; a DVD magazine of unseen films. It is thanks to Brent Hoff, Emily Doe and McSweeney's that we could show them tonight. wholphindvd.com, mcsweeneys.net.

Caveh Zahedi also very kindly let us show his film for free.

Thanks also to Bombay Bar for lending us their space and to our speakers who gave up their time to teach us all something.

Are You The Favorite Person of Anybody?

Written by Miranda July, directed by Miguel Arteta

Miranda July is a filmmaker, artist, and writer. She grew up in Berkeley, California where she began her career as a teenager, writing and directing plays. July's videos, performances, and web-based projects have been presented at sites such as the Museum of Modern Art, the Guggenheim Museum and in the 2002 and 2004 Whitney Biennials. She wrote, directed and starred in her first feature-length film, *Me and You and Everyone We Know* (2005), which won a special jury prize at the Sundance Film Festival and four prizes at the Cannes Film Festival, including the Camera d'Or. Her collection of stories, *No One Belongs Here More Than You*, was published in 2007 and won the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award.

Force 1 TD

Directed by Randy Krallman

Randy Krallman is a career skullduggerist. He was born in Alaska, raised in Utah, New Mexico, Texas, and Idaho, and is currently based in New York City.

Scientific Visualization: Science x Art

Speaker: Christine Corbett Moran

Christine Corbett Moran is an itinerant scientist, intermittent artist, and unrepentant dilettante. After working from the Arctic to the Middle East as a software engineer, publishing the odd paper or two in the field of natural language processing, picking up a few obscure languages, and graduating from MIT with two degrees, her interests shifted to the sky and she moved to Zürich to pursue her PhD in theoretical astrophysics. Her photos and interactive art pieces have been in several shows over the past years and she is as of late exploring how best to represent and interpret scientific data, for fun, beauty, and (scientific) profit.

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[Break]

With: Baby Squid, Born Like Stars, by Scientific Discovery

Ballistic Jaw Propulsion of Trap-Jaw Ants

Scientific Discovery

The trap-jaw ant has a pair of jagged scythes growing from its head that, when triggered by tiny hairs, can smash down at 145 cricket-decapitating miles an hour. The motion pushes the boundaries of physics, and often causes the ants to do a thing not unlike flying.

Bigfoot: A Beast on the Run (excerpt)

Directed by David Thayer

David Thayer was born in San Jose, California, studied English literature at San Francisco State University, and moved to Switzerland in 1999. He has performed electronic music under the moniker Xeno Volcano, and has been doing freelance work in video production since 2003.

Q & A with Director David Thayer

David Thayer, director of *Bigfoot: A Beast on the Run* will be joining us directly after the screening of his film to answer your questions.

happymonkey.ch

[Break]

With: Look At The Sun, by Nature Study

Melbourne Years

Directed by Spike Jonze

wherethewildthingsare.com

weloveyouso.com

Drunk Bees

Scientific Discovery, Brent Hoff, Emily Doe, Dr. Charles I. Abramson, Serge Labesque and Julie Mustard.

Julie Mustard has a bachelor of science in chemistry from Harvey Mudd College, and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Arizona. She is interested in how changes in gene regulation and protein function create behaviour, learning, and memory. Because all animals evolved from a common ancestor, she says the way things work in a honeybee brain are pretty similar to how they work in a human brain. Therefore, as strange as it seems, learning how alcohol affects the bee brain will help us to understand the effects of alcohol on the human brain. Hopefully this will lead to treatments for alcoholism and alcohol abuse, which affect millions of people worldwide.

Evidence-based Medicine and the Placebo Effect

Speaker: Lucy Reynell

Lucy Reynell is a PhD student at the Universität Zürich Institute of Medical Virology, working on an obscure immune response to HIV and the way in which it fails to protect us from AIDS. She doesn't think there will ever be a vaccine for HIV, but feels strongly about increasing rates of vaccination against other pathogens and wonders how best to achieve this. Does increasing the fraction of children who are vaccinated against measles depend more on science communication, or outspoken 'experts' that the public choose to believe?

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The Discipline of DE

Directed by Gus Van Sant

Gus Van Sant is an author, musician, and photographer, but is best known as a film director. His works range from indie films such as Last Days and Elephant, which won both the Palm D'Or and Best Director at the 2003 Cannes Film Festival, to major studio productions, including My Own Private Idaho, To Die For, and Good Will Hunting. Gus is an involved member of the Portland community and has been a recipient of the ACLU "Freedom of Expression" award.

Things Learned From Making Games

Speaker: Frederik Berg Østergaard

Frederik Berg Østergaard makes learning and educational games, but is also a freeform roleplaying evangelist. He is currently finishing his M.A in Science of Religions. Frederik likes snowboarding and cats, but is terrified of toxoplasmosis.

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[Break]

With: Safari, directed by Catherine Chalmers

Colors of a Black Hole

Speaker: Josef Kristofoletti

Josef Kristofoletti, is a mural artist currently working in Geneva at CERN physics lab on a mural of ATLAS, the largest particle detector ever constructed. He was born in Transylvania in 1980, and has lived most of his life in the U.S. He graduated from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and received a masters degree from Boston University. He is a mural painter, and has spent the last two years travelling around the U.S. painting murals and doing other projects with the artist collaborative transitantenna.com.

Tripping With Caveh

Directed by Caveh Zahedi

Caveh Zahedi is an American film director and actor of Iranian descent.

Tripping with Caveh is a 30-minute documentary in which independent filmmaker Caveh Zahedi takes hallucinogenic mushrooms with singer-songwriter Will Oldham (Bonnie 'Prince' Billy.) The film was originally intended as the first instalment of a would-be television series, but no other episodes have been shot to date.

We Speak English

A project by Russell Quinn

We Speak English arranges occasional events in Zürich.

Science vs Art is the first of these and future plans are to hold a board games contest, an evening of storytelling and perhaps a sports dance-off. We'll see.

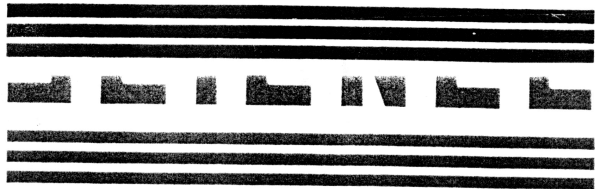
More information will be posted on our homepage when the time is right. To be more proactive, you can follow us on Twitter or join the Facebook group. There are links to both on the website.

wespeakenglish.ch

Russell Quinn is British, but currently lives in Zürich where he started a Swiss branch of the Danish web company Spoiled Milk. He now focusses on a diverse range of projects that includes consulting, social ventures, human-centric technology, handcrafts, computer science, art and wildly speculating about the future.

russellquinn.com

SCIENCE



VS

ART



Science vs Art logo design by Holly Wales
eatjapanesefood.co.uk