

Hosts • WEIRD REALITY is a project of the Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University, and is hosted in close collaboration with the 2016 VIA Festival.

The Frank-Ratchye
STUDIO
for Creative Inquiry

VIA
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Backers • We express our gratitude to the following individuals, whose tax-deductible support has enabled our conference to provide travel assistance to independent artists: Tim Armato • Nitzan Bartov • Sophia Brueckner • Suzanne Chambers • Gregory Dawe • Jonathan Dinu • Margaret Dolinsky • Aaron Koblin • Preston Richey • Omer Shapira • Thomas Wester • Pat Wheaton

WEIRD REALITY

New and independent visions for head-mounted ART & CODE
CARNegie MELLON UNIVERSITY • OCTOBER 6-9, 2016 • PITTSBURGH



WEIRD REALITY: Head-Mounted Art & Code is a four-day symposium dedicated to exploring new and independent visions for virtual, augmented and mixed realities. We aim to showcase independent and emerging voices, creative approaches, diverse and oftentimes marginalized perspectives, and imaginative and critical positions on VR, AR, and MR that depart from typical tech fantasies and other normative, corporate media. The symposium features artist talks, speed presentations, technical workshops and demonstrations, discussion panels, a participant-driven “un-conference”, and a free-to-the-public VR Salon exhibition which is presented in cooperation with the concurrent 2016 VIA Festival.

WEIRD REALITY is our fourth Art & Code symposium, a series of events concerned with liberating the cultural and aesthetic potentials of emerging technologies. Half maker’s festival, half academic conference, WEIRD REALITY takes place October 6-9, 2016 at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

Code of Conduct

The Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry is committed to providing an inclusive experience that is free of harassment and intimidation for all WEIRD REALITY presenters, partners, conference staff, attendees and guests—regardless of gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion (or lack thereof), or technology choices. The STUDIO will not tolerate any form of harassment and/or discriminatory, oppressive, suppressive, or violent behavior.

Harassment may include, but is not limited to, offensive verbal comments, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate or non-consensual physical contact, unwelcome sexual attention, and/or refusing to accept the limits or boundaries set by another participant. We further define suppressive behavior as any sort of communication that stifles or belittles another. Participants asked to stop any behavior are expected to comply immediately. This applies to everyone, including conference staff and sponsors.

The STUDIO expects all WEIRD REALITY participants to adhere to this code of conduct both at the conference and at any conference-related events. If someone engages in harassing behavior, conference organizers may take any action they deem appropriate, including:

- Warning the offender of potential expulsion
- Expulsion from the conference with no refund
- Expulsion from CMU campus and conference-related sites
- Alerting CMU campus and local authorities

If you experience or witness harassment or threatening behavior, or have any other concerns, we encourage you to speak up, say something, and/or contact a member of conference staff immediately. Conference staff can be identified by a WEIRD REALITY hat, and will be happy to help participants contact venue security or local law enforcement, provide escorts, or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment to feel safe for the duration of the event. We value your attendance.

Concurrent Events in PGH

These events aren't technically part of WEIRD REALITY, but you may enjoy them if you're visiting from out-of-town, and even if you're not.

The 2016 VIA Festival is Pittsburgh's leading annual festival for audiovisual culture and experimental new media. If you enjoy cutting-edge live music and projections, this is for you. **Note:** passes for VIA are sold separately from WEIRD REALITY passes.

Ryoji Ikeda at Wood Street Galleries. Japan's best-known electronic audiovisual artist presents his generative installation 'data.matrix'.

The Center for Postnatural History. A museum of genetically modified organisms, the Center is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge relating to the complex interplay between culture, nature, and biotechnology. Its mission is to acquire, interpret, and provide access to a collection of living and preserved organisms of postnatural origin. Open Sundays from 12-4pm at 4913 Penn Ave.

Conflict Kitchen. A restaurant which exclusively serves food from countries with which the United States government is in conflict. Its current focus is on the food, culture and politics of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Confederacy. Open daily 11am-7pm at Schenley Plaza.

Attack Theater at the CMU Miller Gallery. Friday and Saturday evenings at 6pm, Pittsburgh's leading experimental theater/dance group presents "Some Assembly Required" at CMU's campus gallery.

Your Weird Team

Golan Levin (@golan) Conference Founder, Lead Curator
Tom Hughes (@creativeinquiry, tel: +1.412.268.3451), Organizer
Linda Hager, Business Manager (tel: +1.412.268.3451)
Lauren Goshinski, Co-Curator and VIA Festival Co-Director
Anna Henson, VR Salon Technical Producer
That awesome WEIRD REALITY poster? It's by **Mike Budai**.

VR Salon Exhibition

WEIRD REALITY has teamed up with the 2016 VIA Festival to bring you our **VR Salon**: Pittsburgh's first virtual reality exhibition, featuring award-winning and experimental film, indie games, and interactive works by local, national and international artists. Co-curated by Lauren Goshinski (VIA) and Golan Levin (CMU), this exhibition is free, all-ages, and open to the public. **It is held in the 2nd-floor ballroom of the Ace Hotel, 120 South Whitfield Street**, and is open during the hours of:

- Thursday October 06 – 6pm-2am
- Friday October 07 – 11am-2am
- Saturday October 08 – 11am-6pm

Exhibiting artists and works include:

Alfredo Salazar-Caro et al., DiMoDA Museum of Art

Caroline Sindors & Mani Nilchiani, Dark Patterns

Char Stiles & Alicia Iott, Life in the Dreamhouse

Christopher Manzione, Ricky Graham & Seth Cluett, To Notice and Remember

Claire Hentschker, Shining360 / Catacombs

Jeremy Bailey, AR Pregnancy Simulator

Jesse Stiles & Dan Moore, Untitled

Kokoromi Collective, SuperHyperCube

Laura Juo-Hsin Chen, PoopVR

Martha Hipley, Ur Cardboard Pet

Milica Zec, Winslow Porter et al., Giant

Nitzan Bartov, The Artificial and Intelligent

Paolo Pedercini, A Short History of the Gaze

Rachel Rossin, Untitled VR

Sarah Rothberg, Oops I accidentally put on your headset

Scatter, CLOUDS / Exquisite Museum

The Institute for New Feeling, Virtual Shopping Experience

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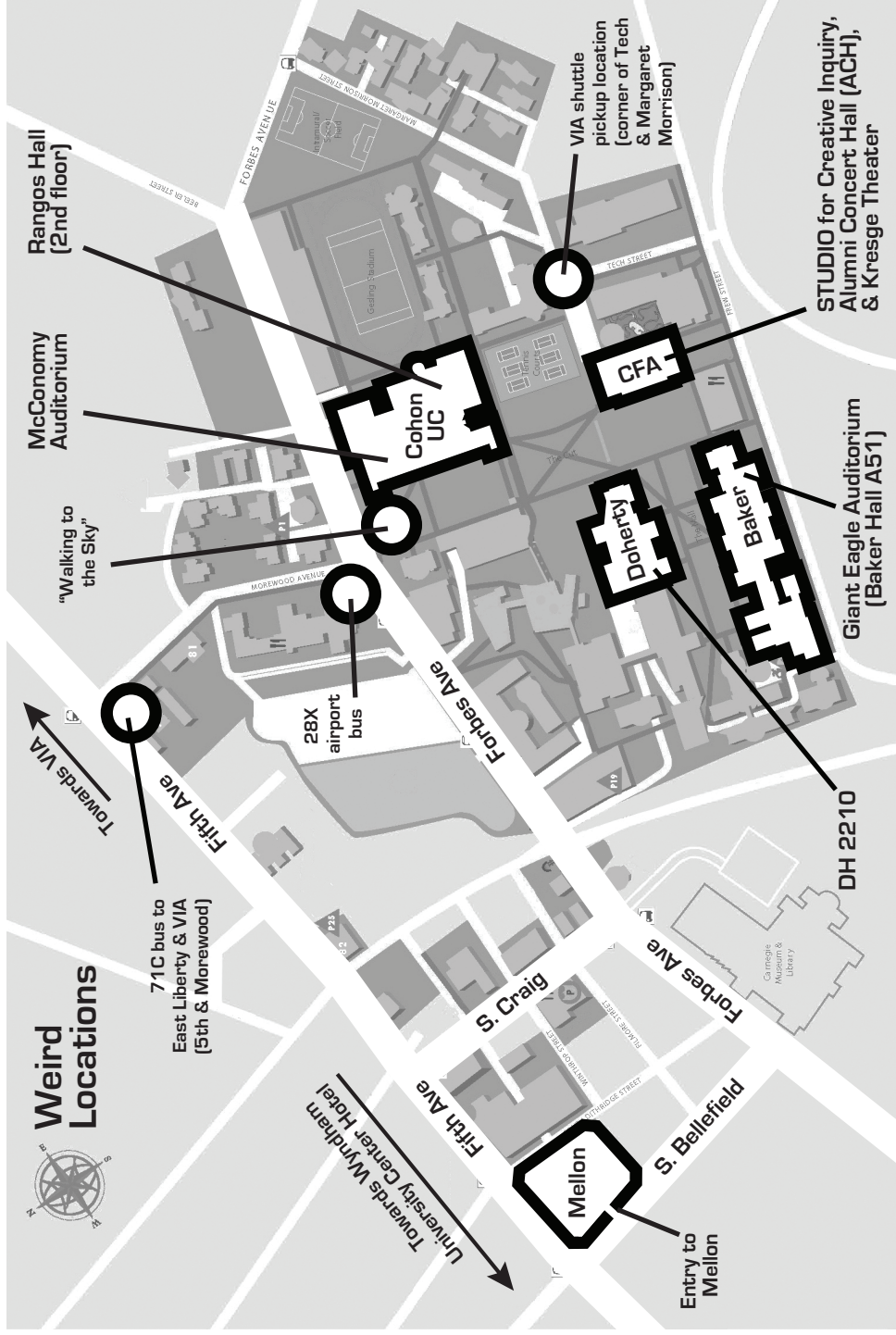
Welcome to WEIRD REALITY

ART && CODE is a conference series concerned with democratizing the means of production for creative culture operators. The first edition, **Programming Environments for Artists, Young People, and the Rest of Us**, (March 2009) brought together key innovators leading significant revolutions in software-arts education. The second edition, **Mobile Art && Code** took place in November 2009, and considered artistic and tactical approaches to mobile, networked and locative media. This was followed by **Art && Code 3D: DIY 3D Sensing and Visualization** (October 2011), which explored the revolution in media culture made possible by low-cost depth sensors such as the Kinect.

Our latest offering, **WEIRD REALITY: Head-Mounted Art && Code** is dedicated to exploring new and independent visions for virtual, augmented and mixed realities. The presenters gathered here include longtime pioneers of immersive and interactive media; emerging artists probing the limits of technological capability and cultural propriety; renowned media theorists, curators, historians and critics; and developers from some of the most innovative companies leading the change in VR/AR/MR technologies. **Presenters Include:**

Alexander Porter • Alfredo Salazar-Caro • Ali Momeni • Andrea Hawksley • Angela Washko • Barry Threw • Benjamin Scott • Brenda Laurel • Charlotte Stiles & Alicia Iott • Christopher Manzione • Cindy Poremba • Cindy Sherman Bishop • Claire Hentschker • Dan Moore • Dorian Dargan • Ekene Ijeoma • Elaine Gomez • eleVR • Emily Eifler • Greg J. Smith • Haru Ji & Graham Wakefield • Heather Kelley • Ingrid Kopp • Institute for New Feeling • James George • Jason Eppink • Jax Deluca • Jeremy Bailey • Jesse Stiles • Kelani Nichole • Ken Perlin • LaJuné McMillian • Larry Shea • Laura Juo-Hsin Chen • Lauren Goshinski • Mani Nilchiani & Caroline Sindors • Mark Skwarek • Mars Wong • Martha Hipley • Michael Naimark • Michelle Ma • Milica Zec • Nick Fox-Gieg • Nitzan Bartov • Omer Shapira • Paolo Pedercini • Rachel Rossin • Ralph Kim • Ricardo Cabello • Rick Barraza • Robert Yang • Rosalind Paradis • Ryan Pamplin • Salome Asega • Sam Lavigne • Sarah Rothberg • Scatter • Scott Andrew • Stefan Welker • Tega Brain • Vi Hart • Vngravity • Wendy Hui Kyong Chun • Winslow Porter • Yasmin Elayat

WEIRD REALITY is a project of CMU's Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry, a laboratory for atypical, anti-disciplinary, and inter-institutional research at the intersections of arts, science, technology and culture. WEIRD REALITY is organized in close partnership with the 2016 VIA Festival, Pittsburgh's premier audiovisual festival and a platform for the intersection of emerging music, new media art, and technology in a wide variety of forms.



	Thursday 6	Friday 7	Saturday 8	Sunday 9		
9a	Registration (Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry) Introduction & Convocation Opening Keynote: Michael Naimark (McCommony Auditorium)	Presentations: Robert Yang, Martha Hipley, Salome Asega (Mellon Auditorium) Presentations: Laura Joo-Hsin Chen, Claire Hentschker, Jeremy Bailey (Mellon Auditorium) Lunch and Speed Presentations (Rangos Hall, University Center)	Presentations: Rachel Rossin, LaJuné McMillian, Ken Perlin (Mellon Auditorium) Presentations: Sarah Rothberg, Alfredo Salazar, Mark Skwarek (Mellon Auditorium) Lunch and Speed Presentations (Rangos Hall, University Center)	Unconference, Show-and-Tell, & Nano Career Fair (STUDIO)	9a	
10a					10a	10a
11a					11a	11a
12					12	
1p					1p	
2p	Panel: Contexts (Kresge) Workshop: Barraza / MS (McCommony)	Panel: Content in VR (McCommony) VR Doodler! (Rangos)	Workshop: Stiles (STUDIO) Workshop: Hawksley (Giant Eagle)	Workshop: Pamplin (Doherty 2210) Workshop: Shapira (Rangos)	2p	
3p					3p	3p
4p	Keynote: Wendy H. K. Chun (McCommony Auditorium)	Keynote: Brenda Laurel (McCommony Auditorium)	Closing Keynote: Vi Hart (Rangos Hall)		4p	
5p	Happy Hour (CFA Great Hall) Shuttles to VR Salon & VIA	Happy Hour (CFA Great Hall) Shuttles to VR Salon & VIA	Happy Hour (CFA Great Hall) Shuttles to VIA (Note: No VR Salon)		5p	
6p					6p	6p
Late	VR Salon, open 6:00p until 2:00a (Ace Hotel / VIA)	VR Salon, open 11:00a until 2:00a (Ace Hotel / VIA)	See http://artandcode.com/weirdreality/schedule for complete and current schedule information		Late	