

Doctoral Thesis Defence: Ståle Stenslie

Lisbeth Harboe is set to defend his PhD thesis *Virtual touch. A study of the use and experience of touch in artistic, multimodal and computer-based environments* at AHO on the 15th of October 2010.

Trial lecture 10.00 *The user's experience of haptic interaction and the sense of touch in interactive art.*

Disputation 12.00 Disputation

PhD thesis

The central focus of this thesis is the use and experience of touch in artistic, multimodal and computer-based environments. It presents how it feels to touch and be touched in such environments. Further it gives an overview of the role of vibrotactile stimulation and corporeal interaction in interactive art, showing how touch can be used to construct meaningful experiences. Touch is approached through practice based research in the arts. Specifically it looks at how bodysuits can function as a two-way tactile display, conveying vibrotactile feedback to the body and interfacing the human to the computer through touch. Haptic stimuli in general and vibrotactile stimuli in particular, can have the effect of making the virtual appear more real. A central contribution of the thesis is the explanation of how touch can be content in itself and form so called haptic storytelling. Theoretically touch is investigated through a phenomenological approach on how the world of our experience is constituted for us. A phenomenology of touch allow to understand the interplay between subjective, felt embodiment and the psychophysically contextualized work of art. The novelty of this thesis lies in a combinations of the various theories on and about touch, but particular in the application of this to works of art where touch appears as a genuine artistic medium. This contributes to the definition of new practices of inquiry and knowledge making.

Candidate

Ståle Stenslie (1965) is a media artist, researcher and curator in the field of experimental art and interface technologies. He has exhibited and lectured at major international events like ISEA, DEAF, Arts Electronica and SIGGRAPH. He represented Norway at the 5th Istanbul biennial and won the Grand Prize of the Norwegian Council for Cultural Affairs. Between 2001 and 2005 he was a professor in New Media at the Academy of Media Arts, Cologne, Germany. From 2005 till 2007 he was the founding dean of the Faculty of Visual Arts, Oslo National Academy of the Arts.

Adjudication Committee

Associate professor Anders Fagerjord, University of Oslo. First opponent
Dr. Christa Sommerer, Kunstuniversität Linz. Second opponent
Professor Astrid Skjerven, Akershus University College, Coordinator

- Date: 15.10.2010
- Time: 10:00 - 16:00
- Venue: AHO, Main Auditorium
- Address: Maridalsveien 29, 0175 Oslo
- Contact: Advisor Birgitte Oppegaard Pollen
- E-mail: BirgitteOppegaard.Pollen@adm.aho.no

Disputas: Ståle Stenslie

Ståle Stenslie forsvarer sin doktoravhandling *Virtual touch. A study of the use and experience of touch in artistic, multimodal and computer-based environments* for ph.d.-graden ved AHO 15. oktober 2010. Disputasen vil foregå på engelsk.

Prøveforelesning kl. 10.00 *The user's experience of haptic interaction and the sense of touch in interactive art.*

Disputasen starter kl. 12.00

Ph.d.-avhandlingen

The central focus of this thesis is the use and experience of touch in artistic, multimodal and computer-based environments. It presents how it feels to touch and be touched in such environments. Further it gives an overview of the role of vibrotactile stimulation and corporeal interaction in interactive art, showing how touch can be used to construct meaningful experiences. Touch is approached through practice based research in the arts. Specifically it looks at how bodysuits can function as a two-way tactile display, conveying vibrotactile feedback to the body and interfacing the human to the computer through touch. Haptic stimuli in general and vibrotactile stimuli in particular, can have the effect of making the virtual appear more real. A central contribution of the thesis is the explanation of how touch can be content in itself and form so called haptic storytelling. Theoretically touch is investigated through a phenomenological approach on how the world of our experience is constituted for us. A phenomenology of touch allow to understand the interplay between subjective, felt embodiment and the psychophysically contextualized work of art. The novelty of this thesis lies in a combinations of the various theories on and about touch, but particular in the application of this to works of art where touch appears as a genuine artistic medium. This contributes to the definition of new practices of inquiry and knowledge making.

Kandidaten

Ståle Stenslie (1965) is a media artist, researcher and curator in the field of experimental art and interface technologies. He has exhibited and lectured at major international events like ISEA, DEAF, Arts Electronica and SIGGRAPH. He represented Norway at the 5th Istanbul biennial and won the Grand Prize of the Norwegian Council for Cultural Affairs. Between 2001 and 2005 he was a professor in New Media at the Academy of Media Arts, Cologne, Germany. From 2005 till 2007 he was the founding dean of the Faculty of Visual Arts, Oslo National Academy of the Arts.

Bedømmelseskomité

Førsteamanuensis Anders Fagerjord, Universitetet i Oslo. Førsteopponent

Dr. Christa Sommerer, Kunstuniversität Linz. Andreopponent

Professor Astrid Skjerven, Høgskolen i Akershus, koordinator

- Dato: 15.10.2010
- Tid: 10:00 - 16:00
- Sted: AHO, Store auditorium
- Adresse: Maridalsveien 29, 0175 Oslo
- Kontakt: Rådgiver Birgitte Oppegaard Pollen
- E-post: BirgitteOppegaard.Pollen@adm.aho.no