

FAX TO:

THE AUSTRALIAN NETWORK FOR ART & TECHNOLOGY ANNOUNCES

"...nervous objects"

a new web site designed by the participant of the
1997 ANAT National Summer School

"javascript alert... of course this is all terribly experimental..."

<http://www.anat.org.au/>

(check it out under <new>)

During January 14 Australian artists from all over Australia and from artform backgrounds as diverse as writing, photography, painting, installation, sound art and multimedia have been participating in the 1997 National Summer School in Internet Design and Web Authoring coordinated by the Australian Network for Art and Technology at the University of Tasmania's Institute for the Arts.

Sean Bacon, Hobart, TAS

Di Barrett, Adelaide, SA

Lisa Burnett, Brisbane, QLD

Damian Castaldi, Sydney, NSW

Joyce Hinterding, Sydney, NSW

Anita Kocsis, Melbourne, VIC

John McQueenie, Hobart, TAS

Cam Merton, Perth, WA

Gillian Morrison, Melbourne, VIC

Glen O'Malley, Cairns, QLD

Anne Robertson, Adelaide, SA

Martin Thompson, Adelaide, SA

Rick Vermey, Perth, WA

Leesa Willan, Sydney, NSW

The tutors for the school were **Lloyd Sharp**, **Josephine Starrs** and **Jason Gee** three of Australia's leading new media artists. **Kathy Bowrey**, a new media legal specialist, **Leon Cmielewski**, an interactive artist and **Dave Sag** from web designers Virtual Artists will also conduct workshops during the School.

"This school provides the only training of its kind in Australia," says ANAT Chair Linda Cooper. "The school is taught by artists for artists so its focus is on creative practice."

A vast array of technical skills were taught at the school from html (hyper text mark-up) to vml (virtual reality mark-up) languages. A range of html authoring packages such as PageMill, Netscape Gold and Claris Home page were demonstrated and artists also learnt how to embed animations, sound and virtual environments into web sites. The site includes javascript, schockwave, vml, java, schockwave audio, quicktime audio and quicktime VR.

Joyce Hinterding says she was more interested in building environments and exploring new ways of developing "spaces" on the web than publishing documentation of existing work. Glen O'Malley was keen to explore the possibilities that virtual environments present as new spaces to present and explore his photographic practice. Damian Castaldi has built an internet 'radio' environment exploring new possibilities for collaboration and presentation for sound works.

All of the artists agreed that the key reason for being at the school was access: access to other artists, access to technology, access to skills development opportunities and being able to brainstorm ideas with other creative practitioners.

"Acceptance into the course is a competitive process" says ANAT Director Amanda McDonald Crowley. "All of the participants are practicing professional artists and the applications were assessed on the quality of their work to date as well as demonstrated skills development needs and their ability to further disseminate skills they acquire."

The National Summer School is supported by

- the Victorian Government through **Arts Victoria**,
- the South Australian Government through **Arts South Australia**,
- the Queensland Government through the **Queensland Office of Arts and Cultural Development**,
- the Minister for Education and the Arts through **Arts Tasmania**,
- the State Government of Western Australia through **ArtsWA**,
- and the Federal Government through the **Australia Council**, its arts funding and advisory body.

AUSTRALIAN NETWORK FOR ART AND TECHNOLOGY



ANAT

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