

Parasol unit

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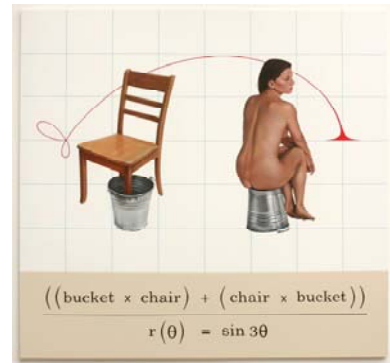
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Press release

Keith Tyson

Cloud Choreography and Other Emergent Systems

16 September–11 November 2009. Private view: 15 September, 6.30–8.30 p.m.



Images from left: *Mathematical Nature Painting: Nested*, 2008, Mixed media on aluminium, 149 x 149 cm, Image courtesy of Prudence Cuming Assoc; *Cloud Choreography: Clouds in your Coffee*, 2009, Mixed media on aluminium, 122cm in diameter, Image courtesy of Keith Tyson Studios; *Operator Painting: Functions*, 2009, Mixed media on aluminum, 198 x 198 cm, Photograph credit Renée Martin, courtesy of Blum & Poe, LA. All images © 2009 Keith Tyson.

Cloud Choreography and Other Emergent Systems is a new exhibition by the winner of the 2002 Turner Prize, Keith Tyson, which brings together several groups of his works. Set up as an exploration of Tyson's practice, rather than as a mid-career survey, the exhibition focuses on the systems and processes that inform the creation of his work.

Tyson's work can be seen as an ongoing investigation into the question of how and why things come into being. Many of them investigate the physical forms and systems found within the natural world; others examine the delicate relationship of humankind and their environment, and the ensuing meanings we assign to it. In other works, Tyson questions the creation of the artwork itself, posing it as something which can be randomly generated by iterative functions, but simultaneously making us aware that these functions are generated by the artist. Influenced as much by astrophysics and mathematics, as by observation of and reflection on nature, Tyson's work presents a unique combination of scientific data with poetic artistry. This urges us to consider the roots of creativity alongside its aesthetic beauty. The works operate on a number of levels: as examples of physical, mathematical or scientific data, or of processes or systems. The breakdown of sophisticated and simple processes and mathematical data into an artistic aesthetic is something which greatly interests Tyson, and in all his works there is a consideration of 'beauty' (whether be it natural or artificial).

The structure of the exhibition at Parasol unit broadly splits into two parts. The first part features works that focus on natural processes and systems, such as the *Nature Sculptures*, *Nature Paintings*, and a new series of works entitled *Cloud Choreography* paintings. In these series of works, we see a transition from observing the natural world in sculptural form, to attempts at recreating elements of it through chemical processes and rendered on large-scale aluminium sheets. The second part of the exhibition focuses more on mathematical, man-made and process-driven systems, and includes sculptures from the *Fractal Dice* series alongside paintings from a new series of work entitled *Operator Paintings*, which is being shown as a series for the first time.

This exhibition at Parasol unit is accompanied by a new publication on Keith Tyson's work.

Keith Tyson (born 1969 in Ulverston, Cumbria, UK) held his first solo show *From the Art Machine* at the Anthony Reynolds Gallery in 1996 and since then has exhibited extensively both in the UK and internationally. Solo exhibitions include: David Zwirner Gallery, New York, USA (1996); Galerie Vallois, Paris, France (1997); Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London (1997); *Molecular Compound 4*, Kleines Helmhaus, Zurich, Switzerland (1999); Delfina, London (1999); *One of Each*, Galerie Ursula Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria (2000); *Studio Wall Drawings*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London (2000); *Supercollider*, South London Gallery, London (2002); Kunsthalle Zurich, Switzerland (2002); *Works for a Teleological Accelerator*, Arndt and Partner, Berlin, Germany (2003); *Collected Short Stories*, Galerie Vallois, Paris, France (2003); *The Terrible Weight of History*, Galerie Judin, Zurich, Switzerland (2004); *Geno Pheno I*, Haunch of Venison, London (2004); *Geno Pheno II*, PaceWildenstein, New York, USA (2005); The Bates College Museum of Art, Maine, USA (2005); *The Sum of All Possible Paths*, Galerie Vallois, Paris, France (2006); *Nature Paintings*, Haunch of Venison, Zurich, Switzerland (2006); *Large Field Array*, Louisiana Museum, Humlebaek, Denmark (2006); *Studio Wall Drawings 1997–2007*, Haunch of Venison, London (2007); *Nature Paintings*, Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle, Cumbria (2008); *Random Nature*, Project B, Milan, Italy (2008).

In 2002, Tyson was awarded the Turner Prize for his show *Supercollider* at the South London Gallery.

His work is held in numerous collections worldwide, including the Arts Council Collection, London; Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; Fondation François Pinault, Paris, France; The Henry Moore Institute, Leeds; The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, USA; The South London Gallery Collection, London; Tate Modern, London; The Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA.

Visitor information

Gallery opening hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sunday, 12–5 p.m.

Admission: Free

From Angel Tube station, turn left onto City Road and walk down City Road for ten minutes before turning left onto Wharf Road at the Texaco petrol station.

From Old Street Tube station, leave via exit 1 and walk up City Road for five minutes. Turn right onto Wharf Road after passing the Texaco petrol station.

Buses 43, 205 and 214 all travel down City Road.

Note to editors

Parasol unit foundation for contemporary art is an independent educational charity devoted to promoting contemporary art for the benefit of the public. The core activity of the foundation is to showcase contemporary work of leading and young international artists in various media. In conjunction with each exhibition Parasol unit organizes a series of talks and educational events. Each year, Parasol unit mounts four exhibitions in a variety of media, each of which is usually accompanied by a publication. In order to encourage the widest possible access to its exhibition programme, Parasol unit does not charge admission fees for its exhibitions.

Upcoming 2009 / 2010 Programme:

Visible Invisible: Against the Security of the Real

25 November 2009–7 February 2010 (Preview 24 November)

Cecily Brown

Shaun McDowell

Katy Moran

Maaïke Schoorel

Hans Josephsohn

Eija-Liisa Ahtila

26 February– 2 May 2010 (Preview 25 February)