

TONY OURSLER



The Devil in the details, 1997 (detail)

Plaster, fiberglass, paint, plastic, projection system / H 158 x 53 x 70 cm - H 62 x 21 x 27 ½ inches / Unique

Photo: © Tony Oursler studio

Exhibition from January 14 to March 5, 2011

Opening Thursday 13 from 6 pm to 9 pm

TONY OURSLER

Tony Oursler is a major figure in the recent history of video art. Although he is not part of the generation which saw the emergence of this, he does belong to the generation which has revived its use by freeing himself from the limits specific to television screens.

Tony Oursler's works are not limited to video image in the true sense, but form complex devices involving sculpture, design, installation and performance. In the 1990s, his installations presented sculpture-screens in the exhibition space. Deformed faces spouting incomprehensible monologues, were projected onto dolls, objects or onto any other type of unexpected medium. This series of *Talking Heads* then developed into the *Eyes* series, in which this time the artist projected eyes onto spheres spread around the exhibition space. These eyes, in which you can see the pupils dilating, the reflections of the iris or simply the fluttering of the eyelids, sometimes seem to stare into space and other times observe the visitor. This exchange of disturbing looks between the work and its public, this synecdochical relationship where man is symbolically reduced to an eye, shows one of the central themes of Tony Oursler's work: the individual spectator of a virtual society subjected to an exponential production of images, which blur the limits between reality and fiction.

From the outset, Tony Oursler has explored the alienating relationships between man and his cultural production. His work has therefore contained a certain number of recurring themes such as violence, sex, religion, money, family, media, etc. It generally concerns the question of man, reduced to the status of puppet, doll, in a tortured and fragmented body, in absurd, extreme and tormented situations. Tony Oursler is thus attracted to extreme, destabilising situations. This attraction, which is shared by a whole generation of American artists, such as Mike Kelley with whom Tony Oursler founded the Punk-Rock group *The Poetics*, is conveyed in Oursler's willingness to "make a breakdown in culture aesthetic"¹.

After his retrospective at the Jeu de Paume in 2005, JGM. Galerie is pleased to invite Tony Oursler for a new personal exhibition in Paris. This first collaboration will be an opportunity for the visitor to discover through ten or so works the richness and diversity of the experiments carried out by the American artist over twenty years. Thus, a fragile figurine presented by video projection (*Skin*, 1994) rubs shoulders with a monster composed of eight eyes and a mouth (*Star*, 2005), while *Million*

¹ Paul Ardenne, "Corps incommunicants", in *Tony Oursler*, Flammarion, Paris, p.11

miles (Orbital screw), 2007, immerses us in a cosmic exploration. Lastly, this will be an opportunity to discover new works from his recent series entitled *Peak*. The latter are presented as microcosms where objects, materials and video images are gathered, testifying to the obsessive relations of man with the computer and the virtual world in general. These works are viewed by the artist as a physical extension of his exhibition "Oursler's Valley" at the Adobe Museum of Digital Media (Opened on Oct. 6th, 2010 - www.adobe.com/adobemuseum). This exhibition investigates and evokes the realm of the Uncanny, drawing upon the interpretations of Ernst Jentsch, Sigmund Freud, and Masahiro Mori.

EXHIBITED WORKS (SELECTION)

All the images used for this press release are available upon request:
Magali Deboth deboth@jmgalerie.com or presse@jmgalerie.com



Thaw, 2003
fiberglass, video projection / H 119.5 x 114.5 cm – H 47 x 45 inches / Unique
Photo: © Tony Oursler studio



Million Miles (Orbital Screw), 2007
fiberglass, video projection / H 122 x 168 x 76 cm - H 48 x 66 1/6 x 30 inches / Unique
Photo: © Tony Oursler studio



Star, 2005

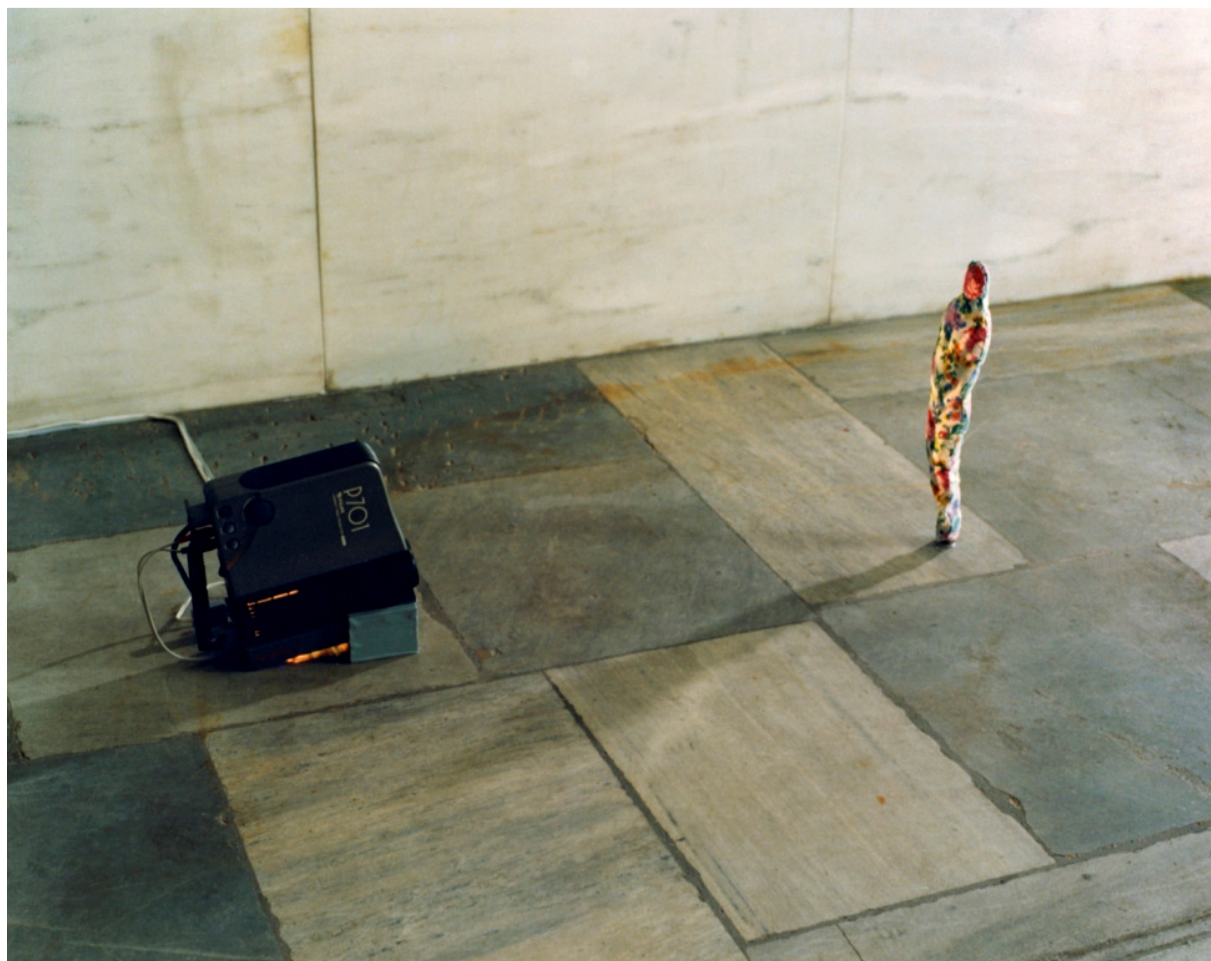
Wall installation, video projection / Diam. 170 x 50 cm – 67 x 19 2/3 inches / Unique

Photo: © Tony Oursler studio

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The angle, the tilt and the point of view: for Allendale South Carolina (virus), 1998
Plaster, wood, acrylic, video projection / H 153 x 86 x 80 cm - H 60 ¼ x 34 x 31 1/21 inches / Unique
Photo: © Tony Oursler studio



Skin, 1994
clothe, video projection / H 38 x 10 x 8 cm - H 15 x 4 x 3 1/6 inches / Unique
Photo: © Tony Oursler studio

BIOGRAPHY

Born in New York in 1957 – lives and works in New York

Education: 1979 California Institute of the Arts, B.F.A

SOLO SHOWS:

- 2011** JGM. Galerie, Paris, France
- 2010** Oi Futuro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
"Valley," Adobe Museum of Digital Media (<http://www.adobemuseum.com/index.php#/atrium/valley>)
"Peak," Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
"ON/OFF," Jensen Gallery, New Zealand
"Vertical Loop Task," Baldwin Gallery, Aspen, USA
"Number Seven, Plus or Minus 2," Faurschou Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2009** "LOCK 2, 4, 6", Kunsthaus Bregenz, Austria (2009 - 2010) (cat. and CD)
"50 Schilling," Galerie Steinek, Vienna, Austria
"Void or Everything Ever Wanted," Luminato Festival, Toronto, Canada
"Haze or Transparency with Friends and Colors," AGO, Toronto, Canada
"Five Take Radius," Clocktower, New York, USA
"Gaze Heuristic (With Drool)," Galleria IN ARCO, Turin, Italy
"Cellphones Diagrams Cigarettes Searches and Scratch Cards," Metro Pictures, New York, USA
- 2008** "Mirada Pensante" Espacio Cultural El Tanque, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain
"High," Lisson Gallery, London, England
"Trunk Mask Bomb Frame Hatchet Crutch Queen," Galería Soledad Lorenzo, Madrid, Spain
"NixAlienClimaxCloudAxe," House of Photography, Moscow, Russia
"St. Roch," KK Projects, New Orleans, USA
"Horizon Scander Jeu," (In collaboration with Tony Conrad and Constance DeJong), Nuit Blanche, Gare du Nord, Paris, France
Project for Land and Beach, Gibbs Farm, New Zealand
- 2007** "Ooze," Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
"Phobos," Bernier/Eliades, Athens, Greece
"Dum-Dum, Metalbreath, Wadcutter," Galleria Emi Fontana, Milan, Italy
Galerie Forsblom, Helsinki, Finland (2007-2008) (cat.)
Gallery Paule Anglim, San Francisco, USA
"Million Colors," Phoenix, USA (Permanent public project)
- 2006** "Spaced," Margo Levin Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
Simon Studer Art, Geneva, Switzerland
"Sound Digressions in Seven Colors" Nyehaus, New York, USA
Galleria IN ARCO, Turin, Italy
"Disposifs," Kunstforeningen GL Strand, Copenhagen, Germany
"Perfect Partner," Collaboration with Phil Morrison and Kim Gordon, Montclair, New Jersey, USA
"Thought Forms," Metro Pictures, New York, USA
- 2005** "Blue Invasion," Sydney, Australia

- "Studio: Seven Months of My Aesthetic Education (Plus Some)", "Climaxed", Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
 "Dispositifs," Jeu de Paume, Paris (Cat.); Domus Atrium 2002, Salamanca, Spain (Cat.) Helsinki City Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland
 "Perfect Partner," Collaboration with Phil Morrison and Kim Gordon, Barbican, London, UK
- 2004** Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
 "Unk," Aarhus Kunsthau, Aarhus, Denmark
 "Sexta de Cifra," Barcelona Civic Plaza, Barcelona, Spain (Permanent Public Project)
 "Blob," Galeria Soledad Lorenzo, Madrid, Spain
 "Studio: Seven Months of My Aesthetic Education (Plus Some)" Musee D'Orsay, Paris, France
 "Braincast," Seattle Public Library, Seattle, USA
 Bernier Eliades, Athens, Greece
 Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2003** Metro Pictures, New York, USA
 "Tony Oursler," Bernier/Eliades, Athens, Greece
 Jensen Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
 Lisson Gallery, London, England
 Gallery Paule Anglim, San Francisco, USA
- 2002** Parallel Lines, Galleria in Arco, Torino, Italy; Studio d'Arte Raffaelli, Travaï, Italy (cat.)
 Museo D'Arte Contemporanea Roma, Italy
 "Station" and "The Influence Macgine (Swedish version)," Magasin 3, Stockholm Konsthall, Sweden (cat. And CD)
 "Tony Oursler," Lehmann Maupin, New York, USA
 Galerie Steinek, Vienna, Austria
 "Luftmetall," Galerie Hans Meyer, Dusseldorf, Germany
 "Shock-Rock", Gräflicher Kurpark Driburg, Garten_Landschaft, OstWestfalenLippe, Germany
 "Tony Oursler: Drawings, CD-ROM, Installation, Videotapes," Pei Ling Chan Gallery and Garden for the Arts, Savannah College of Art and Design, Georgia, USA
- 2001** "Antennae Pods transmissions", Metro Pictures, New York, USA
 Institute Valencià D'Art Modern, Valencia, Spain (cat.)
 Newcomb Gallery, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
 "Flucht," Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz, Austria
 Koldo Mitxelena Kulturunea, San Sebastian, Spain
 Galerie Ghislaine Hussenot, Paris, France
 Galerie Joan Prats, Barcelona, Spain
- 2000** "Sulfer, Glass, Silicon," 1000 Eventi, Milan, Italy (cat.)
 "The Empty Cabinet," Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle; University Art Gallery, University of California, San Diego, USA
 Lisson Gallery, London, UK
 "Tony Oursler," Bernier/Eliades, Athens, Greece
 Galerie Steinek, Vienna, Austria
 Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
 "Tony Oursler: The Darkest Color Infinitely Amplified," The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA (broch.)
 "The Influence Machine," New York, USA
 "EVOL," Sammlung Goetz, Munich, Germany
- 1999** Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Israel

- "Introjection: Tony Oursler mid-career survey, 1976-1999," MASS MoCA, N. Adams, Massachusetts; Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts (17 April- 24 October 1999); Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston (11 December 1999- 13 February 2000); Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2 April- 30 July 2000); Des Moines Art Center (11 November 2000- 21 January 2001) (cat.), USA
Galerie Biedermann, München, Germany
Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland
- 1998** Metro Pictures, New York, USA
"Directions-Tony Oursler: Video Dolls with Tracey Liepold," Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C., USA (broch)
"Videotapes, Dummies, Drawings, Photographs, Viruses, Heads, Eyes, & CD-ROM," Kunstverein Hannover, Germany, Malmö; Konsthall, Sweden (cat.)
Soledad Lorenzo, Madrid, Spain (cat.)
- 1997** "Judy," Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, USA
Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, USA (and 2000)
Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado, USA
CAPC Musée, Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux, France
Sala de Exposiciones Rekalde, Bilbao, Pain (cat.)
Paule Anglim, San Francisco, USA
"The Poetics Project: 1977-1997", in collaboration with Mike Kelley
Galerie Biedermann, Munich, Germany
Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo, Japan
"Der menschliche Faktor—Das Individuum im Spiegel der zeitgenössischen Kunst," Hypo Bank Luxembourg
Kunsthandel Achenbach, Dusseldorf, Germany
The Video Room, White Columns, New York, USA
"Videokulpturen," Galerie Franck & Schulte, Berlin, Germany
- 1996** Lisson Gallery, London, UK
Jean Bernier Gallery, Athens, Greece
Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, California, USA (broch.)
"My Drawings 1976-1996," Kasseler Kunstverein, Kassel, Germany (cat.)
- 1995** "System for Dramatic Feedback," Portikus Frankfurt; Les Musées de la Ville de Strasbourg, France; Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland; Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Holland (traveling exhibition)
"Tony Oursler: Video Installations, Objects, Watercolors," Musée des Arts Modernes et Contemporains, Strasbourg, France
Galerie Ghislaine Hussenot, Paris, France
Wiener Secession, Vienna, Austria
"Tony Oursler- Ouvres Récentes," Soledad Lorenzo, Madrid (cat.)
- 1994** Lisson Gallery, London, UK
Bernier/Eliades, Athens, Greece
Linda Chathcart Gallery, Santa Monica, USA
"Dummies, Flowers, Alters, Clouds, and Organs," Metro Pictures, New York, USA
"Tony Oursler—Recent Video Works," The contemporary Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii
- 1993** "White Trash and Phobic," Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland
Kunstwerke, Berlin, Germany (cat.)
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, USA

- The Living Room, San Francisco, USA
 "Dummies, Dolls, and Posion Candy," IKON Gallery, Birmingham (cat.); Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool, UK
 (split site exhibition)
- 1992** "F/X Plotter, 2 Way," Kijkhuis, The Hague, The Netherlands
 The Space, Boston, USA
 The Knitting Factory, New York, USA
- 1991** Diane Brown Gallery, New York, USA
 "Dummies, Hex Signs, Watercolours," The Living Room, San Francisco, USA
 The Pacific Film Archives, San Francisco, USA
 The Cinématèque, San Francisco, USA
- 1990** Diane Brown Gallery, New York, USA
 "Dummies, Hex Signs, Watercolours," The Living Room, San Francisco, USA
 The Pacific Film Archives, San Francisco, USA
 The Cinémathèque, San Francisco, USA
- 1989** Folkwang Museum, Essen, Germany (cat.)
 Museum fur Gegenwartskunst, Basel, Switzerland
 Collective for Living Cinema, New York, USA
 Bobo Gallery, San Francisco, USA
- 1988** "Tony Oursler's Works," Le Lieu, Quebec City
 "Constellation: Intermission," Diane Brown Gallery, New York, USA
 Western Front, Vancouver, Canada
 Los Angeles Center for Photographic Studies/EZTV, Los Angeles, USA
- 1987** The Kitchen, New York, USA
- 1986** "Spheres of Influence," Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France (cat.)
 New Langton Arts, San Francisco, USA
 Boston Film/Video Foundation, Boston, USA
- 1985** The American Center, Paris, France
 Kijkhuis, Den Haag, the Netherlands
 Kunst Delft, Delft, the Netherlands
 ELAC, Espace Lyonnais d'Art Contemporain, Lyon, France
 Schule fur Gestaltung, Basel, Switzerland
- 1984** Anthology Film Archives, New York, USA
 "L-7, L-5," The Kitchen, New York, USA
 Mo David Gallery, New York, USA
 The Kitchen, New York, USA
- 1983** La Mabelle, San Francisco, USA
 "My Sets," Media Study, Buffalo, USA
 "Son of Oil," A Space, Toronto, USA
 Panic House/Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles, USA
- 1982** The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, USA
 Boston Film/Video Foundation, Boston, USA
 "A Scene," P.S.1, New York, USA
 "Complete Works," The Kitchen, New York, USA
 Soho TV M/T Channel 10, New York, USA
- 1981** University Art Museum, University of California, Berkeley, USA
 "Video Viewpoints," The Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA

MUSEUM AND PUBLIC COLLECTIONS:

Eli Broad Family Foundation, Los Angeles, USA
CAPC, Musée d'art Contemporain de Bordeaux, France
Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
Cartier Foundation, Paris, France
Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA
Depont Foundation for Contemporary Art, Tilburg, The Netherlands
Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, Iowa Goetz
Collection, Munich Hara Museum, Tokyo, Japan
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
JB Speed Museum, Louisville, Kentucky
Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
Magasin 3, Stockholm
Milwaukee Art Museum, Wisconsin
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Texas
Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montreal
Musée d'Art Contemporain, Barcelona
Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon
Musée national d'art moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, California
Museum of Modern Art, New York National Museum of Osaka, Japan
Orange County Museum of Art, California
Saatchi Collection, London
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
Staatsgalerie Moderner Kunst, Munich
Tate Gallery, London
Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
ZMK/Center for Art & Media, Karlsruhe, Germany
Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, Massachusetts