

J 69

Academic Appointment
Awards
Exhibitions
Lectures & Presentations
Personal History

Academic Appointment

George Legrady is Professor of Interactive Media, with joint appointment in the Media Arts & Technology program and the department of Art, UC Santa Barbara. He has previously held fulltime appointments at the Merz Akademie, Institute for Visual Communication, Stuttgart, the Conceptual Design/Information Arts program, San Francisco State University, University of Southern California, and the University of Western Ontario. He received the Masters of Fine Arts degree from the San Francisco Art Institute.

Awards

Awards for creative work include a Creative Capital Foundation grant, (2002); the Daniel Langlois Foundation for the Arts, Science and Technology, Montreal (2000); Computer Integrated Media Awards from the Canada Council (1997, 1996, 1992); an Artslink, NEA grant, (1996); a National Endowment for the Arts Visual Fellowship (1995); first prize in the "New Voices, New Visions" international competition, Voyager and Interval Research Corp. (1994); honorable mentions for interactive media at Ars Electronica, Linz, Austria (1994, 1988); numerous Canada Council and Ontario Arts Council grants from 1975 to 1990.

Exhibitions

Recent interactive installation exhibitions have taken place at the ISEA Conference in Nagoya, Japan, [*Sensing Speaking Space*] and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 2002; the Centre Pompidou, Paris [*Pockets Full of Memories*], 2001; [*Transitional Spaces*] the Rotunde at the Siemens World Headquarters in Munich, [*Transitional Spaces*], 1999-2000; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, [*Tracing*], 1998; the Kunst und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik in Bonn, [*Tracing*], 1997-1998; the National Gallery of Canada and the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography, 1997-1998; the Palais des beaux-arts, Brussels, [*An Anecdoted archive from the cold War*], fall 1997. [*Slippery Traces*] was presented in the Siemens curated "Deep Storage" exhibition at the Haus der Kunst, Munich, 1997; the Kunstforum, Berlin, Fall 1997; the kunstmuseum, Dusseldorf, Spring 1998; Projects Studios One, New York, summer 1998, and the Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, Fall 1998.

Lectures & Presentations

Legrady has lectured on his work and related topics in digital media internationally at over 70 institutions during the past ten years such as the ISEA Conference (2000, 1997, 1995); Ludwig Museum, Cologne (2000), College Art Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles (1999); ARC+film Conference, Graz; the Bonn Kunstverein; University of Copenhagen; University of Southern California, Los Angeles; Art Center College of Design, Pasadena; California Institute of the Arts Bauhaus University, Weimar; National Gallery of Canada, UC Berkeley, Centre Beaubourg/Pompidou, Paris; Goethe Institute, Prag; Maribor International Technology Festival; Musée d'art Africains et Océaniques, Université de Paris.

Personal History

George Legrady was born in Budapest in 1950, immigrated to Montreal, Québec during the 1956 Hungarian uprising, moved to California in 1981 and currently has dual Canadian-American citizenship. He studied classical music during his elementary schooling at Mont-Jesus-Marie in the French Canadian school system. He transferred to Marymount High in 1963, and from 1965 until 1969 was active as a rock and roll keyboard musician. He also worked at numerous jobs during this time including construction, and factory work and for a while, was a card carrying member of both the United Steelworkers' and the Musicians' Unions. In July 1969, he witnessed the NASA landing on the moon while working as an underground miner for INCO in Thompson, Manitoba, in the Canadian sub-arctic.

He was introduced to fine arts photography during his undergraduate studies in Humanities at Loyola College by the artist Jean Gagnon and the photographer John Max. In 1970, he travelled for a year in Europe and the Middle East. With his brother Miklos and two other photographers, he produced a photographic documentary on the Cree Indians' way of life in northern Quebec at the time of the flooding of the lands by the James Bay Hydro-Electric Corporation in 1971 and 1972. Between 1972-73 he continued his undergraduate studies in photography and visual anthropology at Goddard College, Vermont, an alternative liberal arts college, where he was introduced to American (counter) culture. In 1976 he received his Masters of Fine Arts degree from the San Francisco Art Institute, then returned to Canada where he began his first fulltime teaching appointment at the University of Western Ontario. His artistic research work at that time was based on a theoretical and analytic examination of the conventions by which photographic images conveyed meaning. In 1981 he moved

to La Jolla, California, and was introduced to computer programming as an artistic practice in the studio of Professor Harold Cohen at UCSD. Between 1982-84 he was visiting professor at the California Institute of the Arts. In 1983 he travelled through Central Europe producing a photographic documentary on Communist iconography which he followed two years later with a photographic documentary of handpainted advertising billboards in China and Thailand. From 1984-1988 he held a position as Assistant Professor at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles where he received awards for his work integrating computer technology into fine arts. His first digital prints were produced in 1987 using the Fujichrome system at UCLA.

In 1988-89, Legrady received a Canada Council residency award for their Paris studio program. From 1989 until 1997 he was professor at San Francisco State University in the Conceptual Design and Information Arts program and began his work in interactive media installations and cd-rom production. Since 1989, he has been travelling extensively between Europe and California for projects, exhibitions and conferences. In the fall of 1994 he was visiting professor at the Hungarian Academy of Fine Arts. At this time he received a National Endowment for the Arts Visual Fellowship and a Canada Council Computer Media Arts Award for his work in digital media art. From 1996 to 2000, he was professor of Interactive Media at Merz Academy in Stuttgart, Germany with an emphasis on interface design, interactive installations, and motion sensing systems for multimedia installations. Since 2000, he has held a position as Professor of Interactive Media at the University of California, Santa Barbara.