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## Institute for Applied Autonomy

### Bio:

The Institute for Applied Autonomy (IAA), was founded in 1998 as a technological research and development organization concerned with individual and collective self-determination. The IAA is comprised of engineers, computer scientists, artists, designers and activists who choose to work collectively while remaining anonymous as individuals. The IAA has exhibited as technologists at the International Conference on Robotics and Automation; as artists at the ZKM in Karlsruhe, Germany; and as activists in numerous illegal actions.

### Video Documentation:

**5 min Pamphleteer, aka "Little Brother,"** is a propaganda robot which distributes subversive literature. Pamphleteer is designed to bypass the social conditioning that inhibits activists' ability to distribute propaganda by capitalizing on the aesthetics of cuteness. The robot's form references a tradition of robot aesthetics developed in science fiction and popular media.

**3 min. Graffiti Writer** is a tele-operated robot which employs a custom built array of spray cans to write linear text messages on the ground at a rate of 10 miles per hour. These messages are similar in form to dot matrix printer output, and are not intended to imitate human graffiti. Rather the Writer's aesthetics are purely mechanical, prompting the viewer to wonder "what kind of machine wrote this?"

### Exhibitions:

First Night 2000  
 December 1999  
 Pittsburgh, PA

Netcondition  
 November, 1999  
 ZKM Karlsruhe, Germany

The IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation  
 May 11th, 1999  
 Detroit, MI

ExpoDestructo  
 March 20th, 1999  
 London, UK

The Next Five Minutes 3  
 March 10-12, 1999  
 Amsterdam, NL

New World (dis)Orders  
 February 18-19, 1999  
 Rutgers University, NJ

### Publications:

Institute for Applied Autonomy and Critical Art Ensemble, 1999. "Contestational Robotics," ReadMe! ASCII Culture and the Revenge of Knowledge, Josephine Bosma, ed, (Nettime, Autonomedia: NY)

**GraffitiWriter** - past research



Pittsburgh, US

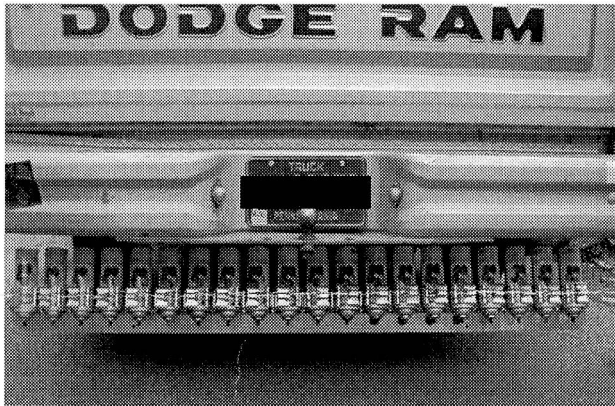
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ZKM, Germany

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**StreetWriter** - current research



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