

INSTITUTIONAL PRESENTATIONS

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MUSEO INTERNACIONAL DE ELECTROGRAFÍA: AN UP-TO-DATE ART CENTRE. THE MUSEUM FOR THE DIGITAL ART OF THE XXI CENTURY.

THEME: An alternative model of New Technologies Research Centre for Artistic Creation

HISTORY

In May 1990, the Rector of the University of Castilla-La Mancha inaugurated a center for research into new electronic media technologies located in a restored 18th century Carmelite Convent building. The center's primary objective is to conserve, display and acquire an international collection of artist's work who utilize machines and processes related to new technologies, for the generation, reproduction and printing of images. In January 1991, the Museum incorporated an electronic media technology laboratory into its working structure, to carry out theoretical and practical research into applications of the field of artistic creation. Some months later a documentation center, with a small specialized library; and the Center for Image Research was established, designed to provide additional support for the new media workshop in the field of graphic design, corporate image and creative advertising. Five years after its inauguration, the Museo Internacional de Electrografía is a dynamic museum; an art center with very specialized, unique lines of research, and though on a restricted budget, fulfills its five primary objectives: research: by creating an international artist-in-residence program that invites artists from all over the world to collaborate with the MIDE on their current research projects, with technical support and guidance from the University of Castilla-La Mancha and the Ministry of Education and Science; dissemination: by holding exhibitions, offering a documentation and media information centre, publishing...; conservation: creating an active, dynamic collection of current works of art which are appropriate examples for displaying the latest national and international artistic applications of new image technologies; education: for artists, students and the curious, offering specialized courses and seminars (including programs of awards and fellowships for researchers, technical assistants and workshop assistants); and collaboration: by offering financial assistance for research projects, providing MIDE equipment and in the broadest sense, making MIDE's resources available to artists and researchers who wish to develop specific projects and activities. Some of the ways that this can happen is by MIDE contributing technical expertise, and offering financial assistance for research and interesting artistic proposals in diverse areas of research which falls within the specific realm of the MIDE.

AREAS OF RESEARCH

The Museo Internacional de Electrografía in Cuenca has the following, clearly defined, areas for research currently open: Digital image techniques and processes using new electronic media technologies. The contribution made by these digital technologies incorporating traditional processes of printing and reproduction. Creative techniques and processes of graphic

telecommunication technologies. (Fax-Art, Internet, real-time teletransmission etc.). Interactive multimedia, Computer Art and Postproduction of the dynamic image on digital video Educational philosophies that the new image technologies can generate. New museum models for contemporary art in the data transmission era. The would include possibilities of the virtual museum.

PROGRAM OF GRANTS AND AWARDS

One of the most important activities which the MIDE organizes annually is the Program of Grants and Awards, further fulfilling its original objectives mentioned earlier. This program makes significant social and professional contributions to the field, both on a national and international level and is structured according to the following divisions: Grants for Artists in Residence (International) Grants for Researchers in Residence (International) Attendance at Courses, Workshops and Seminars (only National) Grants for collaboration in MIDE Research Projects (International).

DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

The collection The Museum's collection of technologically generated artworks consists of more than 2000 donations by artists from all over the world. These works have been created using generative, printing and reproduction processes including: xerography, electronic graphics processing in colour, transfers, combined imaging techniques, performance, artist's books, installations, fax, electrostatic direct processes, information graphics, computer-aided photography, Internet related imaging, digital video and multi-media. There are nearly two hundred works on a rotating permanent exhibition at the MIDE as well as a traveling exhibition program that has travelled to various cities in Spain and other countries all around the world. On other occasions the museum has collaborated and participated in organizing and producing cultural events with other institutions such as the Scottish Fotofeiss, New York's "Montage: International Festival of the Image", the Cypriot "European Cultural Month", the Catalanian "Primavera Fotografica" and some Culture Departments of the Provincial Councils of Spain. In addition, thanks to new possibilities offered by the computerised communication network, Internet which provides access to specially created works for this medium and a sample of the works which make up the collection. The museum is open to receiving donations from artists working in the field of New Technologies in its broadest sense.

The Workshop In the MIDE Technology Workshop, production and development of specific projects and personal artistic research is carried out in the following areas: Creative uses of processes and techniques of electronic technologies for the generation, printing and reproduction of images. COURSES OF ACTION New media graphics processes and techniques (Generating, printing and reproducing images in the field of artistic creation). Transferring electronically produced images to a wide variety of supports. Transferring electronic/information systems images via IPU-Colour Laser Copiers on different support materials. Developing artistic projects related to these fields of action.

Multimedia and Digital Video Area. COURSES OF ACTION MULTIMEDIA Development of interactive systems Study of machine/user interface. Study of navigation and structure. Practical application of educational programs. Development of artistic projects in this support/language. COMPUTER ART Digital photography. Research into a variety of printing supports for the digital image. Development of projects by artists related to these fields of action. DIGITAL VIDEO Research and development into non-linear production. Combining multimedia, graphics, design productions onto videographic sup-

port; digital audio and 3D treatment. Development of artistic projects on video support. NETWORKS & INTERNET. Research into the potential of telecommunication technologies. WEB design. Videoconferencing in real time. Development of artist's projects using media for communication. OTHER WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES. Technical consultation is available on media, processes and techniques. Advice on potential didactic applications. Technological assistance. Organization of educational courses and seminars.

The Documentation Center. The MIDE, as a center for artistic creation, has also established an important research center, providing artists and researchers with bibliographic and artwork resources, facilitating in-depth analyses of these specialized topics. Initiating the computerization of the Center's resources has been one of its primary objectives; creating systems of documentation including archives and conservation procedures. The Center currently contains data bases of its collection, biographical information on artists in the collection and of other similar centers, together with specific information on each of the areas comprised by the MIDE. This area is currently working on digitizing all the Center's graphic and textual information in order to offer and promote its resources via the Telecommunication Networks, including optical supports in interactive media systems, to broaden the "exhibition space" and actually enter into the personal space of our users. The idea is to provide this model to comparable centers in Spain and abroad. The dissemination of information is contained on the MIDE Web site on the Internet and is internationally available for consultation. Entering into forums of contemporary debate and making known the activities of the MIDE with regard to the New Image Technologies form the basic philosophy and framework of the Documentation Center, a center which is open to all professionals who wish to conduct research in this area.