

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS INQUIRIES:

Jason Steven Murphy (PR & Marketing Project Manager)

518.276.4136 | murphj8@rpi.edu

This Spring (plus some Winter), EMPAC presents a full schedule of performances, screenings, installations, exhibitions, and talks in which artists defy gravity, a string quartet imitates a car crash, and a choreographer and manga artist locate the kink beneath the Japanese cult of cute.

Building on the successes of the FALL 2009 season and more fully exploiting the capacities of the new building, these upcoming events explore the intersection of art, science, and technology in ways that are both startling and aesthetically satisfying.

The season kicks off with Jeremy Wade's *there is no end to more*, a dance performance in the form of a children's television show that forges connections between Hello Kitty and consumerism. Soon after is science writer Margaret Wertheim, discoursing on the poetic enchantments of mathematics over a meal in Evelyn's Cafe. And in February, the New Nothing Series continues with the Brooklyn-based band Extra Life, playing gorgeous, thrashing music that reconciles the 21st century with the 13th, while Dan Deacon + Nuclear Power Pants bring the exuberant indie noise dance that has been lacking from your diet.

There is much more coming down the line this Spring, so check back regularly on the EMPAC website (<http://empac.rpi.edu/>) for updates and additions to the already brimming calendar.

Prepare to be transported.

+ PERFORMANCE

Jeremy Wade: *there is no end to more*

Thursday, January 28 + Friday, January 29, 2010, 8 PM

Theater

\$15/10/\$5

Choreographer **Jeremy Wade**'s playful solo spectacle delves into Japanese *kawaii* (cute) culture - mashing together a children's TV show, dances, and animated drawings by manga illustrator **Hiroki Otsuka**.

there is no end to more is commissioned by Japan Society and co-produced by Hebbel am Ufer, Berlin and CCN Franche-Comté Belfort, Les Substances, Lyon.

+ SCREENING

Unfiction: *The Beaches of Agnès*

Thursday, February 4, 2010, 7:30 PM

Theater
\$5

French filmmaker **Agnès Varda** creates a moving collage of her films and life on the eve of her 80th birthday.

+ DINNER + TALK

Margaret Wertheim: *Mathematics as Poetic Enchantment*
Wednesday, February 10, 2010, 6 PM
Evelyn's Café
\$15 (includes dinner)

Join us in Evelyn's Café for a dinner and lecture on the magic of mathematics by the internationally distinguished science writer **Margaret Wertheim**.

+ PERFORMANCE

New Nothing Series: Extra Life + Dan Deacon with Nuclear Power Pants
Saturday, February 13, 2010, 8 PM
Goodman Studio/Theater
\$15/10/5

A thrashing, zig-zagging, gorgeously heavy band that reconciles the 21st and 13th centuries mixes it up with two beacons of exuberant indie noise dance.

+ TALK

Dr. Philip Barnard: *Cognition, Emotion and Action*
Wednesday, February 17, 7 PM
Theater
Free

Dr. Philip Barnard, program leader at the Medical Research Council's Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit in Cambridge and a collaborator and research advisor to **Wayne McGregor** | **Random Dance**, will present a talk on his research work.

+ TALK

Dr. Philip Barnard, Scott deLahunta, Wayne McGregor
Panel discussion on R-Research
Tuesday, February 23, 6 PM
Studio 2
Free

A discussion on projects and directions of **R-Research** – the research branch of **Wayne McGregor** | **Random Dance** – which initiates and implements new research collaborations across disciplines including dance, neuroscience, cognitive science, biology, philosophy and technology.

+ TALK

rAndom International: *Real-Time Reactive Systems in Art and Design*

Theater

Wednesday, February 24, 7 PM

Free

Best known for large-scale public installations combining technology, media, design and art, **rAndom International** play with real-time reactive systems that offer viewers an intuitive body-based experience.

+ PERFORMANCE

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance

ENTITY

Theater

Friday, February 26 & Saturday, February 27, 2010, 8 PM

\$15/10/5

ENTITY brings together the fierce kinetics and formal rigor of **Wayne McGregor** | **Random Dance** with a torrential sound-score by collaborators **Jon Hopkins** (Massive Attack and Coldplay) and **Joby Talbot** (*The Divine Comedy*, *White Stripes*), framed by a flying, multi-screen video construction.

+ INSTALLATION

Just Noticeable Difference (JND): Sensory Reduction Environment

Chris Salter, in collaboration with Marije Baalman, Harry Smoak, Vincent de Belleval, Justine Chibuk, Thomas Spier and Brett Bergmann

Wednesday, March 3 – Saturday, March 6 from noon to 6 PM

Level 3

Free

Just Noticeable Difference (JND) is an installation that explores the relation between chaos and order, self and environment at the thresholds of sensory perception.

+ TALK

Chris Salter: *Panel Discussion*

Thursday, March 4, 7 PM

Studio 2

Free

Chris Salter and Rensselaer faculty **Michael Century**, **Mark Changizi** and **Ted Krueger** with other experts will all take part in a panel discussion on topics including thresholds of perception, multi-modal perception, and the use of research in art practice.

+ PERFORMANCE

Solos2 Concert

Friday, March 5, 8 PM
Concert Hall
\$15/10/5

A totally new concert-hall experience: soloists play and the audience can listen from different places – not glued to their seats. Enjoy and learn about the acoustics of the EMPAC concert hall.

+ EXHIBITION

Dancing on the Ceiling: Un-tethered by Gravity in Time-Based Art

Thursday, March 18 – Saturday, April 10

Opening on Thursday, March 18 with lecture by Douglas Trumbull
and a screening of Stanley Kubrick's *2001*

Free

In this exhibition, performance, film and lecture series, contemporary artists use a variety of strategies including parabolic flight, helium, rigging, digital special effects and other tricks of the eye to explore the experience of weightlessness on earth.

+ PERFORMANCE, TALK

Frederic Rzewski

Saturday, March 20, 8 PM

Concert Hall

\$15/10/\$5

A monumental figure in new music who is both an instrumental virtuoso and a composer of revolutionary ambition in the tradition of Hanns Eisler and Kurt Weill.

+ PERFORMANCE

The OpenEnded Group: *Upending*

Thursday, March 25 - Saturday, March 27, 2010

with music by Morton Feldman, recorded at EMPAC by the FLUX Quartet

Theater

\$15/10/\$5

An evening-length work that combines breathtaking 3D experimental animation with a new recording by the **FLUX Quartet** of Morton Feldman's first String Quartet.

+ PERFORMANCE

Music of Helmut Lachenmann

SIGNAL

Brad Lubman, Conductor

Helmut Lachenmann, Composer, Piano, Speaking Soloist

JACK Quartet

Lauren Radnofsky, Cello

Saturday, March 27, 2010, 8 PM
Concert Hall
\$15/10/5

A rare US performance of one of the most influential living European composers, interpreted by two exciting new music ensembles.

+ PERFORMANCE

New Nothing: Josephine Foster & Victor Herrero
Friday, April 2, 2010, 8 PM
Concert Hall
\$15/10/5

Two charismatic performers offer different takes on the role of the voice in the construction of the song.

+ SCREENING

Unfiction: *Man On A Wire*
Thursday, April 8, 7:30 PM
Theater
\$5

An Academy Award-winning documentary about Phillippe Petit's daring and defiant tightrope walk between the twin towers, which became known as the "artistic crime of the century." In conjunction with *Dancing on the Ceiling*.

+ TALK

Mark Changizi: *Alien Vision Revolution*
Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 7 PM
Theater
Free

Theoretical neurobiologist **Mark Changizi** explores why we see what we see, from color to the written word.

+ FESTIVAL

onedotzero _adventures in motion
Friday, April 30 – Sunday, May 2, 2010
(In residence from April 9 – April 30)
Price: TBA

The international **onedotzero** festival returns to Troy for its second annual celebration of the moving image at EMPAC – expect more of the best in moving image screenings, audiovisual performances, and installations from around the world.

+ PERFORMANCE

Solos2 Concert

Saturday, May 8, 8 PM

Concert Hall

\$15/10/5

A totally new concert-hall experience: soloists play and the audience can listen from different places – not glued to their seats. Enjoy and learn about the acoustics of the EMPAC concert hall.

+ PERFORMANCE

Steve Lehman Octet

Friday, May 28, 2008, 8 PM

Concert Hall

\$15/10/5

A trailblazing young saxophonist and composer whose thrilling, multilayered work stands at the frontiers of contemporary music.