

# BRAIN STORMS

THE ARTIST  
IN THE CONTEXT  
OF NEUROSCIENCE

LAB  
ORA  
TORIA  
Art & Science  
Space

Лекторий  
ПОЛИТЕХНИЧЕСКОГО МУЗЕЯ

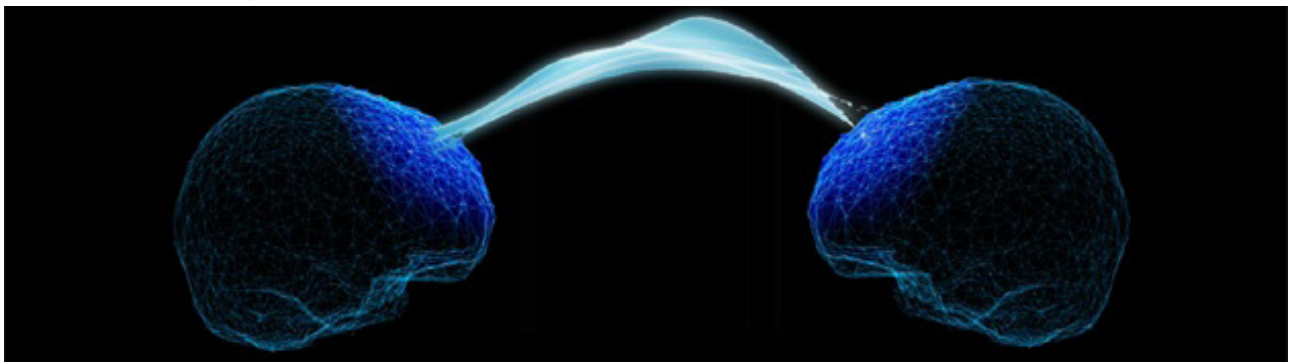
LABORATORIA Art&Science Space  
with the support of The Polytechnic Museum Development Foundation  
presents

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE ART SYMPOSIUM

**16 – 17 NOVEMBER, 2012**

LECTURE HALL OF THE POLYTECHNIC MUSEUM

**16<sup>TH</sup> OF NOVEMBER, 14.00 – PRESS-CONFERENCE AT LECTURE HALL OF THE POLYTECHNIC MUSEUM**



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First International Science Art Symposium “BRAINSTORMS. The artist in the context of neuroscience” is dedicated to the problem of interaction between contemporary art and superior brain functions.

**ORGANIZER**

LABORATORIA Art&Science Space \*

**CURATOR:**

Daria Parkhomenko, art historian, sociologist (Russia)

**CONSULTANTS:**

Konstantin Anokhin, neurobiologist (Russia)

Arseniy Khitrov, philosopher (Russia)

Georgy Nikich, art historian, curator (Russia)

**PARTICIPANTS:**

Marina Abramovic, artist (Serbia - USA)

Konstantin Anokhin, neurobiologist (Russia)

Mikhail Burtsev, neuromathematic (Russia)

Gyorgy Buzsaki, neuroscientist (Hungary - USA)

Antonio Chella, robotics engineer (Italy)

Tatiana Chernigovskaya, neurolinguist (Russia)

David Dubrovskiy, philosopher (Russia)

Alexander Kaplan, neurophysiologist (Russia)

Marina Korsakova-Kreyn, musician (Russia - USA)

Julius Popp, artist (Germany)

Sergey Shutov, artist (Russia)

and others.

*\* LABORATORIA Art&Science Space is the first Russian non-profit exhibition and research center, the main goal of which is to create a platform for interaction between art and science.*

## THEMES OF THE SYMPOSIUM

- Nature of conscience and its connection with creativity.
- How does brain control our gaze: power of gaze, trueness and pretense.
- Where is the "Self" and how does the brain think about itself?
- Geniuses and talents: apex of human evolution or anomalies in the progress of our development?
- How does brain create a work of art and how does it perceive beauty and harmony?
- Artificial Intelligence and its prospects. Will it have creative impulses?
- Is it possible to communicate subjective experience to someone?
- Are two brains able to synchronize while listening to the same music?

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## IMPULSE

In 2011, Marina Abramovic presented science art performance "Measuring the Magic of Mutual Gaze" at CCC "Garage", Moscow, which involved advanced methods of registering the human brain's activity. That experiment was a continuation of the performance "Artist Is Present" in Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York. It became a result of collaboration between Marina Abramovic and Russian and American neuroscientists. Abramovic was wondering whether there could be any scientific explanation of tense contact that is set when two people are staring into each other eyes incessantly and does this non-verbal contact lead to brain activity synchronization. Daria Parkhomenko, the curator of this experiment and director of LABORATORIA Art&Science Space, having discussed preliminary results with scientists, realized, that many questions raised by Marina Abramovic have not been answered yet. The next stage of the research – the BRAINSTORM symposium – is intended to solve these questions. However, this time the territory, form and the prospective result of this experiment will be completely different – symposium instead of performance and wide range of scientific research instead of an artwork.

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## PROGRAMME OF THE SYMPOSIUM // LECTURE HALL of the Polytechnic Museum

### NOVEMBER 16, FRI

16.00 – 17.30 Overture "Measuring the magic of the mutual gaze"

Marina Abramovic, Konstantin Anokhin, Mikhail Burtsev, Alexander Kaplan,  
moderator - Daria Parkhomenko

18.00 – 20.00 Discussion "Brain and creativity"

Marina Abramovic, Konstantin Anokhin

20.30 – 21.30 Film "Un homme presque parfait"

Director: Cecile Denjean.  
France, 2011, 60 min, subtitles

### NOVEMBER 17, SAT

12.00 – 13.20 Discussion "Brain, rhythms and music"  
Gyorgy Buzsaki, Marina Korsakova-Kreyn,  
moderator - Tatiana Chernigovskaya

14.20 – 15.40 Discussion "What is consciousness anyway?"

Tatiana Chernigovskaya, David Dubrovskiy,  
moderator - Sergey Shutov

16.00 – 17.20 Discussion "Artificial intelligence: perspectives of art and science"

Antonio Chella, Julius Popp,  
moderator - Mikhail Burtsev

18.00 – 20.00 Round-table "Brain and personality"

Marina Abramovic, Konstantin Anokhin, Gyorgy Buzsaki, Antonio Chella, Julius Popp and others  
moderator - Lyubov Strelnikova

20.30 – 21.25 Film "Does my Brain have a Sex?"

Director: Laure Delesalle.  
France, Belgium, Sweden, Greece, 2010, 52 min, subtitles

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## FOR WHOM

**The Scientists**, who will learn more about creativity, intuition and beauty from the artists and perhaps they will use these ideas in their studies.

**The Artists**, who will learn how the brain works when it is creating or perceiving art, and they might prove their own theories and get inspiration from scientific discoveries.

**The Guests**, who will open up new horizons for learning and creating. The science art symposium is addressed to general audience, to those who take interest in scientific discoveries, contemporary art and contemporary Brain Research. A work of art is born inside one brain and is perceived by another, but is the creativity only inside our heads or does it take part in forming interpersonal and interprofessional connections, as it happens in Science Art?

**For the Polytechnic Museum** this symposium is a "smart" present for its 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary straight from "the Brain".

## THE RESEARCH GOES ON...

On November 18, the day after the symposium, there will be *science* experiment with Marina Abramovic participation, prepared by professor Alexander Kaplan on the basis of Laboratory of Neurocomputer Interfaces of Moscow State University. The experiment will take place at LABORATORIA Art&Science Space and will be broadcasted online.

Follow us on [www.newlaboratoria.ru/brainstorms/](http://www.newlaboratoria.ru/brainstorms/)

## ENTRANCE

2 days – 300 rubles, low fare ticket – 200 rubles

1 day – 200 rubles, low fare ticket – 100 rubles

THE SYMPOSIUM WILL BE HELD IN ENGLISH  
(WITH SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION INTO RUSSIAN)



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## LABORATORIA ART&SCIENCE SPACE

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 [www.facebook.com/newlaboratoria](http://www.facebook.com/newlaboratoria)

## LECTURE HALL OF THE POLYTECHNIC MUSEUM

Moscow, Novaya square, 3/4, entrance №9 • [www.pmlectures.ru](http://www.pmlectures.ru)

## CONTACTS FOR PRESS:

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• [info.laboratoria@gmail.com](mailto:info.laboratoria@gmail.com)

Polytechnic Museum • Elena Kostyukova, +7 903 509 63 31, [press@polymus.ru](mailto:press@polymus.ru)

## SUPPORTED BY

THE POLYTECHNIC MUSEUM  
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## PARTNERS

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## GENERAL INFORMATION PARTNER

Andy Whitel's  
**Interview**

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