

ISEA 2011
TANBUL

17th International Symposium on Electronic Art
ISEA2011 Istanbul

UN CONTAIN ABLE

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EDITOR & CURATOR Özden Şahin

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Andrea Ackerman

IMPRINT

Catalog of the
17th International Symposium on Electronic Art
ISEA2011 Istanbul

This publication appears on the occasion of the ISEA2011
Istanbul, 17th International Symposium on Electronic Art,
14-21 September 2011.

ISSN: 1071-4391
ISBN: 978-1-906897-19-2

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Uncontainable – ISEA2011 Istanbul: Some Thoughts After The Fact

When talking about ISEA2011 Istanbul one of the things I believe will remain as a legacy of the symposium is its magnitude. ISEA2011 was the most attended to date with almost 1500 attendees, the last count we had was of 1489, and it had over 100 artists – the ones we could account for - who participated and engaged with the city in multiple ways, authorized and non.

Overall ISEA2011 responded to the idea that we crafted for the event: a sprawling series of art events, exhibitions, initiatives, encounters, talks and performances that would reflect the sprawling uncontainable nature of the city of Istanbul. It was also about the 'uncontainable' nature of contemporary digital media which cross over physical borders and interfere with the local cultural order. These interferences may at times have generated conflicting relationships but in doing so also spurred development and innovative approaches.

ISEA2011 Istanbul proved how the lines and borders of contemporary national states present the observer with ideological and cultural frameworks that are no longer valid. Concepts of identity, cultural identifiers, nation state and belonging as well as place and time are challenged in both real and virtual contexts.

As Artistic Director for this exhibition – together with Özden Şahin, the Program Director – I wanted to showcase the complexity of contemporary social

interactions and the role that technology is playing in redefining contemporary aesthetics.

The exhibition Uncontainable was part of the official Parallel Program of the Istanbul Biennial, which allowed participating artists and curators to provide diverse perspectives on the contemporary developments within fine arts aesthetics.

For this reason I am very grateful to all of the artists and delegates that supported ISEA2011 Istanbul through what at times was a difficult process in a difficult economic climate. Turkey does not have public funding for the arts – as for example in European countries – and ISEA2011 Istanbul was made possible through a long string of private sponsorships, institutional support and donors that we solicited.

In the end the variety of the venues and programs provided a colorful framework and allowed artists to engage not only with one another and the public but also with the Istanbul Biennial, with the art market held during two wonderful boat journeys across the Bosphorus and with the city of Istanbul itself.

For the first time in the history of ISEA an electronic art exhibition program was officially part of the parallel program of an international biennial. The exhibition with its artists was publicized in the press package of the 12th Istanbul Biennial together with initiatives and events dotted across the city and internationally.

Therefore the art program was conceived as an artistic itinerary across the city that placed art events in proximity to the major touristic attractions of the city, creating an electronic/new media/digital layering that would interact with the socio-political history of the city. The art program did not limit itself to the ISEA conference period – September 14 to 21, 2011 – but continued with its events until November 2011.

The catalog becomes a way to place an order to all of the events and activities, creating a record of the artists participating and the invited curators, to whom I am extremely grateful for their contributions. It is a snapshot of the city and of the event itself, which has signed, we hope, a milestone in the history of the ISEA Foundation.

Lanfranco Aceti

Artistic Director and Conference Chair
ISEA2011 Istanbul

Istanbul, May 5, 2012



GAVIN BAILY, SARAH BAGSHAW & TOM CORBY

Locus is a news archive visualisation that maps Guardian News articles to places over time – a spatial & temporal mapping of events and media attention in the last decade.

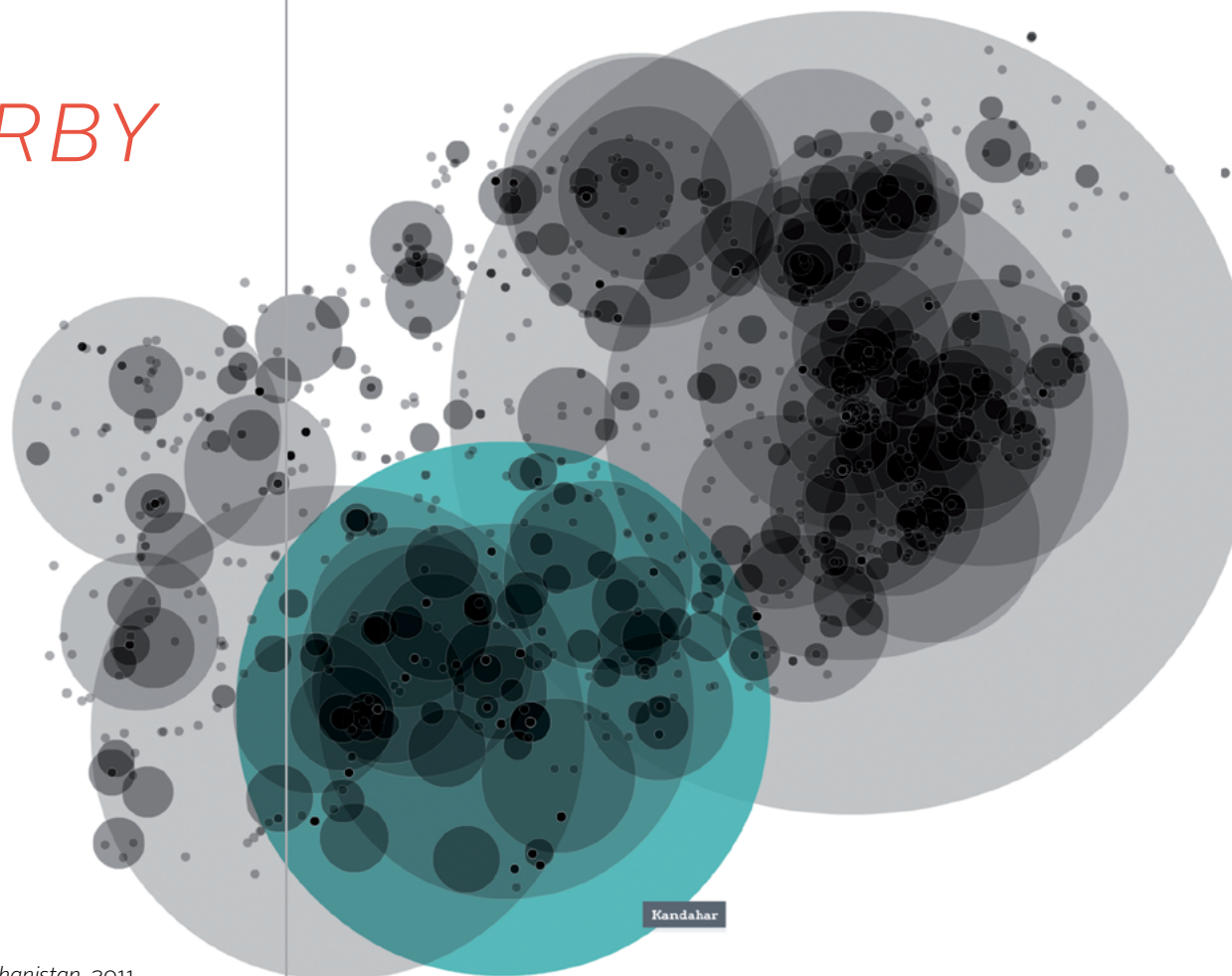
Locus is one of the most recent visualisations to come out of DataArt – a collaboration between BBC Learning and the Centre for Research in Education, Art and Media, at the University of Westminster. Tom Corby is the project Research Fellow and the deputy Director of CREAM. DataArt is funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

Gavin Baily is an artist and developer, and founder of TraceMedia. He has worked on arts, visualisation and research projects in various commercial and academic contexts. He studied Fine Art at Oxford University and Computer Science at UCL.

Sarah Bagshaw is the designer at TraceMedia. Sarah has extensive experience as a designer of websites, interactives, games and application GUI's. She studied Fine Art at UCL.

Tom Corby is the deputy Director of the Centre for Research in Art and Media at the University of Westminster. His research explores how artists and designers can employ digital information as an expressive medium. He studied Fine Art at Middlesex University and has a PhD from Chelsea College of Art & Design.

Locus - Afghanistan, 2011, Gavin Baily, Sarah Bagshaw & Tom Corby, Guardian News visualisation.



- QUNMAN KILLS AT LEAST TWO SOLDIERS AT...
- AFGHANISTAN SUICIDE BOMBER KILLS NINE...
- TALIBAN IS DEMORALISED, SAYS BRITISH...
- HAMID KARZAI CALLS ON US CONGRESS TO...
- AFGHANISTAN: WHEN GENTLE...
- NINE KILLED AND 11 INJURED IN KANDAHAR...
- MOO PAYS £1.3M COMPENSATION TO AFGHANS...
- US KILL TEAM: SOLDIER WHO MURDERED...
- PHOTOS SHOW US SOLDIERS IN AFGHANISTAN...
- US ARMY 'KILL TEAM' IN AFGHANISTAN POSED...
- EARTHQUAKE RESCUE TEAMS ARRIVE FROM...
- TSUNAMI, EARTHQUAKE, NUCLEAR CRISIS ...
- EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI: JAPAN'S WORST...
- US TROOPS' KILLING OF HAMID KARZAI...
- NATO TROOPS KILL AFGHAN PRESIDENTS...
- KARZAI: AFGHAN PEOPLE WILL DECIDE TERMS...
- PAKISTAN ARRESTS US SECURITY...
- BRITISH PHOTOGRAPHER GILES GULY...
- SEPARATING THE TALIBAN FROM AL-QAEDA
- SUICIDE BOMBER KILLS TWO IN AFGHANISTAN...
- THREE AFGHAN POLICE KILLED IN NATO AIR...
- AFGHAN SUICIDE BOMBER HITS BATH HOUSE
- US MILITARY INVESTIGATES 'DEATH SQUAD'...
- PAKISTAN MILITANTS MOUNT ATTACKS ON...
- AFGHAN TALIBAN LEADERSHIP SPLINTERED BY...
- WIKILEAKS CABLES: TALIBAN THREATS HEROIN...
- BARACK OBAMA: AFGHANISTAN WAR IS ON...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: AMERICANS REASSURE...
- US TROOPS TO START AFGHAN WITHDRAWAL...
- BARACK OBAMA TO REPORT ENOUGH...
- AFGHANISTAN ATTACK KILLS SIX NATO...
- WIKILEAKS EMBASSY CABLES: THE KEY...
- DAVID CAMERON SIGNALS AFGHAN...
- CLINTON BEGINS ATTEMPT TO LIMIT DAMAGE...
- WIKILEAKS CABLES, DAY 5: SUMMARY OF...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: AFGHAN TRIBAL...
- US SCRAMBLES TO RESTORE AFGHAN...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: PRESIDENT KARZAI'S...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: HAMID KARZAI'S...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: AFGHAN PROVINCIAL...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: NATO COMMANDER...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: KARZAI QUESTIONS UK...
- US CONVINCED KARZAI HALF-BROTHER IS...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: HAMID KARZAI ON THE...
- WIKILEAKS CABLES: HELICOPTERS, HEROIN...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: IRAN 'BUSY' TRYING TO...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: CANADIAN...
- WIKILEAKS CABLES REVEAL PANIC AFTER...
- WIKILEAKS CABLES PORTRAY HAMID KARZAI...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: KARZAI'S ATTEMPT TO...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: MUBARAK ASKS KARZAI...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: KARZAI FEARED US...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: US MEDIATES IN...
- US EMBASSY CABLES: US AND UN DISCUSS...

Locus - Iraq, 2011, Gavin Baily, Sarah Bagshaw & Tom Corby, Guardian News visualisation.

