

dimension

The Newsletter for L.A. SIGGRAPH
ACM's Special Interest Group on Computer Graphics

July 1991

LIFE FORMS, CHOREOGRAPHY & PARTY AT KOLBECO STUDIOS JULY 9TH

This will be our LA Kick Off Party for the SIGGRAPH '91 Las Vegas Conference, so be sure to join us. SIGGRAPH is where technology meets head-on with art and science. Cole Larson and Thecla Schiphorst of Kinetic Effects (the Seattle based vendor of the software) will present Life Forms, a choreography software currently in use by Merce Cunningham. The software is also being used as an animation driver and runs on Silicon Graphics workstations as well as the Mac II platform. Elliot Capland will join us from New York representing the Merce Cunningham Dance Company. Kolbeco Studios will conduct tours of their facility before and after the meeting. A large video projector will display the output of the computers and the video tapes. Guests are welcome.

LIFE FORMS & KICK-OFF PARTY AT KOLBECO STUDIOS

JULY 9TH 1991

Life Forms was developed by the Computer Graphics Lab at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, B.C. by Tom Calvert. Originally developed as a dance notation or archival program, this package has grown to encompass choreography capabilities and is now being used as an animation driver for Virtual Reality simulations as well as a motion program for computer animation and live action seamless matching scenarios. The software runs not only on a high performance Silicon Graphics computer but also has recently been ported to the Mac II platform. Thecla Schiphorst has a double-degreed background in

dance and computer science and has been both the dance consultant to the programs development and Merce Cunningham's teacher for his integration of the software into the Cunningham Dance Companies choreographic efforts. Thecla, along with Cole Larson of Kinetic Effects (the Seattle based vendor of the software) will be on hand to demonstrate the program's attributes and will show videos of dances developed with the software.

This meeting will also be our LA Kick-Off party for SIGGRAPH '91 Las Vegas. We've invited the dance community and other user groups to join us. The cost will be \$3.00 for SIGGRAPH members and all guests.

That's Tuesday, July 9th at the Kolbeco Studios, 11112 Ventura Blvd. (one block west of Vineland in Studio City). Social hour starts at 6:30pm with the meeting beginning at 7:30pm. There will be tours of the studio before and after the meeting. For more info call 213.962.1662.

FEAR & LOATHING: RIDE SHARING TO LAS VEGAS

Getting to Las Vegas in the heat of mid-summer can be a blast furnace. Not to discourage you, but a riding partner can make all the difference. If you can't take your attorney, call the LA SIGGRAPH answering machine at 962.1662 for ride sharing. Leave your name, number and travel details.

PARTY ALL NIGHT

The Local Groups will be sponsoring the After Hours SIG this year. As the night winds down, this is the place to relax and find everyone else. We'll be in the Regalium Room at the Caesars Palace every evening from Monday July 29 to Thursday August 1, 11pm to 4am. Bring CDs & VHS tapes.

ELECTIONS WHO'S RUNNING?

Running for LA SIGGRAPH Executive Councils are:

Coco Conn for Chair
John Peterson for Vice chair
Tom Earnist for Treasurer
Jane Craford for Secretary

Current Standing Committee Chairs:

Stephanie Slade / SIG TV
Nancy Schorr / PostMaster
Jim Tucker / Special Events
Neil Zachary / SIG BBS
Gwen Ioka / Student Liaison
(students call 312.777.5210)

Standing Committee Chairs Available

Membership
Public Relations
Programming
Nominations

At the July meeting we'll have our elections for the following year. The evenings agenda will include a ratification of the slate of candidates for Executive Council. Additional candidates may be added to the slate during the meeting. Individuals who wish to serve on the Council must be nominated by two members during the meeting, then ratified by a majority of the membership present.

If you're interested in running for office or chairing a Standing Committee, come to our July 9th meeting and let us know.

We'll also need ten members of ACM or of an ACM SIG to sign and approve our by-laws, so feel free to ask to look at the by-laws at the meeting. They need to be sent in ASAP. See Coco at the meeting. And a big thanks to all the volunteers who have signed on.

SPFX∞LA CABLE ACCESS TV

A NEW SHOW ABOUT US

Stephanie Slade and Luis Loza announce the beginning of their new Cable Access TV show 'SPFX∞LA', Special Effects Los Angeles. The show was approved this month by Century Public Access TV. The first taping will be August 15th, 1991. Air dates will be published in the September Dimension. The interview format show will feature special effects wizards and their magic mix of art and technology. The show will explore issues which have grown out of the use of computer technology.

A special segment will be included in each show highlighting activities of the ACM SIGGRAPH Local Groups meetings. The producers plan to air at least once a month. Your ideas and participation, both locally and nationally are critical to the success of the show. If you would like to volunteer to work on this series or if you have any video tape submissions, contact Stephanie Slade or Luis Loza c/o S.L.A.D.E. P.O. Box 10176, Beverly Hills, CA 90213 or Fax 213.278.5582. For more information call 213.278.3710.

TRAVELING ART SHOW ATTENTION: '89 SIGGRAPH ARTISTS

The ACM SIGGRAPH Traveling Art Show and I want to thank you for your participation in the 1989 tour and thank you for your contribution. The works have been returned from the 1989 show.

A complete listing of the sites and of the agents handling your work was mailed recently. If you have any problems (claims, work not arriving, etc.) please contact us in writing by the 30th of July, 1991.

Patric Prince
ACM SIGGRAPH TRAVELING ART SHOW
160 West Jaxine Drive
Altadena, CA 91001
Fax 818.798.8368
Patric Prince

Patric's July 30th date above happens to be a firm deadline, so if you are one of the artists in the '89 Traveling Art Show, it is urgent that you call 962.1662. Leave your name & number and we'll call you with the complete details. This is rather important, and will involve storage fees and other 'stuff', so don't delay. Also, does anyone know the whereabouts of Robert Flanagan of Brooklyn, NY or John Stamos of Chicago or New York? Their mail is being returned we have no current addresses.
Coco Conn

ANIMATION WORKSHOP A HIT

Thanks again to Tom Sito for his live drawing and animation workshop at our June meeting. It was a real workout and a great turn out. If you would like to do more sketching and drawing call ASIFA, the International Animated Film Society here in Hollywood. They too have a newsletter with good articles on animation, film festival news, screening times, and the like. They have special events, cel sales, and drawing workshops. Call them at 818.842.8330 or fax 818.902.9952.

BALLOT
ACM SIGGRAPH LA

Executive Council Nominations
July, 1991

Chair

· Coco Conn
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Vice Chair

· John Peterson
·

Secretary

· Jane Craford
·

Treasurer

· Tom Earinst
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I hereby declare that I am a member of LA ACM SIGGRAPH , and of ACM or
of an ACM SIG

date

SIGGRAPH '91

LAS VEGAS

SIGGRAPH '91 Las Vegas is upon us. It will be held July 28th to August 2nd. If you need an advance program (to sign up for courses and panels) or a free registration form, we'll have them both at our July 9th meeting. You can also request copies by calling 213.962.1662. The advance deadline was June 21, so the cost of courses and panels have now gone up. If you need more information call....

SIGGRAPH'91

Conference Management Office
401 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 644-6610

FREE SIGGRAPH

NEWSLETTERS

TO SCHOOLS

If you teach computer graphic classes at a college or university, leave us your name, department name, school name, address and phone number and we'll make sure that your department receives a one year free subscription to LA SIGGRAPH's Dimension newsletter. Our goal is one per school for now, so you'll have to coordinate!

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2207 Willetta Ave. LA 90068
Tel. 213.962.1662
Fax 213.462.2109

AFI-APPLE

COMPUTER CENTER:

MAC CENTRAL!

Thirty-four companies have joined with Apple Computer, Inc. to launch the new AFI-Apple Computer Center for Film and Videomakers on the campus of The American Film Institute.

Made possible by a grant from Apple Computer, the Center features 20 Apple Macintosh computer stations, from the Macintosh Classic to the Macintosh IIfx. The facility is being used to conduct workshops, training, and special projects utilizing the computers and an array of software and hardware from other firms, providing tools to enhance the creativity and productivity of media artists and craftspersons.

Call for a brochure with a detailed description 213.856.7664. Summer 1991 offerings include The Mac As A Paintbox with Tony DeYoung, Macintosh Fundamentals for Film/Video Professionals, and Interactive Media: At the Crossroads of Education and Entertainment with Jacqueline Hess.

SEPTEMBER

FILM FESTIVAL

In August all the ACM SIGs and Chapters will get together for an evening of films and shorts that have influenced the way we perceive technology. An evening of insight and entertainment. If you know of any interesting footage we could show, or if you have any ideas about films or clips we should get hold of, let us know at 213.962.1662.

JIM MAC BLINN

Jim Blinn was one of three Caltech scholars who were on the list of fellowships from the Chicago-based John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. He'll receive a much deserved \$265,000 over the next five years. Age counts! He is currently associate director of Project Mathematics!, an award-winning videotape series that uses computer graphics to simulate everything from *pi* to Pythagoras' theorem. He also has created a video physics class and simulated planetary fly-bys for NASA, including Voyager II's journey through Saturn's rings.

ADOPT A SCHOOL

Dave Masters teaches animation and Ron Woggin teaches mathematics at Rowland High School. We're very excited that they are now working on a Mathematics Animation Project together. The State of California has awarded their school one of thirty restructuring planning grants. We think that Dave and Ron will come up with ideas and new approaches that could profoundly change the way we teach mathematics.

Come September, LA SIGGRAPH will begin actively supporting their Mathematics Animation Project by offering lectures, demos and moral support. We will document the adventures that these two wonderful teachers and their determined students are about to begin. Next year LA SIGGRAPH will focus on education. If you have any suggestions on integrating visual mathematics instruction with animation & computer graphics call 962.1662.

HC



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ACM SIGGRAPH/LA
2207 Willetta Ave.
Hollywood, CA. 90068



J.E. "BOB" DOEBBS.™

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