

## **Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs**

The mission of Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs is to connect MIT students to the arts through new and existing student programs and the Artist-in-Residence (AiR) program. The student programs managed by Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs are the List Foundation Fellowship Program, Freshman Arts Seminar Advising Program, Promoting the Arts Through Design, Art Scholars, Art Representatives, the juried Student Origami Exhibit, the Graduate Arts Forum, the annual Student Mural Competition, and the Student Art Association. The AiR Program brings both renowned and emerging artists to campus for periods ranging from three days to a semester. Designed to complement courses and advance cross-disciplinary work, these residencies offer insights into different cultures and different ways of looking at familiar problems.

### **Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs Sponsorship**

In addition to Institute support from the provost, the dean of the School of the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, and the Graduate Students Office, Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs received support from the Council for the Arts at MIT, the William L. Abramowitz Fund, the Ida Ely Rubin Artists-in-Residence Fund, the Alan H. Katzenstein Memorial Fund, and the Eugene McDermott Award Fund.

### **Student Programs**

#### **List Foundation Fellowship Program in the Arts**

The List Foundation Fellowship Program in the Arts (LFFP) continued with support from the provost. Since AY2004, LFFP has supported individual undergraduate creative work in the performing, literary, visual, and media arts. The program is for MIT students exploring personal, racial, and cultural identity who are US citizens or permanent residents.

The 2004-2005 recipient, Dang Vu '05 (biology), worked on his project entitled "The Poison Clan Suite: A Celebration of Mutant Culture." Vu, a Vietnamese émigré, is searching for his own musical voice and aims to celebrate the global exchange of culture. For this project, he is composing a five-piece suite for a rock trio about a classic Hong Kong martial arts film.

Nadeem Mazen '06 (mechanical engineering), has been selected as the 2005-2006 recipient for his project entitled "Save the Hijab Princess: A Look at Muslim-American Culture Through Fiction and Film." Through a digital film, Mazen will explore cultural values and heritage by projecting modern Muslim-American culture onto a fictional Islamic empire and its cast of heroes and villains.

#### **Freshman Arts Seminar Advising Program**

Freshman Arts Seminar Advising Program (FASAP) completed its third full year with three seminars led by assistant professor Jay Scheib (Theater Arts), lecturer Charles Shadle (Music), and List Visual Arts Center education/outreach coordinator Hiroko

Kikuchi. FASAP participants benefited from various arts excursions and special on-campus presentations.

Mandatory events in the fall highlighted theater, dance, and a variety of musical styles. They included MIT Dramashop's One-Acts, the premiere of the chamber opera *A Question of Love* at MIT, a tour of the Museum of Fine Arts' art deco exhibit, a performance of Berlioz's *Romeo et Juliette* by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, a Blue Man Group performance, a Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company performance, a silkscreening workshop with Susannah Webster, a gamelan workshop with Balinese composer Dewa Ketut Alit, a theater workshop with senior lecturer Michael Ouellette, a dance workshop with Professor Tommy DeFrantz, and an Arts Share event, where students presented and shared their art with the other students in the program.

Optional excursions throughout the year included a tour of the List Visual Arts Center's student loan art offerings, openings of the exhibits *John Coplans: Body Parts—A Self-Portrait* and *Cerith Wyn Evans*, a Jazz at the Gardner concert and tour of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Abramowitz Memorial Lecture by Elizabeth Streb, the concert "Tire Fire & Amok!" by MIT's Gamelan Galak Tika, an MIT Dance Troupe performance, and a tour of the Institute of Contemporary Art exhibits *Boris Mikhailov: A Retrospective* and *Momentum2/Lucy McKenzie*.



*Gamelan workshop.*

### **Promoting the Arts Through Design**

Promoting the Arts Through Design was a new initiative this year to continue the momentum of the students from FASAP into the spring term. The class is a Public Service Design Seminar (PSDS) in the arts through the Edgerton Center, created to involve undergraduates in the local art scene by nurturing their skills in design and filmmaking to support an arts organization. The organization chosen this year was Mobius, a collective founded by artists to exhibit art that does not fit into a single category. The students met with the organization's staff to discuss Mobius's needs and focused on updating its website and creating a promotional film. During the seminar meetings, guest instructors taught the students about dealing with clients, web design, graphic design, and digital filmmaking. At the end of the semester, the students presented their finished work to Mobius and to other PSDS students and handed the work off to Mobius.

### **Arts Scholars**

The Art Scholars Program was designed to create a community of MIT students who are committed to working in one or more disciplines in the arts and who wish for more interaction with fellow student and faculty artists and more exposure to the rich resources of the Boston area. It is open to rising sophomores, juniors, seniors, and

master's-level graduate students regardless of major. This year, the seventh year of the program, 38 students participated. The current mission of the Arts Scholars Program is to be a student-run collaboration in which students are encouraged to plan events and excursions and play an important role in the event selection process. A student planning committee was formed this year to aid in that process.

Events included MIT's production of *As You Like It*, an Abbey Lincoln concert, Marcel Marceau's performance at the American Repertory Theater, *The Lion King* at the Boston Opera House, *Groucho: A Life in Revue* at the Cutler Majestic Theater, Bhangra Blast at MIT, Vienna Boys Choir performance at Jordan Hall, a day trip to New York City to see *Der Rosenkavalier* at the Metropolitan Opera, a viewing of the movie *Hotel Rwanda*, a performance of the flamenco work *The Four Elements* through the World Music Organization, an Orchestra Baobab concert, a Ladysmith Black Mambazo performance, and an Arts Share event where students presented and shared their art with the other students in the program.

### Art Representatives

The art representatives form a network of arts ambassadors in every dorm and living group. Dinners were held once a term to provide the art reps with an opportunity to meet, discuss the program, and learn about upcoming events and opportunities. Communication with the Art Reps is maintained through a weekly email calendar of upcoming arts events at MIT. Additionally, the Art Reps distributed materials related to this year's Katzenstein residency by Ruth Ozeki and Rubin residency by Michel Gondry to their living group members. There are plans to create a website for the art reps in the upcoming year.

### Student Origami Exhibit

The third annual student competition was juried by origami specialists assistant professor Erik Demaine (Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science), visiting scientist Martin Demaine, and alumnae Elsa Chen, Anne LaVin, and Jeannine Moseley. The submissions were exhibited in the Wiesner Student Art Gallery from February 11 to March 2, 2005. OrigaMIT, Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs, the MIT Japan Program, and the office of Erik Demaine cosponsored the competition. This year's winners were graduate student Brian Chan (mechanical engineering), Andrea Hawksley '07 (brain and cognitive sciences), Howard Kellogg '08 (mechanical engineering), and Andy Lin '08 (electrical engineering and computer science).



Teal Guidici '05 (chemistry) with artwork at the Arts Share.



Chirping Cricket, origami by Brian Chan (G, mechanical engineering).  
Photo by Elsa Chen.

### Graduate Arts Forum

This was the second year for the Graduate Arts Forum, which is aimed at building an interdisciplinary community of graduate students who create art as part of their graduate studies or independently. It provides students experience in presenting their work and discussing each other's. Students in the Department of Architecture; Comparative Media Studies Program; History, Theory, and Criticism Program of Architecture and Art Program; Media Arts and Sciences Program; Science, Technology, and Society Program; Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence (CSAIL); and Visual Arts Program were targeted. This project was sponsored by the Graduate Student Office and administered by Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs. AY2005 forums included Subversion, Distortion, Bio Art, Space, and Site Specific.



*Graduate students Jae Rhim Lee (visual arts) and Luis Berrios-Negron (architecture) presenting their work at the Space Forum.*

### Student Mural Competition

The annual student mural competition found a new home to display the mural off the Student Street in the Stata Center. In January, the first annual student mural competition winner, *Aquabatics*, was unveiled in the new location. The second annual student mural competition winner was *The Kiss*, created by graduate students Jessica Banks (CSAIL) and Dan Paluska (mechanical engineering,) using Fotron2000, which they designed in collaboration with Jack Bachrach (CSAIL). *The Kiss* is a self-portrait that demonstrates some of the subtleties of Fotron2000, a photo booth housing a robotic portrait artist that paints with light. The mural's unveiling was held on May 3, 2005.

The panel of judges consisted of representatives from four units within the Stata Center: Frédo Durand (Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science), Stefanie Hanlon (Department of Linguistics and Philosophy), Doris Inslee (Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems), and Steven Strang (Writing and Communication Center).

### Student Art Association (SAA)

SAA is a space for creative exploration of the visual arts. With approximately 60 noncredit classes per year (summer, fall, independent activities period [IAP], and spring) offered in the



*The Kiss, winner of the Student Mural Competition. Jessica Banks and Daniel Paluska, both MIT graduate students, created the artwork using "a robotic portrait artist that paints with light." Photo courtesy of Jessica Banks (CSAIL) and Daniel Paluska (mechanical engineering).*

ceramics, photography, and 2-D studios, SAA serves 600 students. Classes are geared towards MIT students and are open to all members of the MIT community.

In 2004–2005, coordinator Clay Ward made great strides toward improving SAA through the following efforts: replacement installation of two new state-of-the-art kilns; hiring of ceramics studio head Darrell Finnegan; internal fundraising appeals to the Council for the Arts and the associate provost for the arts; and modernization of administrative and fiscal practices.

### AiR Program

The MIT Artist-in-Residence Program provides MIT students with opportunities to interact with nationally and internationally recognized artists through master classes, lecture-demonstrations, performances, and workshops. By providing students with opportunities for direct involvement with diverse artists and artistic practices, the AiR Program encourages creative thinking and personal expression and promotes cultural affirmation through the arts. It also enriches curricular innovation and promotes interdepartmental collaboration.

In support of the mission to bring internationally recognized artists to MIT, Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs maintained contact that was initiated with many artists and arts organizations in Cuba in 2003–2004. In November, a team consisting of Kathy Lin '05 (environmental engineering), Andrew Brooks (G, electrical engineering and computer science), student coordinator Dora Kelle '03 (architecture) and program director Michèle Oshima went to the Bunker Museum of Contemporary



*Andrew Brooks (graduate student in electrical engineering and computer science); the Magistrate of Kinmen Island, Taiwan, Mr. Juh-Feng Lee; Michèle Oshima; Kathy Lin '05 (environmental engineering), and Dora Kelle '03 (architecture).*



*Dora Kelle '03 (architecture) interacts with artist Paulo Lima Buenoz at Paço das Artes, São Paulo, Brazil.*



*Lia Rodrigues Companhia de Danças rehearsal space in Maré Favela.*

Art (BMoCA) on Kinmen Island, Taiwan, and the Taipei Biennial. BMoCA was curated by former AiR Cai Guo-Qiang and featured an installation by former AiR Tan Dun. In June, Kelle and Oshima went on an arts scouting trip to Brazil, where they met with many artists and arts organizations. Thanks to the assistance of visiting professor Antonio Muntadas (visual arts), Luis Berrios-Negron (G, architecture), Gustavo dos Santos (G, electrical engineering and computer science), Paulo Jacob '06 (materials science and engineering), and 2005–2006 Abramowitz AiR Tats Cru, Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs has established fruitful connections and anticipates bringing Brazilian artists to MIT as residents in the future.

### Named Residencies

The 2005 William L. Abramowitz Program brought MacArthur Fellowship–winning choreographer/action architect Elizabeth Streb to campus. In addition to delivering a public talk, visiting several classes taught by assistant professor Jay Scheib (Theater Arts), and providing an architecture critique for associate professor J. Meejin Yoon's studio, Streb led a highly successful workshop for students, which had a waiting list. Her intellectual encounters were diverse, through tours of laboratories in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the Media Lab, discussions with CSAIL students and faculty, and a luncheon with MIT MacArthur Fellowship recipients.



Elizabeth Streb, 2004-2005 Abramowitz Artist-in-Residence.

The 2004–2005 Katzenstein Residency was held by writer and filmmaker Ruth Ozeki. The residency included a public reading from her latest novel, *All Over Creation*, which was cosponsored with the Center for New Words and podcast on WGBH. While at MIT, Ozeki researched areas relevant to her current novel-in-progress and had fruitful meetings with professors Hugh Gusterson (Anthropology Program; Science, Technology, and Society Program), John Dower (History Section), and Missy Cummings (Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics). Ozeki's visit to Professor Junot Diaz's writing class was highly successful.

The Eugene McDermott Award recipient for 2005 was architect/engineer/artist Santiago Calatrava. Before a crowd of 700 people, many of whom were in overflow seating, Calatrava shared images of his recent prolific and highly acclaimed creations, ranging from a building designed for the Athens Olympic Games to the PATH Station in New York City. Calatrava



Santiago Calatrava, 2005 Eugene McDermott Award recipient.

met with architecture, civil engineering, and CSAIL students, in addition to dining with various students. Professors John Ochsendorf (Department of Architecture), Herbert Einstein (Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering), and Erik Demaine (CSAIL) spearheaded the encounters.

The 2004–2005 Rubin residency was awarded to renowned music video-maker and Oscar-winner Michel Gondry. In April, he visited for the initial component of his residency, which will be completed in fall 2005. Gondry's public talk attracted a record audience; an alumnus even flew in from Seattle and a fan from Texas attended. Unfortunately, the overflow seating could not accommodate the crowd of 900 people. Gondry visited classes, labs, and living groups. His main areas of interest are brain and cognitive science, robotics, and media arts and sciences. He discussed his commercial work in a Comparative Media Studies colloquium.

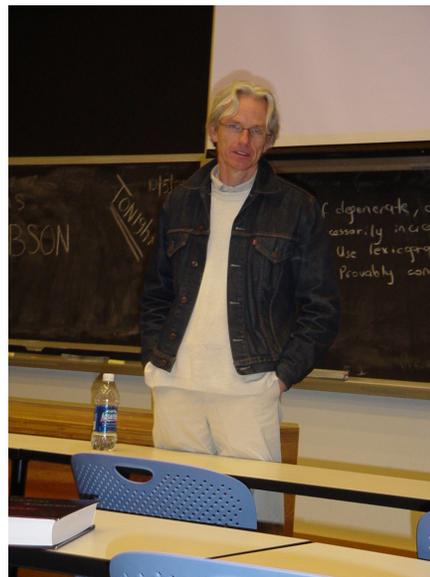
### Department-based Residencies

During 2004–2005, the School of Architecture and Planning, Sloan School of Management, and the School of Science did not host any AiRs funded by the Office of the Arts.

In the School of Engineering, assistant professor of electrical engineering and computer science and MacArthur fellow Erik Demaine brought Robert Lang to the Institute in the fall. Lang is a mathematician and master origami artist. While at MIT he led several workshops, gave a standing-room-only public talk, and worked to solve some mathematical problems with Professor Demaine.

The School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences hosted many AiRs. In the Music and Theater Arts Section, the following artists visited: jazz pianist Kenny Werner, the Cypress Quartet, playwright Max Hafler, and tap dancer Dianne Walker.

Comparative Media Studies Program hosted South African Oscar-nominated documentary filmmaker and TV producer Angus Gibson. Gibson's documentaries and three seasons of his award-winning TV series *Yizo Yizo* were screened both in the fall and over IAP. Students from Comparative Media Studies and Visual Arts programs, and the Media Lab, met with Gibson.



*Angus Gibson, 2004-2005 AiR in Comparative Media Studies.*

### Staffing News

The position of program coordinator was filled by a recent graduate of MIT on a one-year contract. Dora Kelle '03 (architecture) joined Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs in July 2004, and Irene Brisson '05 (architecture) was hired to replace her beginning July 1, 2005. SAA coordinator Clay Ward '97 (brain and cognitive sciences;

MFA, Parsons School of Design) hired Darrell Finnegan as the part-time head of the ceramics studio.

Student staff Patrick Boyle '06 (biology), Kenny Roraback '06 (physics and theater), Tom Walker '06 (aeronautics and astronautics), Rachel Valdez '07 (biology), Elizabeth Krasner '08, and Chihjiun (Connie) Yeh '08 were invaluable to the success of Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs. Student staff Rene Chen '07 (materials science and engineering), Ben Lu '07 (electrical engineering and computer science), Nan Yang '07 (materials science and engineering), Kristen Ayala '08, Ashley Cantieny '08, and Harry Heffernan '08 composed the equally essential SAA team.



*Chihjiun (Connie) Yeh '08 working in the office.*

**Michèle Oshima**

**Director**

*More information about Student & Artist-in-Residence Programs in the Office of the Arts can be found online at [http://web.mit.edu/arts/special\\_programs/](http://web.mit.edu/arts/special_programs/).*