

Through a looking glass

Jepppe Hein

Daniel Rozin

Alyson Shotz

Simons Center for Geometry and Physics
Stony Brook University
December 3, 2015 – February 18, 2016



ALYSON SHOTZ, *Interval*, 2014, Courtesy of the artist and Derek Eller Gallery, New York, NY. Photo by Susan Wildes

Through a looking glass

In the mirror, I see myself there where I am not, in an unreal, virtual space that opens up behind the surface; I am over there, there where I am not, a sort of shadow that gives my own visibility to myself, that enables me to see myself there where I am absent: such is the utopia of the mirror.

Michel Foucault, *The Order of Things*

French philosopher Michel Foucault uses the word heterotopia to describe the contradictions inherent in a mirror. Leonardo da Vinci called the mirror the master of painters. Mirrors have long been a central device in art, including two of the greatest of paintings – Van Eyck's *The Arnolfini Portrait*, and Velázquez's *Las Meninas*. Continuing in this revered tradition, the artists in the exhibition *Through a Looking Glass* utilize the mirror so we may see ourselves where we are not.

Be it utopian or heterotopian, Jeppe Hein, Daniel Rozin, and Alyson Shotz create work that is responsive to a viewer's presence. Engaging perceptions and transforming illusions, their art invites the spectator to participate in a reflective experience both inclusive and exclusive. Thus the visitor's attention is drawn to the act of viewing itself and seeing oneself.

Our perceptual limits and possibilities are seen in Jeppe Hein's inventive sculpture and installations. Hein's *Field of Visions II* is a polished stainless steel hexagonal box that hangs from the ceiling. A vertical lattice-like framework on three sides of the object allows viewers to look within to observe a slowly rotating triangular mirror. Peering inside, the visitor sees fragments of themselves and the surrounding sides, displacing their position and orientation. Hein heightens the viewer's awareness of looking, simultaneously reversing their world while cleverly reflecting revolving segments of the viewer and their environment.

Mirrors have always been fundamental to Daniel Rozin's art. His custom-made software create real time responsive experiences to recreate a live visual representation of the viewer. In *Mirror No. 5*, Rozin utilizes iconic early gaming characters, notably the pac-man, to redraw the viewer. In Rozin's recent software mirror work, Darwin's theory of evolution is the inspiration for the visitor's resemblance. In *Darwinian Straw Mirror*, an evolutionary force is programmed to draw lines with formal tonal values. As the likeness of the viewer becomes more accurate, the evolutionary push declines and fewer lines are added. In the *Selfish Gene Mirror*, Rozin creates a beautiful delayed responsive watercolor effect compelling the visitor to look patiently at the monitor as their image is revealed on the screen before them.

Matter, gravity, time, and light inform Alyson Shotz's art. Her sculpture, inspired by ideas in theoretical physics and natural phenomena, transform space with a luminous weightlessness and beauty. Shotz's *Interval*, made from stainless steel wire threaded with glass beads, emanates a sense of imperishability and strength. This work begins as a flat object and expands to fill an environment, creating a large volume from a small mass. With effortless gravity, the sculpture pours from the ceiling in a constellation of shimmering beads. Shotz's work creates an uncanny presence to summon reflection, offering a different kind of observation while casting elegant shadows.

Lorraine Walsh
Art Director and Curator, Simons Center for Geometry and Physics
Visiting Associate Professor of Art, Stony Brook University

ARTIST BIOS

Jeppe Hein (b. Denmark 1974) Hein lives and works in Berlin, Germany. He studied at the Royal Danish Academy of Art and the Städelschule in Frankfurt while an associate student of the Danish Academy. As a student, Hein was co-founder of OTTO, a non-commercial organization, which organized art exhibitions at various venues in Denmark from 1997 to 2000. His work is exhibited internationally and his site-specific outdoor sculptures are installed worldwide.

Hein's solo exhibitions include MoMA PS1, Sculpture Center, Kunstmuseum in Wolfsburg, Bonniers Konsthall in Stockholm, Wanås Konst in Sweden, Museum Würth in Bad Mergentheim, the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art in Kanazawa, Neues Museum Nürnberg, Indianapolis Museum of Art, and Aros Museum of Art in Aarhus, Denmark. His work has been included in group exhibitions at Centre Pompidou, Tate Modern, Hayward Gallery in London, CCA Wattis Institute in San Francisco, FRAC Orléans, ICA Boston, and Musée d'art contemporain in Lyon, among many other venues.

Daniel Rozin (b. Israel 1961) Rozin lives and works in New York City. As an artist, educator and software developer, Rozin is an Associate Arts Professor at ITP in the Tisch School Of The Arts at New York University. He earned a BD at the Jerusalem Bezalel Academy of Art and Design and an MPS from New York University.

Public and private collections of Rozin's work include Microsoft, the Chrysler Museum, Borusan Contemporary, AT&T, Fidelity Investments, the Fundación Privada Sorigué, the Thoma Art Foundation, the Taiwan Taoyuan international airport, and MUSAC Fundación, among others. Past exhibitions of his work include the Reina

Sofia National Museum, Madrid; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; The Garage CCC, Moscow; ICC, Tokyo; The Israel Museum, Jerusalem; Milwaukee Art Museum; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester; Taiwan National Museum of Fine Art, Taipei; Barbican Centre, London; Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax; Bunkamura Museum of Art, Tokyo; the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, Dallas; Katonah Museum of Art, New York; ICA Portland, Maine; the Central Academy of Fine Arts Museums, Beijing; Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota; the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem; and the Sundance Film Festival. The recipient of many awards, including the Prix Ars Electronica, I.D. Design Review, Chrysler Design Award, and the Rothschild Prize,

Alyson Shotz (b. Arizona, U.S. 1964) Shotz lives and works in New York City. She received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and an MFA from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Shotz's awards include a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant and a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship. Shotz's solo exhibitions include Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Wisconsin; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus; Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas; Derek Eller Gallery, New York; and the Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C. Group exhibitions include the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and Storm King Arts Center, New York. Permanent Collections include Brooklyn Museum of Art; Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley, MA; The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; Harvard University, Cambridge, MA; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA; Whitney Museum of American Art, NY and Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT.

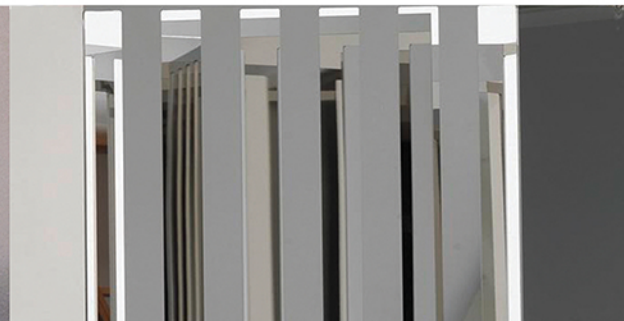
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all at the Simons Center for Geometry and Physics, especially to John Morgan, Director; Elyce Winters, Chief Administrator; Tim Young, Systems Administrator and to staff members Teresa DePace, Joshua Klein, Jason May, Janell Rodgers and Brianne Schmidt. Thanks also to Tony Phillip, Art Advisory Committee Chair, and the entire art committee; Karen Levitov, Director and Curator, Paul W. Zuccaire Gallery; Joo Yun Lee; all the student gallery assistants, and to bitforms gallery New York, NY; 303 Gallery, New York, NY and Derek Eller Gallery, New York, NY.

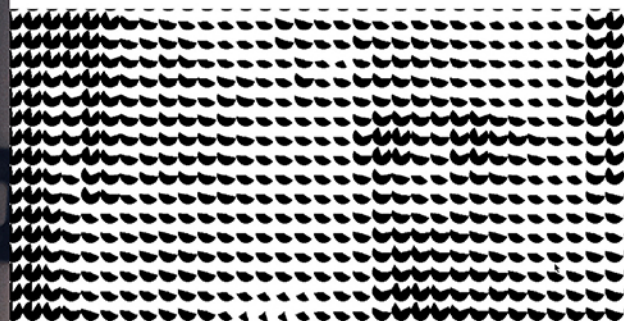
As always, we are grateful for the exceptional artists who made this exhibition possible: Jeppe Hein, Daniel Rozin and Alyson Shotz. Thank you for sharing your creative and thought provoking work with everyone at the Simons Center and the Stony Brook community at large.



DANIEL ROZIN, *Darwinian Straw Mirror*, 2010. Courtesy of the artist and bitforms gallery, New York, NY. Photo by Lorraine Walsh



JEPPE HEIN
Field of Visions II, 2012 (detail)
high-polished stainless steel (super mirror), rope, motor
17 3/4 x 34 5/8 x 30 inches (45 x 88 x 76.2 cm)
Edition of 3
Courtesy of the artist and 303 Gallery, New York



DANIEL ROZIN
Mirror No. 5, 2001 (detail)
Video camera, custom software, computer, 46" screen
Dimensions variable, horizontal or vertical
Courtesy of the artist and bitforms gallery, NY



ALYSON SHOTZ
Interval, 2014 (detail)
Stainless-steel wire, aluminum and stainless-steel collars, and glass beads
Dimensions variable
Courtesy of the artist and Derek Eller Gallery, NY
Photo by Susan Wildes

EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

JEPPE HEIN

Field of Visions II, 2012
high-polished stainless steel
(super mirror), rope, motor
17 3/4 x 34 5/8 x 30 inches
(45 x 88 x 76.2 cm)
Edition of 3
Courtesy of the artist and
303 Gallery, New York

DANIEL ROZIN

Mirror No. 5, 2001
Video camera, custom software,
computer, 46" screen
Dimensions variable, horizontal
or vertical
Courtesy of the artist and
bitforms gallery, NY

Darwinian Straw Mirror, 2010
Video camera, custom software,
computer, 55" screen
Dimensions variable, horizontal
or vertical
Courtesy of the artist and
bitforms gallery, NY

Selfish Gene Mirror, 2015
Video camera, custom software,
computer, 46" screen
Dimensions variable, horizontal
or vertical
Courtesy of the artist and
bitforms gallery, NY

ALYSON SHOTZ

Interval, 2014
Stainless-steel wire, aluminum and
stainless-steel collars, and glass beads
Dimensions variable
Courtesy of the artist and
Derek Eller Gallery, NY
Photo by Susan Wildes



Jeppe Hein

JEPPE HEIN, *Field of Visions II*, 2012. Courtesy of the artist and 303 Gallery, New York, NY

Through a Looking Glass

Jeppe Hein • Daniel Rozin • Alyson Shotz

Simons Center Gallery
December 3, 2015 – February 18, 2016

Curated by Lorraine Walsh

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Opening Reception

Thursday, December 3, 2015
5:00 pm, Simons Center Gallery

Artist Talk

Thursday, December 3, 2015
5:45 pm, Daniel Rozin: Creating digital interactive art using reflection

Curator Talk

Wednesday, February 10, 2016
11:00 am, Simons Center Gallery

Closing Reception

Thursday, February 18, 2016
5:00 pm, Simons Center Gallery

Artist Talk

Thursday, February 18, 2016
5:45 pm, Closing reception talk by Alyson Shotz

Simons Center Gallery hours:
Monday – Friday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Directions: Simons Center for Geometry and Physics
<http://scgp.stonybrook.edu/about/directions>

Information: <http://scgp.stonybrook.edu> or call 631-632-2800



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