

Michael Kontopoulos

Curriculum Vitae

<http://www.mkontopoulos.com>

mkontopo@gmail.com

1016 West Kensington Rd. #6

Los Angeles, CA 90026

610.324.7849

Born April, 1985 in Philadelphia, PA. Michael Kontopoulos is an artist, designer and educator who has lived and worked in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Los Angeles and exhibited his work in galleries, museums, festivals and alternative spaces in the United States, Asia and Europe.

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles

MFA | 2009

Department of Design | Media Arts

Los Angeles, CA

Carnegie Mellon University

BFA | 2007

School of Art, Electronic and Time-Based Media

Pittsburgh, PA

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Contractor

9.2009 - Present

Engaged in a variety of freelance activities ranging from instructing workshops, to arts fabrication and construction / contracting.

Artist In Residence / Intern, The Barbarian Group (San Francisco, CA)

8.2008

Worked with Barbarian Group co-founder Robert Hodgins on the proposal and design of an interactive installation for the San Francisco office.

Fabrication Lab Monitor, UCLA (Los Angeles, CA)

1.2008 - 7.2008

Responsible for care and maintenance of electronics and fabrication facilities in the department of Design | Media Arts. Assist students with equipment use and construction questions.

Docent / Attendant / Art-Handling, Regina Gouger Miller Gallery (Pittsburgh, PA)
9.2004 - 6.2007

Preparatory work, Docent, Administrative work for various gallery installations. Assisted with show installation and de-installation. Communicated with the artists in the exhibition.

Curatorial Intern / Docent, Pittsburgh Filmmakers (Pittsburgh, PA) 6.2006 - 9.2006

Preparatory work, Docent, Administrative work for the art gallery at Pittsburgh Filmmakers.

TEACHING

2010

Instructor, 'Motors and Mechanisms' (Machine Project)

2009

Teaching Assistant, 'Interactivity' (Prof. John Houck, UCLA)

Teaching Assistant, 'Visual Communication' (Prof. Carolina Trigo, UCLA)

2008

Instructor, 'TA Training Practicum', UCLA Office of Instructional Development

Instructor, UCLA, DMA Summer Institute, Web Design

Teaching Assistant, 'Form' (Prof. Robert Israel, UCLA)

Teaching Assistant, 'Programming Media 2' (Prof. Casey Reas, UCLA)

Teaching Assistant, 'Dynamic Typography' (Prof. Rebeca Mendez, UCLA)

2007

Teaching Assistant, 'Creative Internet' (Prof. Chandler McWilliams, UCLA)

SELECTED HONORS, GRANTS

2010

Mountain School for the Arts (Participant)

2009

Rhizome Commission Jury Award (2009-10 Cycle)

2008

Artist In Residence, The Barbarian Group

2007

Meeting of the Minds Artistic Excellence Award, Carnegie Mellon University

Phi Kappa Phi Research Award

Carnegie Mellon Senior Leadership Award

2005

Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society (2005-Present)

Finalist: World Karakuri Competition > Nagoya, Japan

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2010

Gadget, OK!, Japanese Device-Art Symposium and Exhibition, UCLA (Los Angeles, CA)

TED (Palm Springs, CA) | Innovation Lounge

NC State, College of Design: Biennial Graduate Symposium (North Carolina)

Storey Gallery, (Lancaster, UK) | What Happens If...

2009

University of Auckland, WINDOW Projects (New Zealand) | Removal Studies

Crisp Gallery, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA) | Measure of Discontent, Pacing Track

New Wight Gallery (Los Angeles, CA) | DMA MFA Exhibit, 2009

2008

Sundance Film Festival, New Frontier Gallery (Park City, UT) | Moon Theater

Scottsdale Waterfront (Scottsdale, AZ) | Night Lights

New Wight Gallery (Los Angeles, CA) | MEGA3

Monkeytown (Brooklyn, New York) | Cut!

GLOW Festival (Santa Monica, CA) | Moon Theater

Experimental Digital Arts (Los Angeles, CA) | First Year MFA Exhibition

New Wight Gallery (Los Angeles, CA) | Small Truths

2007

Regina Gouger Miller Gallery (Pittsburgh, PA) | To Get to the Other Side

Three Rivers Arts Festival Gallery (Pittsburgh, PA) | Mechanosphere

2006

Carnegie Museum of Natural History (Pittsburgh, PA) | Horizons
Mannheim Castle (Mannheim, Germany) | RE/ACT Festival

2005

Future Tenant Gallery (Pittsburgh, PA) | OHM
Yada Gallery (Nagoya, Japan) | Transit: Karakuri Art

SKILLS

SOFTWARE

Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, Apple iWork, Final Cut Pro, DVD Studio Pro, Maya, Google Sketchup
Java/Processing, Some Javascript, Some C/C++, ActionScript, XHTML, CSS, PHP

HARDWARE

Drawing, Rendering, Painting, Printmaking, Wood/Carpentry, Welding (Arc, TIG), Soldering, Experience with Laser Cutting, CNC Milling machines, Physical Computing and Electronics.

LANGUAGES

English, Advanced Greek, Beginner/Intermediate French

SELECTED PRESS

PRINT

2009

Sundance 2009 Daily Insider, New Frontier Pullout Section (Jan.)

2008

Scottsdale Republic, Light Up the Night (Nov.)

LA Times, Glow Festival - Santa Monica Pier (Aug.)

2007

Pittsburgh City Paper, State of the Art | 2.2007

BLOG

Rhizome | "Machines by Michael Kontopoulos"

www.rhizome.org/editorial/549

New York Times Freakonomics Blog | "The Art of Catastronomics"

<http://freakonomics.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/03/31/the-art-of-catastronomics/>

LA Weekly Blog | "Michael Kontopoulos, 'Sigh-Borg' "

<http://blogs.laweekly.com/ladaily/community/michael-kontopoulos-sigh-borg/>

MAKE Magazine Blog | "Sigh Collector"

http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2009/05/sigh_collector.html

BoingBoing.com | "Failure is Art. If you're a robot.."

<http://www.boingboing.net/2009/04/20/michael-kontopoulos.html>

Kottke.org | "Michael Kontopoulos"

<http://kottke.org/09/03/michael-kontopoulos>

Rhizome | "Removal Studies (2008) by Michael Kontopoulos"

www.rhizome.org/editorial/2292