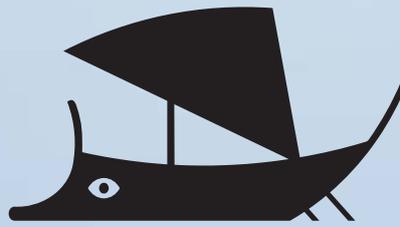




Μ Ε Δ Ε Α 2015

BACK TO THE FUTURE



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Back to the future

There are concepts from distant past that are creating the image of today and are present in contemporary art, science and technology. Ideas from pre-dogmatic times when diversity was respected, that are partially returning after thousands of years with the echo of knowledge, like the poem of Lucretius "On the Nature of Things" discovered on the beginning of Renaissance. Concepts that have shaped the theoretical model of reality verified experimentally by modern scientists.

In 1200 B.C. the kingdom of Odysseus with capital on the Ithaca island included other Ionian Islands, such as: Cephalonia, Lefkada, Zakynthos, Echinades and also a part of Acarnania bordering with Aetolia by the Achelous River. After a 10-years long Trojan War Odysseus started a 10-year long return journey to his homeland. These events are described in the works of the so called Epic Cycle, that included: Cypria, Iliad, Aethiopis, Little Iliad, Iliou persis, Nostoi, Odyssey and Telegony, of which only Iliad and Odyssey were preserved until our times. They have an unquestionable impact on the shape of our modern culture. A question emerges then - what would be the image of our civilisation if works of ancient thinkers were preserved, that were destroyed with the fall of libraries and beginning of the era of domination of political-religious regimes of dogmatism that rigorously forbid anything considered dangerous to the system?

Human-computer interface

The ship of Odysseus, as other ancient vessels, took pattern from sea creatures. Characteristic elements were: the eye at the front, usually made from white marble and the stern in a form of wrapped up fin or tail. Ships were considered holy and took names from female gods, such as Aphrodite, Artemis, Thetis, Amphitrite or other Nereid or Oceanid. The issue of machine personification is specially actual in times when advanced machine-human interfaces and autonomous systems based on artificial intelligence are emerging, when many futurologists are predicting the forthcoming of the so called singularity in technology.

In 1900 A.D., near the island of Antikythera, Greek diver Elias Stadiatos discovered an ancient shipwreck of a merchant ship that was carrying amongst others a mechanism that was later called Antikythera Mechanism. It was utilized for the calculation of Sun and Moon positions and phases of the Moon on the Zodiac circle. The discs (interface) were based on two calendars: Greek and Egyptian. It showed eclipses of the Sun and the Moon based on the Babylonian Saros cycle. It retraced such details as the irregular motion of the Moon, the locations of five known planets and rises and sets of stars. The mechanism is dated to 150 B.C. - 100 B.C. and is the most complex known mechanical computation tool until the early modern period.

Programmable mechanisms developed by the human required proper interface in order to receive instructions in a way adequate to their construction and to output information in a way compatible to human perception abilities.

History of information

In VI and V centuries B.C., thanks to individuals such as Thales, Anaximander, Anaximenes, Heraclitus, in Ionian cities on the coasts of Minor Asia philosophy emerged and build the foundations of today's science. After the conquer of Ionia by Persians in the middle of VI century B.C. many Greeks emigrated to western colonies, to the so called Great Greece (southern part of the Italian Peninsula and part of Sicily) with philosophers such as Xenophanes and Pythagoras amongst them. Xenophanes was the ancestor of Eleatic School of Philosophy and Pythagoras was the progenitor of Pythagorean Union. For Pythagoreans the most important substance of the universe was not matter, but the form it acquires by the inscribed information. They perceived the universe as buildt by numbers and explored its harmony. The name of the Ionian Sea and the Ionian Islands comes from this early emigration.

Contemporary information space is a global network of connected devices, media, data media and storages, and its evolution is influenced by theoretical concepts and their implementations, technological capabilities and strategies of data accumulation and processing, evolution of the interface, enhancement of transmission methods and connectivity between users.



AKADEMIA SZTUKI



Μ Ε Δ Ε Α



Third symposium on art-science-technology MEDEA2015; Media, Design, Architecture will take place on september 6-12 on the Zakynthos island in Greece together with the 12th International Conference on Functional and Nanostructured Materials FNMA'15. The aim of this event is to promote meetings of artists, scientists and technologists in the search of mutual interdisciplinary ground of discussion about science, art and technology matters.

Timeline:

September 6-12 2015

Venues:

- Technological Educational Institute of Ionian Islands, Zakynthos, Greece
- Alykes, Zakynthos, Greece

Organizer:

- Visual Arts Department, Academy of Art in Szczecin, Poland

Project director: D.Sc. Andreas Guskos, associate professor
E-mail: andreas.guskos@akademiasztuki.eu
Tel. +48 503 929 694

Co-organizers:

- Institute of Physics, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Mechatronic, Western Pomeranian University of Technology, Szczecin, Poland
- Department of Solid State Physics, Faculty of Physics, University of Athens, Greece
- Technological Educational Institute of Ionian Islands, Zakynthos, Greece

Deadlines:

Registration: April 6/2015
Abstract submission: May 10 2015
Abstract acceptance: June 1 2015
Early payment: June 15 2015
Last minute payment (expensive): August 15 2015

Registration:

The registration form need to be downloaded from www.medeas2015.pl, filled and sent by e-mail to: andreas.guskos@akademiasztuki.eu

Abstract submission:

Abstract of the paper/presentation must be submitted by e-mail to: andreas.guskos@akademiasztuki.eu

Fees:

Before June 15 2015:
450 Euro - Regular fee
250 Euro - Student fee

After June 15 2015:
500 Euro - Regular fee
300 Euro - Student fee

Regular fee includes: local conference costs, conference materials, double room in a hotel between september 6-13 2015

Student fee includes: local conference costs, conference materials, accomodation in double room between september 6-13 2015

Payment:

Payment should performed by wire transfer to organizer's account:

Akademia Sztuki w Szczecinie
pl. Orła Białego 2
70-562 Szczecin
account no: PL34 1440 1143 0000 0000 1352 3754
BIC|SWIFT: NDEAPLP2
Purpose: MEDEA2015, participant's Name and Surname

Important:

Please send a copy of the bank confirmation of your conference fee payment by e-mail to: andreas.guskos@akademiasztuki.eu





Technological Educational Institute of Ionian Islands.



Technological Educational Institute of Ionian Islands - auditorium.



Technological Educational Institute of Ionian Islands - lecture room.



Letsos hotel in Alykes - place of accommodation.



Gerakas beach. Eastern part of the island. Natural reserve - hatchery of sea turtles.



Navagio beach. Western part of the island.



Zakynthos - interior panorama.



Olive grove near Laganas. Southern part of the island.



www.medeas2015.pl

contact:

D.Sc. Andreas Guskos, associate professor
e-mail: andreas.guskos@akademiasztuki.eu

tel. +48 503 929 694