

## Gallery

### Media Release

January 6 - February 18  
**DAVID ROKEBY**



Toronto artist David Rokeby is a technological philosopher interested in the ways that machines and humans influence each other.

Rokeby's work engages the visitor visually and conceptually in a dialogue with technology. This exhibition presents *The Giver of Names* – a computer that identifies and describes objects shown to it by the viewer. As Rokeby notes, "*The Giver of Names* involves the replication of parts of the human mental system in computer code . . . The process itself yields some precious results: It provides me with an extraordinarily tangible sense of the remarkable complexity of the many human (and even animal) systems that we take for granted." – David Rokeby from *Engaging the Virtual*, Dalhousie Art Gallery, 1999

In the ambitious installation *Watch*, a surveillance camera mounted at a busy intersection brings images of the outside world into the Gallery space, processing them according to certain visual codes that the computer has been programmed to recognize.

David Rokeby has exhibited at the 1986 Venice Biennale and has been a major figure in technology based artwork ever since, exhibiting in Canada and internationally. He was awarded the prestigious *Prix Ars Electronica*, (Linz, Austria) in 1991 and again in 1997.

See back for **BODY, MIND, TECHNOLOGY** public talk series information.

Press Contact: Diane Evans, 986-1351 or [devans@presentationhousegall.com](mailto:devans@presentationhousegall.com)  
Images available on request

In conjunction with *David Rokeby*, and in collaboration with Artspeak Artist-run Centre:

## **BODY, MIND, TECHNOLOGY:**

**Saturday, January 6 from 10am – 1pm**

Segal Centre, Room 1420-30, Simon Fraser University Harbour Centre, 515 West Hastings

### **The Technological Interface: Four Artists' Approaches To Interactivity**

David Rokeby, Toronto,

Char Davies, USA ,

Daniel Jolliffe, Vancouver,

Janice Kerbel, London/Los Angeles.

Moderated by Carol Gigliotti, Director, Centre for Art & Technology, ECIAD

The talks will be followed by the opening of *Giver of Names* and *Watch* at Presentation House Gallery, North Vancouver, 2-5pm.

**Thursday, January 25, 7:30pm** In the Gallery

### **READING: Technology and Language**

Ryan Knighton,

Andrew Klobucar,

David Ayre (Global Telelanguage Resources)

**Saturday, January 27, 10am – 1pm**

Segal Centre, Room 1420-30, Simon Fraser University Harbour Centre, 515 West Hastings

### **Dot Tuer, Disembodied States: Vision, the Body and Virtuality**

Dot Tuer is a writer and critic whose essays on new media and contemporary art have been widely published. She teaches at the Ontario College of Art and Design in Toronto and is a frequent guest lecturer, most recently at the DIA Centre for the Arts, the Chicago Institute of the Arts, the Sydney Biennale, and the National Museum of Fine Arts in Argentina. She is currently researching a book that examines how issues of nature, technology and the body are reflected in the work of contemporary Canadian artists.

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