

EMPAC

PERFORMANCE

,000,

Isabelle Pauwels

THU / OCT 30TH

7:30 PM

,000,

EXPLICIT CONTENT, 18+



,000,
Isabelle Pauwels

Layering sculpture, light, audio, and video, *,000,* will guide you through the story of two entwined characters: a dying rust-belt town unable to let go of nostalgia for the “old days,” and a small-time actress struggling against the indignities of the film industry while making ends meet as a part-time dominatrix.

,000, tracks the history of the Canadian city of New Westminster, which lies on the periphery of Vancouver, alongside biographical details of its residents and the urban landscape that they inhabit. A former provincial capital founded by the United Kingdom in response to fears of an American invasion, New Westminster’s past is visible today only in the crumbling architecture, condominium marketing campaigns, community festivals, and grand landscaping. Its last economic lifeline comes from irregular use as a Hollywood film set, transformed for the screen into a gritty industrial hub, a thriving west coast city, or a model of 1950s America. As a long-time resident of this “Hollywood North,” the aspiring actress Bijou Steal supplements her work by moonlighting as a dominatrix, producing hundreds of fetish videos for online clients.

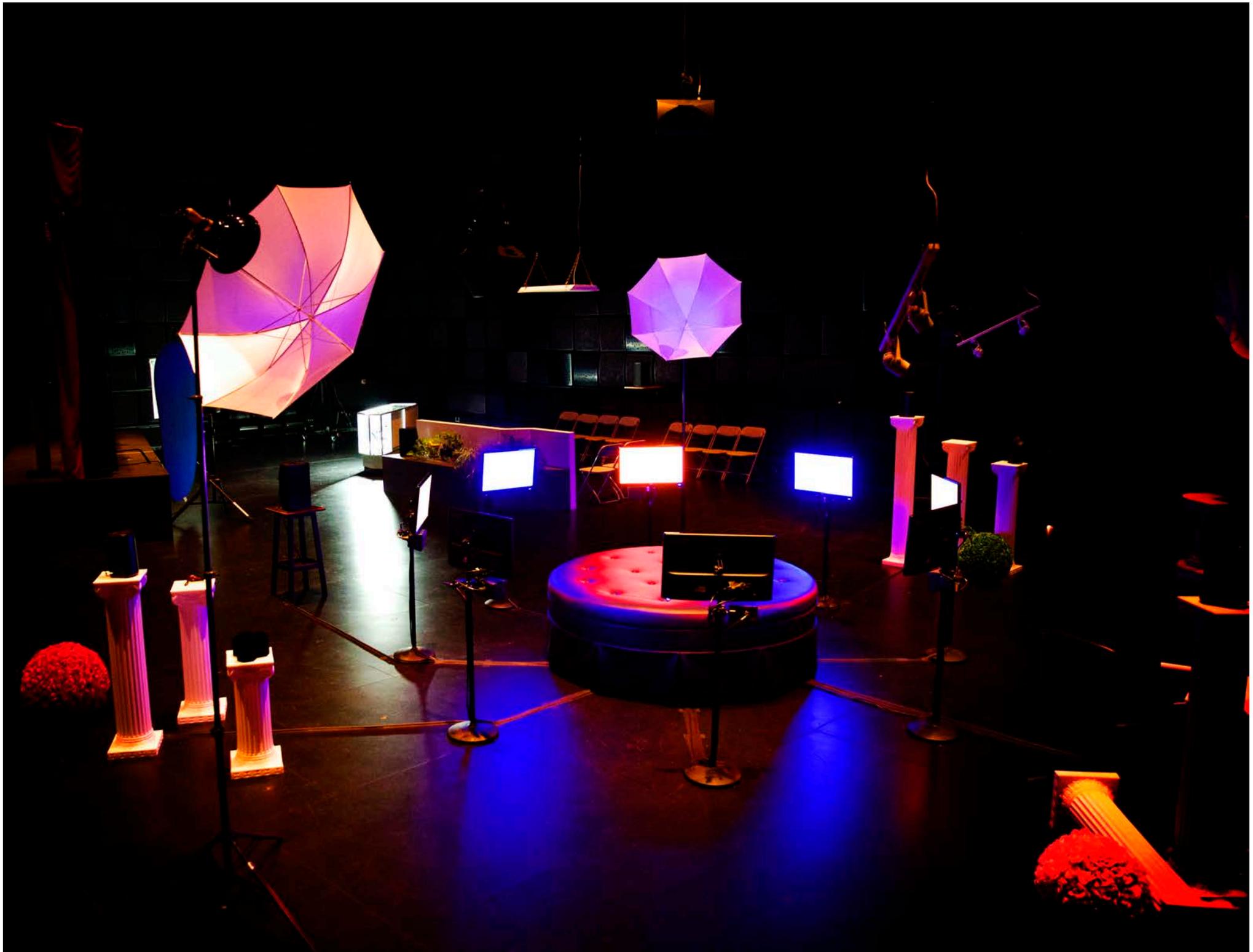
,000, sets the proud but unattainable visions of city-hall marketing against the dirty narrative economy of the dominatrix and her clients behind closed doors. The audio and visual elements combine the competing voices of the players—the actress, her clients, the wives and girlfriends, the critics, and the town bureaucrats—into a collaged narrative, with the pre-recorded voice of each character embodied by a related object that includes props, sculptures, lights, speakers, and screens.

Narratively approached as an interwoven structure of the different characters’ views and interpretations, *,000,* was composed by superimposing the structural logic of a crossword puzzle onto the city grid.

“Any resemblance to people and places living or dead, real or imaginary, is probably not coincidental, and sometimes deliberately inaccurate. So don’t believe any of it.”

—IP

CURATOR: VICTORIA BROOKS



Credits

MUSIC/SOUND

Composed by Paul Kajander

THE ACTRESS / DOMINATRIX

Valérie Pauwels

THE CHORUS OF RANDOM DUDES

Doug Barron
Jack Shaefer
Robb Smith
Gabriel Squailia
Avery Stempel
Tim Stowell
Adam Tedesco
Evan Calder Williams

THE CRITICS

Doug Barron
Gabriel Squailia
Avery Stempel
Tim Stowell

THE EVANGELIST

Jack Shaefer

THE FORMER EMERGENCY PLANNER TURNED WEBMASTER

Evan Calder Williams

THE GIRL NEXT DOOR, DOWN THE STREET, AND ALL OVER THE SERVERS

Emily Armstrong
Jessica Bennett
Michele Cassaro
Valérie Pauwels

THE MAYOR / MATTHEW BEGBIE HANGING JUDGE

Robb Smith

THE STEWART AT KRUGER'S MILL

Adam Tedesco

V.O.

Isabelle Pauwels

THE WAGS

Emily Armstrong
Jessica Bennett
Michele Cassaro

SCRIPT

The script is a blend of approximately 50% original material by Isabelle Pauwels, and 50% found material.

Found materials include direct quotes, paraphrases, and deliberate misquotes—sometimes taken out of context, frequently adulterated or enriched and/or attributed to an incorrect source, or not attributed to any source at all, from the following sources:

Email correspondence between Mistress Bijou Steal and Random Dudes.

Post-it notes and draft material for *Lucky Girl* (2014), a one-woman play written and performed by Valérie Pauwels.

www.mssteal.com (2013)

www.products.kruger.com

www.creativebc.com

The Internet in general.

Advertisement for the GlassHouse Lofts by Aragon Properties, 2013.

Councilor Chuck Puchmayr, quoted by Grant Granger. "12th Street Fest Returns." *The New Westminster News Leader*, July 26, 2013.

Grant Granger. "Heyday Swag Lights for Columbia Costly." *The New Westminster News Leader*, unknown date.

General Manager Chuck Stewart, quoted by Grant Granger. "Kruger to Cut 187 Jobs From its New Westminster Operations." *The New Westminster News Leader*, March 8, 2012.

Patrick Johnstone. "City Goes Through Trial by Fire." *The New Westminster News Leader*, October 18, 2013.

Craig Ruttie. "Another Look at an 'Eyesore.'" *The New Westminster News Leader*, June 12, 2013.

VIDEO & AUDIO EDITING

Isabelle Pauwels
Programmed by Eric Brucker, Todd Vos and Ryan Jenkins
Audio spatialization by Todd Vos, with assistance from Stephen McLaughlin

VIDEO GRAPHIC DESIGN

Stephan Garneau
Isabelle Pauwels

VIDEO FOOTAGE CONTAINS EXCERPTS FROM

Ball Rupturing Ballerina

Branded

Catwoman Kills

High School Confidential

Russian Roulette

All videos used with permission of Mistress Bijou Steal

Yella for Nigga White Cock

Used with permission of Mistress Bijou Steal and Miss Jasmine

Stock footage from VideoBlocks.com

Location footage at 522 shot by Isabelle Pauwels

LIGHTING DESIGN

Isabelle Pauwels
Assisted and programmed by Daniel Swalec, Alena Samoray, with Jeff Morton and Alex Zylka

SET DESIGN

Isabelle Pauwels
Fabricated and installed by Geoff Abbas and Bill Fritz, with Eric Chi-Yeh Lin, Michael Wells, Carl Lewandowski and David DeLaRosa

PRODUCERS

Victoria Brooks and Ian Hamelin

DIRECTING ASSISTANT / VOODOO DOLL

Valérie Pauwels

THANKS

With many thanks to all of the EMPAC team, Ben Wilson, and the Western Front for your assistance.

Commissioned by Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

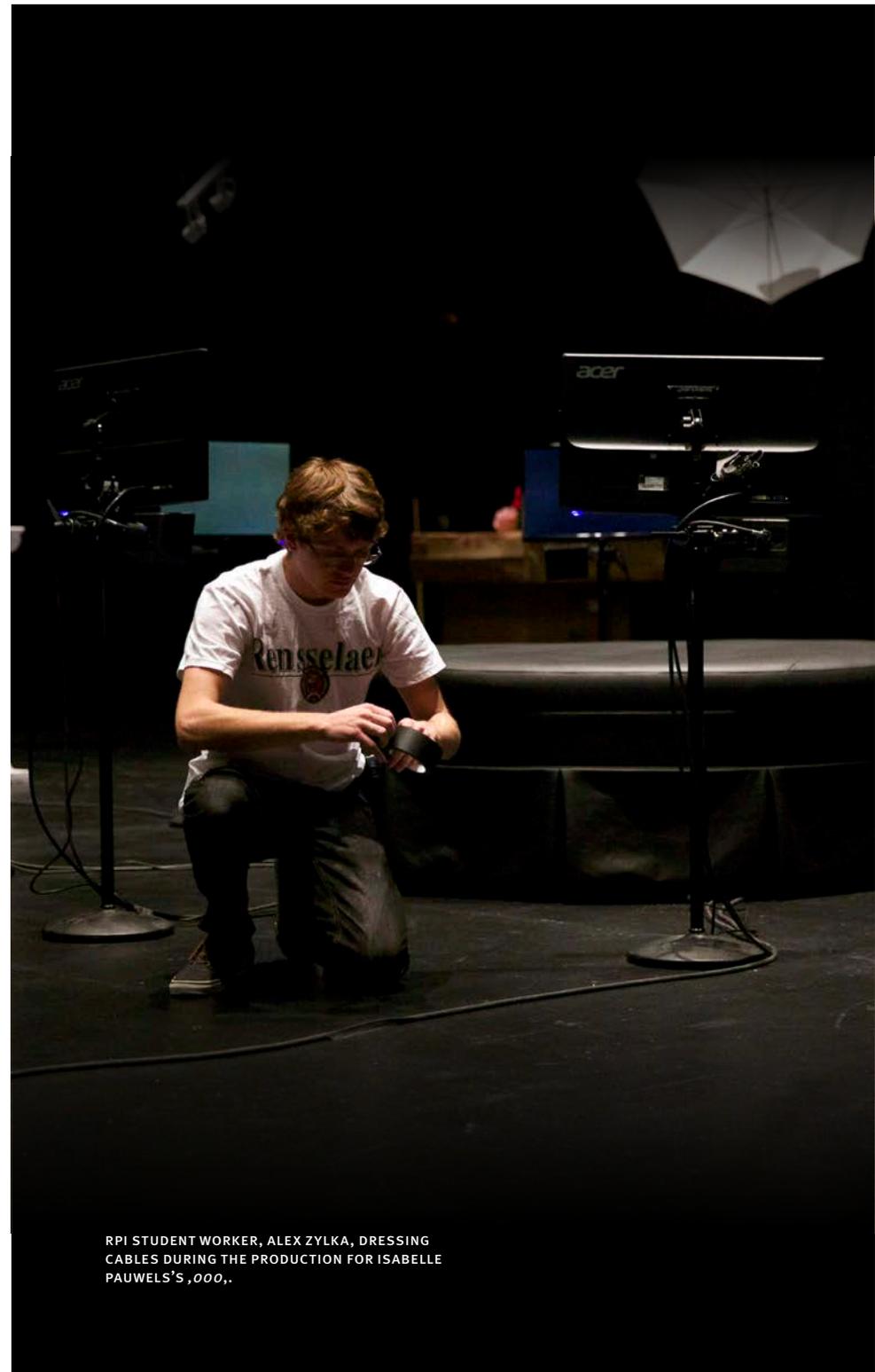
Supported by British Columbia Arts Council



Biographies

Isabelle Pauwels was born in Kortrijk, Belgium, and lives and works in New Westminster, BC. She received a BFA from Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design in 2001, and an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2006. Working primarily in video, Pauwels' blend of performance and documentary realism highlights the fraught relationship between narrative conventions and everyday social interaction. Focusing on the possibilities of non-linear editing, her video installations reconfigure popular genres such as the sitcom, the home movie, and the documentary. Recent exhibitions include the Power Plant, Toronto; the Western Front, Vancouver; National Gallery of Canada, Ontario; and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. Pauwels is represented by Catriona Jeffries Gallery.

Paul Kajander is a Canadian artist based in Seoul, South Korea. His practice encompasses video, sound, performance, installation, photography, and drawing. Kajander's recent works have been shown in various exhibition contexts (including the Daniel Faria Gallery, Toronto; the Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul; The Real DMZ Project, Cheorwon-gun; and ArtSonje Center, Seoul) and have appeared in screenings, film festivals, and publications. He has participated in residency programs at the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art's Changdong International Studio Residency, Seoul; The Guesthaus Residency, Los Angeles; The Banff Centre, Alberta; and "Rehearsal Research," a residency partnership between the Scotiabank Dance Centre & Western Front Artist Run Centre, Vancouver. Kajander has been releasing independently recorded music projects on compact disc in various collaborations since 2001. His most recent recording project was released in 2014 under the moniker "Active Pass" and features 14 songs that combine electroacoustic and popular music approaches to recorded sound.



RPI STUDENT WORKER, ALEX ZYLKA, DRESSING CABLES DURING THE PRODUCTION FOR ISABELLE PAUWELS'S ,000,.

EMPAC

The Curtis R Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC) is where the arts, sciences, and technology interact with and influence each other by using the same facilities and technologies, and by breathing the same air.

EMPAC hosts artists and researchers to produce and present new work in a building designed with a sophisticated architectural and technical infrastructure. Four exceptional venues and studios enable audiences, artists, and researchers to inquire, experiment, develop, and experience the ever changing relationship between ourselves, technology, and the worlds we create around us.



STAFF

Johannes Goebel / Director
Geoff Abbas / Director for Stage Technologies
Eric Ameres / Senior Research Engineer
S. Argeo Ascani / Curator, Music
David Bebb / Senior System Administrator
Peter Bellamy / Senior Systems Programmer
Michael Bello / Video Engineer
Victoria Brooks / Curator, Time-Based Visual Arts
Eric Brucker / Lead Video Engineer
Ash Bulayev / Curator, Dance + Theater
Michele Cassaro / Guest Services Coordinator
John Cook / Box Office Manager
Roxanne DeHamel / Web Developer
David DeLaRosa / Production Technician
Zhenelle Falk / Artist Services Administrator
William Fritz / Master Carpenter
Kimberly Gardner / Manager, Administrative Operations
Ian Hamelin / Project Manager
Katie Hammon / Administrative Specialist
Ryan Jenkins / Event Technician
Shannon Johnson / Design Director
Pamela Keenan / Production Technician
CathyJo Kile / Business Manager
Eileen Krywinski / Graphic Designer
Carl Lewandowski / Production Technician
Eric Chi-Yeh Lin / Lead Stage Technician
Stephen McLaughlin / Event Technician
Josh Potter / Marketing and Communications Manager
Alena Samoray / Production Technician
Candice Sherman / Business Coordinator
Avery Stempel / Front of House Manager
Kim Strosahl / Acting Production Administrative Coordinator
Jeffrey Svatek / Audio Engineer
Dan Swalec / Master Electrician
Todd Vos / Lead Audio Engineer
Pete Wargo / Manager, Information Systems
Michael Wells / Production Technician
Emily Zimmerman / Associate Curator



EMPAC 2014-2015 presentations, residencies, and commissions are supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and The MAP Fund, a program of Creative Capital, primarily supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; additional funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Community Connections Fund of the MetLife Foundation, Boeing Company Charitable Trust, and the New York State Council for the Arts. Special thanks to the Jaffe Fund for Experimental Media and Performing Arts for support of artist commissions.

EMPAC

Upcoming Events

An updated schedule for the 2014 Fall season is available online at empac.rpi.edu. Check back often for more information.



MUSIC / SOUND

AKOUSMA @EMPAC

Saturday, November 01 / 8:00 PM
\$18 / \$13 / RPI STUDENTS \$6

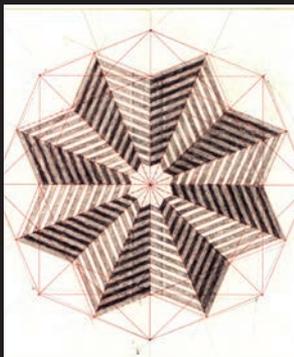


TALK

LUCA TURIN

Why Does Consciousness Dissolve in Chloroform? The Story of an Enduring Mystery

Wednesday, November 05 / 7:00 PM
FREE



MUSIC / SOUND

EXPANDED PIANO

Stavros Gasparatos

Friday, November 07 / 8:00 PM
\$18 / \$13 / RPI STUDENTS \$6