

## Paul B. Davis

Born 1977, St Louis, USA

Paul B. Davis utilises outdated or obsolete computer technologies, including most notably Nintendo games systems, in order to perform specialist interventions into the territory of the digital art medium. While the materials utilised are ready-made, the use principle is entirely hand crafted; Davis altering the existing code while adding nothing new. This idea, the implemented projection of an alternative potential onto a ready-made object, exactly and succinctly captures the structured abridgement – between computers and art, between theory and praxis, ongoing in Davis' practice.

Davis founded the BEIGE Programming Ensemble with Joe Beuckman, Cory Arcangel and Joseph Bonn. While still in college in the late 90s Davis pioneered the use of hacked video game cartridges as a sculptural object. His Nintendo work was premiered in 2000 and subsequently BEIGE members used hacked NES systems to create a distinct body of work that has been shown internationally. His more recent video work has involved aestheticising the glitches commonly encountered in digital video compression, bringing an element previously considered to be a fault into the fore, as a device for merging and demerging images and footage. This culminated with an exhibition that responded to the pop star Kanye West's use of the technique in a music video, titled Define your terms (or Kanye West Fucked Up My Show).

### Solo Exhibitions

- 2011            **Power Users**, Western Illinois University Art Gallery, Macob, IL
- 2009            **Define your terms (or Kanye West Fucked Up My Show)**, Seventeen, London
- 2008            **Only for the Headstrong**, NEXT, Chicago
- 2007            **Intentional Computing**, Seventeen, London
- 2007            **Now I Just Stand Here Silently Among The Data That Grows Cold**,  
Bruna Soletti Gallery, Milan, Italy

### Two Person Exhibitions

- 2010            **Miller-Urey Bong**, with AIDS-3D, Seventeen, London
- 2009            **Tha Click**, [with Paper Rad], Milais Gallery, Southampton
- 2004            **Big Hand at the Dice Game**, [with Paper Rad], The Horse Hospital, London

### Group Exhibitions

- 2012            **Sounds Like Silence**, HMKV, Dortmund, Germany
- The Way Forward**, The Cutting Room, Nottingham
- ATER/HOURS/DROP/BOX**, ANDOR Gallery, London
- Responsive Eyes**, Jacob's Island, London
- 2011            **Electron Festival**, Geneva, Switzerland
- FORMAT**, Luminary Centre for the Arts, St Louis
- 1.85 Million**, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney
- The New Psychodelia**, MU, Eindhoven
- 2010            **Shift Festival**, Basel, Switzerland
- Playlist**, iMAL, Brussels
- Michael Jackson Doesn't Quit**, The Future Gallery, Berlin
- Filtering Failure**, Planetart, Amsterdam

- 2009 **Playlist**, LABoral Centro de Arte, Gijon, Spain  
**The Earth not a Globe II**, Rokeby, London  
**Embedded Art**, Akademie der Kunste, Berlin
- 2008 **DADAMACHINIMA**, Planetart, Amsterdam  
**STRUCTURES FOUND – STRUCTURES LOST**, Five Years Gallery, London  
**Bitmap**, Leonard Pearlstein Gallery, Philadelphia  
**We Like What You Eat**, Seventeen, London
- 2007 **Good Riddance**, MOT International, London  
**Tha Click**, E:vent Gallery, London
- 2006 **Satellite of Love**, Witte de With CENTRE, Rotterdam  
**Art and Place**, Space 301, Mobile, AL  
**My Friends Electric**, Sonar Festival, Barcelona, ES  
**Faster than Sound**, Bentwaters Airbase, Suffolk  
**Take it to the Net**, Vilma Gold, London,
- 2005 **320x200: Da Show**, Space 1026, Philadelphia
- 2004 **The Whitney Biennial**, Whitney Museum, New York, (collaboration with Cory Arcangel)  
**DEFUNCT**, San Francisco MOMA, San Francisco, CA
- 2003 **Killer Instinct**, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York  
**Throw Back**, TEAM Gallery, New York  
**Blinky**, Foxy Productions, Brooklyn, NY
- 2002 **The Stray Show**, Thomas Blackman, Chicago, IL  
**Prints and Chips**, Bitforms Gallery, New York, NY
- 2001 **Make-World Festival**, Lothringer13, Munich  
**Interface: Exploring Possibilities**, Fassbender Gallery, Chicago, IL  
**Post-Data in the Age of Low Potential Pt.2**, Deadtech Gallery, Chicago

## Video Screenings

- 2010 **Whole Earth Catalogue**, Neoncampobase, Bologna
- 2008 **Multichannel**, Artsway, Sway
- 2006 **Welcome to the Real World**, MIACA, Yokohama  
**International Film Festival Rotterdam**, Rotterdam
- 2005 **Utopia**, Whitechapel Gallery, London
- 2003 **Blinky**, TATE Britain, London
- 2002 **NY Underground Film Festival**, Anthology Film Archives, New York, NY

## Performances

- Louise Blouin Institute, London, 2008  
The Old Blue Last, *Tha Click [w/ Paper Rad]*, London, 2008  
Beaconsfield Gallery, *Mother of all Parties*, London, 2008  
Spring Festival, Graz, AS, 2007  
Festsaal Kreuzberg, Berlin, DE, 2007  
Basurama Festival, Madrid, ES, 2005  
Hayward Gallery, London, UK, *Hayward Nights*, 2004

The Scala, London, UK, *IDEASFactory: Sound Circuit*, 2004  
 Liverpool Biennale, Liverpool, UK, *BEIGE Performance*, 2004  
 Summer of HTML Tour [w/ *Paper Rad, DJ Shoulders*], Chicago/St.Louis/Kansas City/Milwaukee/Detroit, 2003  
 Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL, *Illegal Art Festival*, 2003  
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL, *Version>03 Sound*, 2003  
 Aldwych disused Tube Station, London, UK, *Seed Records Rave* [w/ *Aphex Twin, Luke Vibert*], 2003  
 2002 Technics/DMC World DJ Championships, Chicago, IL, 2002  
 The Knitting Factory, [w/ *Extreme Animals*], New York, NY, 2002  
 SoundLab, New York, NY, *SOUNDLAB BATTEL*, 2001

## Bibliography

Pieroni, Paul, "Intentional Computing", I.D Magazine, September 2007  
 Thandie B. Neutron, "Computer Art Fun", Vice Magazine, May 2007  
 Francesca Gavin, "Paul B. Davis", BBC Collective, issue 261, 2007  
 Ellis, Jamie, "Crackerjacks", *Tank Magazine*, Winter [feature w/ photos], 2004  
*KultureFlash*, "Headlines from London", Dec 15, 2004  
 Baird, Simone, "Class Acts", *Time Out London*, Nov 24 [feature w/ photos], 2004  
 CBS, "What's Bizarre at the Whitney?", *CBS News Sunday Morning*, May 2, 2004  
 Katigbak, Raf, "Game On", *Montreal Mirror*, Oct 21, 2004  
 Barton, Mark, "Singled Out", *Losing Today*, Feb 12, 2004  
 McLaren, Malcolm, "8-Bit Punk", *Wired Magazine*, November, 2003  
 Pasick, Adam, "Plucking Musical Gems from the Web", *USA Today*, Nov 12, 2003  
 Cotter, Holland, "Doing Their Own Thing, Making Art Together", *The New York Times*, January 19, pp.E1,36.  
 [feature w/ photos], 2003  
 Davenport, Misha, "Old Chips but New Music", *Chicago Sun-Times*, Mar 23, 2003  
 Jensen, Jan, "Designer Meets Computerfreak: Two Worlds Collide", 2002  
 Lussenhop, Doug, "Interview with Paul B. Davis", *Select Magazine*, Fall, 2002  
 Cotter, Holland. "THE CRITICS/10 MOMENTS", *The New York Times*, Dec 29, 2002

## Education

1996-2000	B.Mus, Electronic & Computer Music / Harpsichord private study Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, OH
2000-2001	Graduate Study, Art & Technology, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Present	PhD, "Turing-completeness as Medium", Central St. Martins, London