

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Paul B. Davis utilises outdated or obsolete computer technologies, including most notably Nintendo games systems, in order to perform specialist interventions into the territory of the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

- 2011 **Electron Festival**, Geneva, Switzerland
FORMAT, Luminary Centre for the Arts, St Louis
1.85 Million, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Sydney
The New Psychedelia, 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