



PRESS RELEASE

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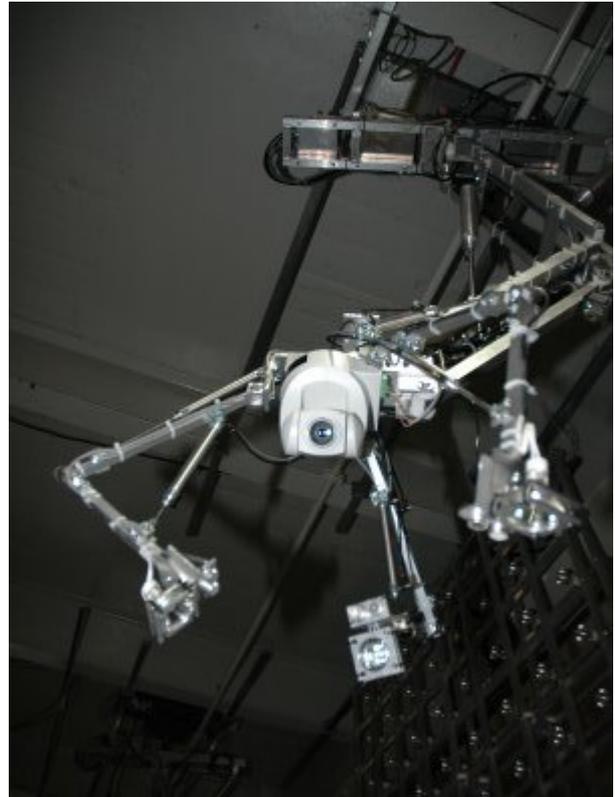
GROUPE MOLIOR PRESENTS

Pioneering work by robotic artist Bill Vorn

For the first time, as part of an exhibit on rotation, Groupe Molior presents a new work by robotic artist **Bill Vorn**. **Rotoscopic Machines** will be showing at the Montréal Science Centre from April 30th, 2005 to March 2006 as part of the *X-treme Rotation* exhibit.

X-treme Rotation was designed and created by Montréal Science Centre's exhibit management to look at rotary phenomena and their manifestations. Using an interactive approach, guests will be invited to experience the scientific principles of rotation present in the universe, the human body, and objects.

Although both machines and human bodies are capable of rotational movement, we expect them to perform the movement differently; with precision and repetition in the machine's case, and expression and unpredictability in the human's. This distinction in the nature of movement disappears in the worlds created by robotic artist **Bill Vorn**. In the interactive installation **Rotoscopic Machines**, five robots suspended from the ceiling react to the presence of spectators by performing rotational movements. A strange dance emerges from their apparently impulsive and singular movements. Destabilized by the unpredictable behaviour of robots composed of pneumatic valves, sensors, speakers and video cameras, viewers react by either drawing nearer or distancing themselves, holding still or moving again, every time drawing a new reaction from the articulated creatures who, little by little, make spectators forget their metallic structures and reveal a disturbing humanity. **Rotoscopic Machines** is a theatre of artificial life. It draws on robotics, mechanics, computing and electronics, all concrete things, and immerses the spectator in an abstract world where reality exists only in subjectivity. A space of paradox, **Rotoscopic Machines** confronts man and machine and calls the nature of both into question.



© Bill Vorn, 2005

Production team

- Martin Peach, electronics, programming
- Jane Tingley, studio assistant
- Steve Helsing, studio assistant

- Constanza Silva, studio assistant
- Sam Sehran, engineer
- Michel Lord, machinist
- Alex Wilson, production assistant

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Work:** *Rotoscopic Machines*
- **Artist:** Bill Vorn
- **Exhibit:**
X-treme Rotation
April 30th, 2005 to March 2006
- **Where:**
Montréal Science Centre
King-Edward - Old-Port of Montréal
333, de la Commune Street West
Montréal, Québec
Canada
Place-d'Armes Metro Station
Directions
- **Hours:**
Monday to Friday: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Information:**
Montréal Science Centre
Tel: (514) 496-4724 or 1 877 496-4724
Fax: (514) 496-0667
www.centredessciencesdemontreal.com
- **Source:** Valérie Boyer, valerie@molior.ca

Groupe Molior receives the support of the Conseil des arts de Montréal of the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and the Canada Council for the Arts.

