

Palm Top Theater

Mobile 3D Wunderkammer

Conditions for the traveling exhibition

The *Palm Top Theater Mobile 3D Wunderkammer* presents a series of 3D moving images small enough to watch in the palm of your hand by using a special device called "i3DG". The intimacy of the small mobile screens provides new impulses to the cinematic experience. Both, production and playback of the visuals do not require special technology or equipment.



Booking contact

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Curatorial Statement

Palm Top Theater - a mobile 3D Wunderkammer



Pre-cinema peep shows, developed around 1890, played an important role in the evolution of the cinematographic experience. Numerous experiments carried out with the illusion of the moving image led to a proliferation of peep shows that carried within them the principles of cinema. They brought with them a whole new expressive arena for artists. The pre-cinematic peep show disappeared from the public eye, superseded by the mega screens of the cinema as we know it, yet the old peep shows still inspire artists working with the moving image and new media today. The rise of mobile telephones and the Internet as production and distribution platforms has renewed interest in the concept of the peep show as a portable, private mini-cinema. This is a small peep show, as it were, with its own specific content, networked via the Internet, with content that can be quickly and easily distributed among a new generation of image producers and consumers.

i3DG is a playful analog extension for iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad (and in principle any Smartphone) that converts a 2D display into a layered 3D view. Placing in a new context the old Pepper's ghost technique of placing a half-silvered mirror at a 45-degree angle in front of an image, the project represents a timely critique of the popular memes of 3D displays and iPhones. As a gadget peripheral, i3DG supports a wide range of applications and media formats, from simple videos and animations to interactive works that use the device's sensor technology.

The i3DG device, the basis for the Palm Top Theater experience, lets you enjoy 3D moving images in the palm of your hand without glasses or other gear. Your Smartphone becomes your own private mini-theater, connected to an online community of producers both amateur and professional.

We have invited talented young student animators and professional artists alike to develop content for the Palm Top Theater peep show. The exhibition features material created in student workshops as well as contributions by artists Geert Mul (NL), Arno Coenen (NL), Joost Rekveld (NL), Lia (AT), Lina Kusaite/FoAM (LT, BE) and Performing Pictures (SE). The production company Directions, Inc. (J) has contributed a series of animations and videos from Japanese artists like Noriaki Okamoto, Tayuta Mikage, Shuhei Shibue, Masashi Yokota and Mitsuo Toyama (see the catalog for more details). The content varies from CG animations and videos to dance performances, typography and architecture. Some pieces are interactive, using the sensor technology inside the devices. The Palm Top Theater device, i3DG, will be available in the near future, and the available content will expand as the exhibition travels, accruing local contributions, and later on via the community of i3DG users. Follow this ongoing project at www.v2.nl



Exhibition Specification

Title *Palm Top Theater - 3D Mobile Wunderkammer*

Year 2011

Type of work

Mobile device using the Peppers Ghost technique with half transparent mirrors. It simulates 3D moving images like animations, interactive contents, video clips, documentary, graphic design, or film.

Media/materials delivered by V2_

- i3DG setup boxes (original device) including
- 8 iPods,
- 5 iPads,
- One 32" flat screen,
- Headphones,
- Custom applications for the devices,
- (and if applicable) a metal ring to hang three iPods with interactive content from the ceiling,
- Five pedestals for the iPads,
- One pedestal for the 32" flat screen,
- Large designed table for five iPods,
- Six small step ladders for the pedestals (to make it easier for kids to view the iPad content).

Beside the hardware V2_ will also supply the content as shown in the exhibition Palm Top Theater presented at the International Film Festival Rotterdam in January 2011 at the V2_ location. These are 3 interactive CG applications and 25 short animations, video clips, video works and graphic designs. The length of these productions varies from 45 seconds to 4 minutes. The productions are presented on the iPods, iPads and one 32" screen for which a special setup box has been developed.



Space requirements

- Minimum height of the exhibition room: 3,0 meters for hanging up a metal circle from which the iPods with interactive content are hanging, of course one can also hang these iPods directly from the ceiling. In this case the metal won't be delivered (saves transport costs).
- Floor size: approx. 100 m2 (Downsizing is possible of course depending on your available space).

Lighting requirements

There should be enough light in order for visitors to find their way in the exhibition space. Due to the high quality of the i3DG mirrors, the iPods and iPads could also be presented in a normal daylight conditions. The 32" flat screen requires a dark environment. Lighting is up to the hosting organization.

Sound

A sounds cape for the exhibition is possible to create an ambient atmosphere; this is up to the hosting organization. All devices are delivered with headphones.

Security

The exhibition requires a host to take care that no devices are stolen and o take care that all devices are always running. The devices have a secured lock system that can be connected to the tables or ceiling avoiding the audience to take the device with them. They cannot be disconnected from this locking system easily.

Transport costs

This is depending on what you want to use from our original setup. If we only ship the devices it is cheaper then if we also send the pedestals for the iPads, the steel ring (diameter 3m) for mounting the interactive iPods, and the long table you can see on the picture (special designed table). The pedestal for the 32" is needed for presenting this large screen in a proper way.

Credits

Following credits are obliging on all publications related to the exhibition:

Exhibition including V2_ content:

The *Palm Top Theater - 3D Wunderkammer* exhibition is a V2_ Institute for the Unstable Media production co-curated by Maki Ueda. i3DG is invented by Jitsuro Mase (J). i3DG is developed together with DIRECTIONS Inc, a Japanese media production company and V2_Institute for the Unstable Media from the Netherlands.

In case you develop extra local content via a workshop:

You can add your own credits to the general V2_ credits.

PR material, and the use of the Palm Top Theater 3D Wunderkammer logo

The use of the original *Palm Top Theater - 3D Wunderkammer* logo is obliged in all publications for the exhibition. V2_ provides highres images and a booklet about the existing art works (describing the content delivered by V2_). The booklet can be redesigned, copied and printed by the host organization and can be extended with the local produced content (if applicable).

Local workshop

If you like to add local content this can be done via a workshop, V2_ can assist you by bring over a workshop leader for one day. Please contact us for the workshop details. One extra iPod and one extra iPad can be provided to show local created content in the exhibition, the other devices will be used to display the content delivered by V2_. The extra iPod and iPad can have up to six new productions (animations, video etc., with a maximum of ten minutes total viewing time for each device.

Suggested participants: professional artists, students (with the basic video editing skills, in Premier, After Effects or Final Cut).

Provided by V2_:

- Workshop leader (for example: one-day workshop: introducing and presenting the devices and explain how to create content. Online guidance of participants. One day setting up devices, approx. two days before the exhibition);
- Remote support from V2_ production office;
- Technical specification;
- Original application software for loop playing on iPod & iPad.

