

Paul Brown
Additional Information ARCO/BEEP

Artist's Statement:

4^15 – Studies in Perception

kinetic painting, size variable, 2006

Unlike much of my recent work, which uses artificial life agents to “drive” the action, in 4^15 everything – the kinetic movement, colour attributes etc... - is completely random. The emphasis of the work is on human cognition. It explores the ability of the visual cortex and brain to find serendipitous and “meaningful” associations in what is merely “well dressed noise”.

This work continues my 40-year interest in art and technology. A computational entity is used to drive the work and ensure that its long-term behaviour is both interesting and non-repetitive. In choosing to describe these works as Kinetic Painting I am acknowledging my roots in the European kinetic, conceptual and systems movements and also paying homage to the US/French artist, Frank Malina, who first used the term to describe his electro-mechanical works in the mid 1950s.

In my artwork I attempt to create venues that encourage the participant to engage with the work. Because my work emerges (in the computational sense) from game-like processes I include elements of play in order to capture and sustain the participant's attention. Rather than being constructed or designed, these works “evolve”. I look forward to a future where computational processes will make artworks autonomously without the need for humans.

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9 January 2006