

MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne
Fringe



18 August 2011

Climate Cycles

A computer generated animation

Emerging digital artist and established climate scientist Dr Michelle Cox is doing her bit to bridge the gap between art and science with her computer generated animation Climate Cycles which will be exhibited in Fitzroy as part of the Melbourne Fringe Festival from 21 Sept to 9 Oct, 2011. Climate Cycles is a visualisation and interpretation of historical climate data which explores the relationship between climate and environmental change.

Michelle has recently completed her Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours) at Sydney College of the Arts. This combined with a doctorate in atmospheric science has ensured that an exciting digital artist is emerging. She combines her science knowledge and computer programming ability with her visual arts skills to produce a novel computer-generated animation. A 4000 year historical climate database is fed into a computer program that she has designed and the temperatures are interpreted and visualised. The computer program produces a durational art piece of over 4 hours, which varies along with the earth's climate.

Climate Cycles tells a story about the earth by showing environmental changes occurring in a variety of environments such as the desert and polar regions. Photographic landscapes are inhabited by retro two-dimensional graphics which are formed by the use of geometry and layering of shape and colour. The animated visuals remind us of early computer graphics as Michelle's approach is like that of the early computer artists of the 1960s, who worked closely with computer scientists. The combination of computer generated forms and natural landscapes, gives a surreal and humorous aspect to the animation. This is enhanced by the musical accompaniment to the animation, which combines classical violin and natural sound recordings.

Climate Cycles will be installed in the window of The Rue de Fleurs bar and passersby will be able to enjoy this animation from 5am-2am. The opening night celebration will be on 22 Sep from 6-8 pm. An Artist Talk will be held on 6 Oct from 7:30-8:15pm, where you will have an opportunity to meet the artist.

"I am motivated as an artist to create pieces that will help people better understand climate and its environmental impact" - Michelle Cox

"I decided to focus on marginal environments such as the Antarctic and desert regions, as this is where climate impacts are greatest" - Michelle Cox

"The animation focuses on the effect of climate on the environment" - Michelle Cox

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5efwrDmdOI>

<http://michellecox28.wordpress.com/>

Climate Cycles

VENUE

Rue de Fleurs
153 Gertrude St
Fitzroy, Victoria 3065

DATES: 21 Sept - 9 Oct

TIME: 5.00am - 2.00am

TICKETS

FREE

TO BOOK visit melbournefringe.com.au or call (03) 9660 9666

For all media inquiries please contact Melbourne Fringe's Publicist:

Katrina Hall Publicity

M 0421 153 046

E kathall@ozemail.com.au