

Adam W. Brown

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Possessing an early background in engineering and a propensity toward the sciences, **Adam Brown** is an *Intermedia* artist with a concentration in electronic media. Emphasizing the similarities among seemingly disparate disciplines, his creative activity seeks to discover new forms and ideas resulting from interactions among science, technology, and art. More specifically, he is interested in the interface of humans with synthetic life and other forms of simulacra. This practice, called Symbiotic Media, blends digital media with physical materials, resulting in contributions to both art and science.

Brown's most recent work, entitled *Bion*, makes reference to an individual element of primordial biological energy identified as "orgone" by the scientist Wilhelm Reich. The interactive installation is a sensor network composed of more than one thousand, mass-produced, 3-dimensional glowing and chirping forms called *bions*. Each *bion*, a small synthetic "life-form," fitted with custom electronics, low level artificial intelligence and sensors, has the ability to communicate with other *bions* and with humans that enter the space.

Selected as an emerging artist for the exhibition, *Archival to the Contemporary, Six Decades of the Sculptors Guild and SigGraph 2006*, Brown has exhibited nationally and internationally and is the recipient of numerous commissions, grants and awards. He has received funding from the National Science Foundation, commissions from Rhizome.org (New York) and Turbulence.org (Boston) as well as several state and private grants including the Oklahoma Research Council's Junior Faculty grant. Brown was invited to become a member of the prestigious New York Sculptors Guild. Brown's work has been written about in publications such as, the New York Times, Sculpture Magazine, Wired Magazine, Bob Magazine, and Newsday.

During the early/mid 90's, Brown's launched a graphic and web design studio and simultaneously developed a non-profit art space in West Branch, Iowa, where he collaborated with internationally recognized artists in creating work that was dedicated to unveiling the myth of Isis. The Isis Conceptual Laboratory was a space dedicated to exploring the mystery of Isis, an Egyptian goddess whose spirit was captured in the form of a bronze statue located on the grounds of Herbert Hoover National Park. The first show entitled "Looking for the Pieces" was broadcast live on Pseudo Radio and had the distinction of being one of the first art openings to stage an internet video teleconference.

Brown has a diverse undergraduate educational background in Biomedical Engineering and Intermedia. He completed all of his graduate work at the University of Iowa, and obtained his M.F.A. in 2000. While at Iowa, Brown was instrumental in creating a new digital media art program called Digital Worlds. Brown has served as Associate Professor, with tenure, at the University of Oklahoma since 2000. His courses include electronic media, computer science, interactivity, video and theory. He currently divides his time between Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Austin, Texas, where he lives with his partner, Hannah, and their three children.