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## Computing the Arts & Humanities Lecture Series

### Gridjam

**Jack Ox, ARTSLab**

Artist in Residence and Research Associate

Johnston Hall 338

January 23, 2008 - 04:30 pm

#### Abstract:

Gridjam is an experimental project that brings together a highly accomplished visual artist, a composer, musicians and computer and cyber-infrastructure scientists to produce a real-time, geographically distributed multimedia event utilizing the new high-speed international LambdaRail fiber optic network. Gridjam will demonstrate the artistic potential and power of instantaneous interactive distance computing and its application in a complex 4-D, scored and improvised, visual/musical performance. Gridjam is both a world-class work of art and a research project into collaborative high performance network computing. It will utilize artist Jack Ox and programmer David Britton's Virtual Color Organ™, visualizing composer Alvin Curran's electronic music performed by musicians located in distant locales but connected via next generation networking technologies.

#### Speaker's Bio:

Jack Ox has studied beyond her MFA in visual arts at UCSD and has done considerable research in both music theory [Manhattan School of Music, NYC] and phonetics [U. of Cologne] in order to produce a large body of work which is a visual mapping and structured understanding of music. Her work includes visualizations of Igor Stravinsky's Symphony in Three Movements, Gregorian Chant, and Debussy's Nuages. During her six year stay in Germany she made an 800 sq.' visualization of Kurt Schwitters' Ursonate, the 41 minute long sound poem. Ox has been on the editorial board of Leonardo for over 10 years and was guest co-editor "Synesthesia and Intersense". Since receiving initial start up funds from Ars Electronica, Linz, Austria in 1998 she has been collaborating with David Britton on The 21st. Century VirtualColor Organ (TM), a virtual reality performance in an immersive environment. The project received further support from NCSA at the U. of ILL, U-C, Boston U., SGI, EAI, Ox was a Visiting Fellow in the dept. of Computer Science, LUTCHI Research Centre, U. of Loughborough, UK, and a visiting artist at the Art and Technology Center and High Performance Computing Center at the U. of New Mexico as she began work on the current Color Organ project; Gridjam.

