

## Kinetica Art Fair 2009 Press Clippings

# It's a moving experience

### KINETIC ART FAIR

Colin Gleadell

A new event opens in London this week that sounds as though it could be fun, Carnivorous lampshades, pole-dancing robots, mechanical writing machines and mesmerising light sculptures are all promised at the world's first **Kinetica Art Fair**, where 25 galleries and 150 artists will congregate to promote a once fashionable art form that is now reclaiming our attention.

Historians usually trace the origins of kinetic art, which loosely means art that moves, back to the early 20th century and to Duchamp's revolving bicycle wheel. After Alexander Calder began making mobiles in the Fifties, kinetic art became a phenomenon of the Fifties and Sixties, characterised by Jean Tinguely's bizarre, functionless machines, or Takis's electromagnetic signal sculptures.

But the works were difficult to maintain and frequently broke down. "It was a commercial disaster," says Dan Chadwick, one of the new generation of kinetic artists showing at this week's fair. There were also reservations as to whether this was art or just gadgetry, and, after the novelty wore off, kinetic art was relegated to a footnote in the history of art.

Its revival was heralded in 2000 by the Hayward Gallery in London in a largely retrospective exhibition, *Force Fields*, which demonstrated that kinetic art was "not just silly robotics", says Ellie Harrison-Read of the Flowers East gallery, which last year presented its own exhibition of contemporary practitioners.

Another step was the opening of the Kinetica Museum in Spitalfields, London, in 2006 with the assistance of the Arts Council England. The museum was short-lived and now operates as an exhibition organiser, instigating the new fair. One of its founders, Tony Langford, says the fair aims "to increase understanding and to appeal to collectors. Artists have relied on public

commissions, but have had little support from private collectors or museums." The work on show will range in price from £1,000 to £150,000, though there are some laser-cut figurines for just £7.

The fair opens on Friday evening with a dance performance by Seth Riskin, a former US champion gymnast, whose movements create light effects that extend from his body. Some works may look familiar. Chris Levine's *Free the Beam* - 90 lasers directed through motorised crystals to create myriad patterns of light - was seen last year on stage with Grace Jones at the Festival Hall in London. A "plug-in-and-play" version of this costs £5,000.

Also quite affordable are the software drawings of Marius Watz, who defected from computer science studies aged 20 to do graphics for raves, and went on to design the home page of the Norwegian government. His animation still, *Illumination*, from an edition of five, is for sale at 3,500 euros (£3,000).

Not yet for sale is *Pony*, a battery-charged ostrich-like armoured figure that moves languidly back and forth; it was created by Tim Lewis, an artist collected by Damien Hirst. *Pony's* elaborate programming has yet to be perfected. On the more expensive side are Dan Chadwick's mobiles that resemble solar systems as they revolve and orbit each other; these can cost more than £100,000. Also expensive but of more scientific interest is the Shadow Robot Company's *Dextrous Hand* which, with 24 movements and touch-sensitive fingertips, is the closest robot hand to a human hand available and costs £100,000.

For Robert Pepperell, head of fine art at Cardiff School of Art and Design, the **Kinetica Art Fair** is comparable to the great international exhibitions of the Victorian era which combined new developments in the arts, science and technology. The artists stand in the tradition of the great Renaissance artists who explored the uses of lenses,

mathematics, anatomy and alchemy in their art.

Jasia Reichardt, art historian and curator of *Cybernetic Serendipity*, the first UK exhibition of computer and kinetic art, held at the ICA in 1968, says the fair "will be beautiful. Everything will be moving. This is something that can be enjoyed by art lovers, children and computer geeks alike." And some of the artists, it is whispered, are already earmarked for a role in the cultural celebrations that are being planned for the 2012 Olympics.

*The Kinetica Art Fair is at P3, 35 Marylebone Road, London NW1 (opposite Baker Street Tube), Fri-March 2.*

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### BBC Focus - Science and Technology

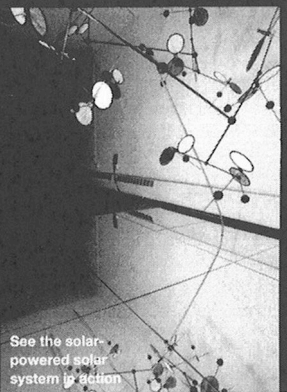
Sunday 1 March 2009

#### ★ Kinetica Art Fair 28 February-2 March, various times

The first Art Fair in the world specialising in kinetic, electronic and new-media art welcomes over 150 artists and their work.

Inanimate objects come to life in Tim Lewis's sculptures and Daniel Chadwick's solar systems revolve under their own (solar) power. From automatic writing machines to disembodied blinking eyes, it puts your ideas about art through the crusher and recycles them into a power-crazy robot. See the art fair's website for details of performances, talks and workshops.

P3, 35 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5LS; 020 7392 9674, www.kinetica-artfair.com - tickets from £5, weekend pass £20



See the solar-powered solar system in action

### FIVE BEST EVENTS

By Nih

#### Maslenitsa

Sun

Tuck into blinis at this Russian pre-Lent festival on the banks of the Thames, which features a programme of entertainment including classical, opera and ballet, plus Lena, Russia's answer to Christy Aguilera. *Potters Field Park, London SE1*



#### St David's Day Dragon Party

Celebrate the Welsh national day at this event you can learn about dragons, watch perform listen to storytelling sessions, and join in art crafts sessions. *National Waterfront Museum,*

#### The Big Write

Thur

This literary festival for children (www.disc.org.uk) offers four days of performances and workshops, and is part of the capital's huge East cultural festival, which runs until 10 Mar. *Discover, London E15*

#### World Book Day

Thousands more literary events are taking place at bookshops, libraries and schools, including evening with the performance poet Benjamin Zephaniah. *Saffron Walden County High Sch*

#### Kinetica Art Fair

toda

If you like your art to be moving in all senses, you. There are robots, mechanical writing n blinking eyes and laser installations. It's con suitable for ages six and above. *P3, London W*

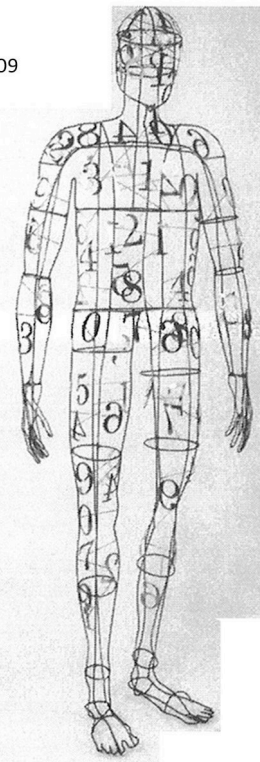
### Arena

Sunday 1 March 2009

#### CULTURE: KINETIC ART

Pioneered by the likes of Jean Tinguely and Marcel Duchamp in the early 20th century, kinetic art blurs the boundaries between art and technology. At London's Kinetica, this canon will receive a 21st-century upgrade as some 150 new artists display robots, animatronics and laser shows. And no, Banksy won't be there.

**KINETICA ART FAIR**  
LONDON, 28 FEBRUARY TO 2 MARCH; WWW.KINETICAARTFAIR.COM



## Kinetica Art Fair 2009 Press Clippings

Kinetic art, or art with motion, evolved in the early 20th century as a way of representing the importance of machines and technology in the modern world. From early futurist contraptions that hissed and sucked like a production line to the delicate mobiles of Alexander Calder that rocked gently as the air was disturbed around them, kinetic art was

about representing movement, time and vision. This week sees the first ever kinetic art fair, revealing just how sophisticated kinetic artists have become since those early conceptions.

The show includes Peter Sedgley's pioneering experiments in luminescent technology and Sam Buxton's manipulation of industrial design, plus the distinctly creepy sculptures of Tim Lewis, which include a cart (pictured) drawn by three distended arms.

**JESSICA LACK**  
P3, NW1, to Mon, call 020-7392 9674 or visit [kinetica-artfair.com](http://kinetica-artfair.com)

The Times of India (New Delhi Ed.)  
Sunday 1 March 2009



**POWER DRESSING:** A woman models a radio-controlled moving dress at the Kinetica Art Fair in London, on Friday

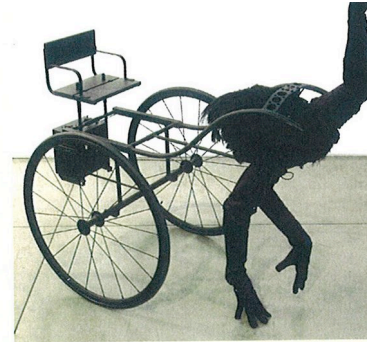
### Untergrund-Galerie P 3

#### Kinetica Art Fair 2009 Underground Gallery P 3

■ Auf der Londoner Messe Kinetica Art Fair stehen im Februar 2009 die Werke der Künstler im Mittelpunkt, die kinetische, elektronische und mediale Kunst zu ihrem kreativen Schwerpunkt gemacht haben. Neben der ausgestellten Objektkunst sind Performances der Künstler zu sehen. Auf dem Programm stehen außerdem Workshops, Führungen und Vorträge.

■ At the London Kinetica Art Fair in February 2009, the focus is on artists who have concentrated their creative energy in kinetic, electronic and media art. In addition to the art, artists will also perform. The programme includes workshops, tours and talks.

[www.kinetica-museum.org](http://www.kinetica-museum.org)



### The Daily Times (USA)

Saturday 28 February 2009

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\02\28\28-2-2009\\_pg9\\_5](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\02\28\28-2-2009_pg9_5)

## UK's first art fair dedicated to kinetic, robotic, sound, light and time-based art


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LONDON: A woman models a radio-controlled moving dress designed by Ninna at the Kinetica Art Fair, UKs first art fair dedicated to kinetic, robotic, sound, light and time-based art.  
afp

### Times Online

Friday 27 February 2009

**TIMESONLINE** PHOTO GALLERY CLOSE



February 27, 2009

### Kinetica art fair

25 galleries and 150 artists have come to Britain's first art fair dedicated to sound, time based art, held in bowels of the UN Westminster. In the installation pictured Beacon, a woman wearing remote-controlled dress stands on a runway of lights that moves through their space  
(Andy Rain/EPA)

Image: 1 of 6

## Kinetica Art Fair 2009 Press Clippings

### Critics' choice



PONY BY TIM LEWIS / PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDY DAY

**Kinetica Art Fair**  
Fairs & Sales, Sat-Mon  
Selling exhibition of hyperactive sculpture.

### London Stitch and Creative Crafts Show

Fairs & Sales, Thur-Sat  
If you aren't knitting your own underwear and churning out handmade birthday cards yet, it's only a matter of time. Head to the ExCeL centre in Docklands for supplies and inspiration.

### 6 Billion Ways

Participation, Sat  
Ken Livingstone and Mark Thomas are among the speakers at an all-day event at Rich Mix in Bethnal Green devoted to the belief that change is always possible. The conflict in the Middle East, consumer culture and the financial quagmire are all on the agenda.

### Children Helping Children Concert

Family Events, Sat  
The performers at this fundraiser for the charity Hemihelp, a concert at Cadogan Hall in Chelsea, are all aged between seven and 17.

### Critical Mass

Participation, Fri  
It's the last Friday in the month, time to exercise collective pedal power.

guardian.co.uk

## Exhibition preview: Kinetica Art Fair, 2009 London

Jessica Lack  
The Guardian, Saturday 28 February 2009

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- P3, NW1, to Mon, call 020-7392 9674 or visit [kinetica-artfair.com](http://kinetica-artfair.com)

### New Exhibitions

Wednesday 25 February 2009

## New Exhibitions

home exhibitions this week talks & events print edition subscription about us contact

TALKS & EVENTS

KINETICA ART FAIR 2009  
27 February - 2 March 2009

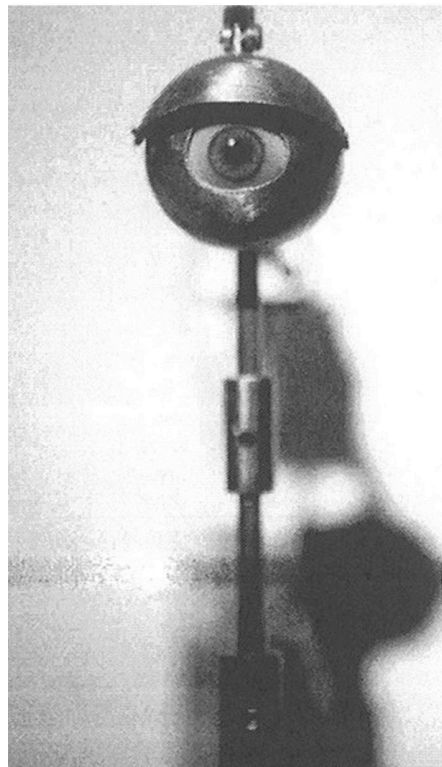
The inaugural Kinetica Art Fair is set to take place in Central London in February 2009. It will provide collectors, curators, museums and the public with a unique opportunity to view and purchase artworks from leading international galleries, artist's collectives, curatorial groups and organisations specialising in kinetic, electronic and new media art.

Alongside the fair there will be special events, screenings, tours, talks, workshops and performances. These events will involve some of the world's most eminent leaders in the fields of kinetic, electronic and new media art.

Tel: +44 (0)20 7392 9674  
[www.kinetica-museum.org](http://www.kinetica-museum.org)

## Kinetica Art Fair 2009 Press Clippings

The American  
Monday 1 February 2009



### Kinetica — the World's first ever kinetic art fair

P3, Under Westminster University, London

Robotic, sound and solar sculptures, mechanical writing machines, laser and subliminal installations are just some of the incredible exhibits at Kinetica Art Fair, the world's first art fair dedicated to kinetic, robotic, sound, light and time-based art. Over 30 galleries and organisations specialising in kinetic, electronic & new media art are taking part with more than 150 artists exhibiting, providing unparalleled opportunities to view and buy work in this thriving international field and participate in the programme of talks, workshops and performances. [www.kinetica-artfair.com](http://www.kinetica-artfair.com) 020 7392 9674 February 28 to March 2

Romford Recorder  
Friday 13 February 2009

## Robots prove art has a life of its own

THE world's first ever Kinetica art fair showcases kinetic, robotic and time-based art with a life of its own.

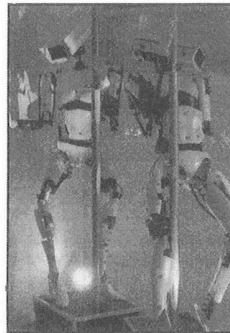
Carnivorous lampshades, pole dancing robots, man-animal-machine hybrids, mechanical writing machines, mesmerising light sculptures and cybernetics are just some of the incredible exhibits at Kinetica Art Fair.

The UK's first art fair dedicated to kinetic, robotic, sound, light and time-based art, opens in London on Friday, February 27 with a dance-light spectacular, and remains open through to Monday, March 2.

We have 15 pairs of tickets for

Sunday, March 1 to give away to 15 lucky readers absolutely free.

Each ticket is valid for the art fair only and on the date specified only. Only one pair of tickets allowed per winner.



The exhibition features well known artists from across the world, including Daniel Chadwick, Sam Buxton, Jason Bruges, Martin Richman and Tim Lewis.

It will be staged at London's newest multi-disciplinary art space, P3, located under Westminster University, in Marylebone Rd London, opposite Baker Street tube station.

The 14,000sq ft, former concrete testing facility, will hold one of the largest ever collections of

kinetic artwork on display under one roof, lots of kinetic experts and exhibitors, talks, panel discussions and performances.

To find out more visit [www.kinetica-artfair.com](http://www.kinetica-artfair.com) and to book tickets, visit [www.ticketweb.co.uk](http://www.ticketweb.co.uk) or call Ticketweb directly on 08444 771000.

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets to the show, all you have to do is answer the following question correctly.

**Q** How big is the art space where the exhibition will be held?

Send your answer along with your name, address and telephone number to Kinetica Competition, Romford Recorder, 46 High Street, Romford, RM1 1HR, before the closing date of Thursday, February 20.

The first 15 correct answers drawn from the hat will be the winners.

Country and Townhouse  
Sunday 1 March 2009

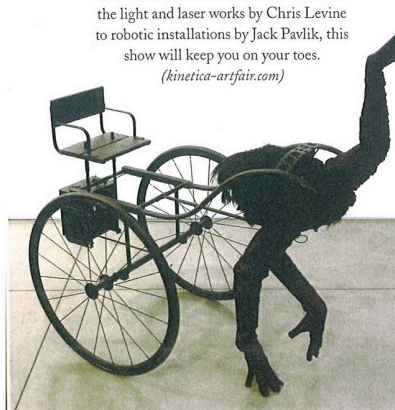
### TOWN DIARY

*Sophie Grove dons her hat and meets an army of androids*

27 FEBRUARY TO 2 MARCH  
KINETICA ART FAIR, P3,  
MARYLEBONE, W1

Every work on display at the first-ever Kinetica Art Fair has something in common: it moves. Androids, rotating solar systems and interactive installations will all use movement to artistic effect. From the light and laser works by Chris Levine to robotic installations by Jack Pavlik, this show will keep you on your toes.

([kinetica-artfair.com](http://kinetica-artfair.com))



TNT Magazine  
Monday 23 February 2009

### WHAT'S ON



Daniel Landon

PICKS THE BEST OF LONDON THIS WEEK

#### KINETICA ART FAIR \$5

Art with a life of its own sounds like sci-fi gone wrong, but that's what this amazing exhibition, which includes live shows, is all about.

» P3 Gallery, Marylebone Rd, NW1 5LS ☎ Baker Street ([kinetica-artfair.com](http://kinetica-artfair.com)). Feb 27-Mar 2