



**Association
Française
Transhumaniste**



The Association Française Transhumaniste: Technoprog!

In collaboration with Paris-Sorbonne University

Is pleased to announce its 2nd conference

Technoprog! Summer 2011

At "Maison de la Recherche"

29, rue Serpente - Paris 6th district

Thursday June 16, 2011 from 9:30am to 6pm

Following the success of the 1st conference on January 17th, 2011 "*What is transhumanism?*" the association now suggests a summer conference, in collaboration with the "University of Paris IV - Sorbonne", centered around 2 topics:

« *Art Expression and Transhumanism* »

The artistic scene has considerably changed due to the possibilities allowed by new technology: transmedia art, Bioart, hacklab-- Art has somehow become a "transhumanist laboratory" where the artistic act itself has yet to be defined. The first part of the conference will discuss those changes and the new forms of art in the beginning of the 21th century.

« *To age or not to age?* »

Due to recent medical progress (stem cells, regeneration, nano & biotechnologies, advances in AI...) mankind now foresees a significant extension of its lifetime. It becomes necessary to tackle interrogations about the limits that can be reached on the short, middle and long terms. The consequences of such a change came to be a major concern for both demographers, sociologists, economists and psychologists. Is Human enhancement considered immoral today? Which ethics for the transhuman? Those questions, and others, will be discussed in the second part of the conference.

For the first time in France, this conference brings together researchers and transhumanist sympathizers from across the globe, including:

- **Aubrey de Grey**, is a biomedical gerontologist, a Fellow of the IEEET, and the Chief Science Officer of the SENS Foundation. The editor of *Rejuvenation Research*, the world's only peer-reviewed journal focused on intervention in aging, he is an advocate of research seeking answers to how molecular and cellular metabolic damage brings about aging and ways humans can intervene to repair and/or obviate that damage. Among de Grey's publications "*Ending Aging : The Rejuvenation Breakthroughs That Reverse Human Aging in Our Lifetime*", 2008 (in collaboration with Michael Rae) and : "*Strategies for Engineered Negligible Senescence: Why Genuine Control of Aging May Be Foreseeable (Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences)*", 2004.

- **Natasha Vita-More**, artist/designer and theorist, is a prominent proponent of ethical means for achieving human enhancement. She has spoken worldwide on the technology and artistic approaches to human futures and is currently a PhD researcher, University of Plymouth, where her research concerns prolonging personhood beyond biology as a central tenet of human enhancement. She is a visiting lecturer at academic institutions such as Virginia Commonwealth University, University of Applied Sciences, Universität für Angewandte Kunst Wien, Centre Interuniversitaire des Arts Médiatiques, University of Quebec, and other learning institutions such as Metanexus Institute, and the American Philosophical Association, among others. Natasha's future human design "Primo Posthuman" has been featured in *Wired*, *LA Weekly*, *The New York Times* and other important revues. She is currently Chair of Humanity+, Fellow at Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies; Visiting Scholar at 21st Century Medicine; and Policy, Law & Ethics Advisor at Singularity University.

- **Marc Roux**, is the president of the *French transhumanist association*, *AFT: Technoprog!* Since its creation in 2010. Disposing of a 25 year experience in the non-profit field, he studied medieval history (PhD lever research), and started to think about the possible links between consciousness and the human condition in 1995. He discovered transhumanism in 2007 through several channels, as the World Transhumanist Association. Marc has been part of several events related to transhumanism including a symposium at the European Parliament in 2009 (« *A European Approach to Human Enhancement*») and a conference at "*La Gaité Lyrique*" in 2011 in Paris ("*Immortality, should we solve last mankind's mystery?*")



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- **Olivier Goulet** is a transmedia artist and performer. In-between activism and human design, he brings to light the "left undone" aspect of the human specie (*Moults*, 1993 ; *Boxes of hominoid Insects* 1998 ; *Human Hunting Trophies* since 1996) and imagines its mutation towards a form of cerebral network, leading to an optimal relational state. (*The Relic of bionic man*, 2001; *Brain Rezos* 2006 ; Conference « Getting over anthropomorphism », Sorbonne, Paris, 2006). Since 2001, Olivier develops "*SkinBag*" into a series of external organs made of synthetic skin, as a metaphorical fusion between the organic and the digital worlds.

- **Laurent Alexandre**, surgeon and graduate of the French top administration school, is the founder of the medical website « *Doctissimo* » (8 million distinct visitors every month). French living in Bruxelles, he specialized into genome decoding and run *DNAvision*. In 2011, he published two books, "*Death of death: How will technomedecine change mankind*" and "*Google Democracy*" (co-authored with David Angevin), both of them proposing an ambitious vision of technological progress

- **Didier Coeurnelle**, is co-president and founder of *Heales* (Healthy Life Extension Society), an young association active in Europe and willing to stimulate, promote and inform citizens on the new life extension prospects made possible by the progress of technology (especially in the medical field). Describing himself as a "techno-progressive", D. Coeurnelle is politically active and is involved in the green movement on both local and federal levels, in Belgium as well as in the European union.

- **Ingrid Brunazzi & Jacques Honvault**, are the representatives of the European Council of Art, an organization dedicated to the circulation of art's knowledge into every of its forms and expression. This organization's driving principle is based on the Latin etymology of Art (Ars). This term signifies the mastery of a method, part of a discipline, which would become Science thanks to the knowledge of the principles governing this discipline. Both Ars and Science have to combine through imagination (Leonardo Da Vinci synthesis)

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