Event Report: Computational Aesthetics 2011

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Event Report: Computational Aesthetics 2011 in Vancouver, Canada, August 5–7, 2011, sponsored by Eurographics, in collaboration with ACM SIGGRAPH

The Eurographics Workshop on Computational Aesthetics in Graphics, Visualization, and Imaging (CAe) took place in 2011 for the seventh time. This year, however, for the first time it was held as a joint symposium in Vancouver, Canada, together with the International Symposium on Non-Photorealistic Animation and Rendering (NPAR) and the International Symposium on Sketch-Based Interfaces and Modeling (SBIM). In addition, the three symposia were co-located with ACM SIGGRAPH.

Computational Aesthetics seeks to bridge the analytic and synthetic by integrating aspects of computer science, philosophy, psychology, and the fine, applied & performing arts. It seeks to facilitate both the analysis and the augmentation of creative behaviors. CAe also investigates the creation of tools that can enhance the expressive power of the fine and applied arts and furthers our understanding of aesthetic evaluation, perception, and meaning. As such it shares some of the same audience as the two other symposia, NPAR and SBIM, who are also interested in creating tools that foster creativity as well as draw from inspirations in artistic expression.

This year, CAe received 24 paper submissions in the technical track, which were reviewed by the international program committee, leading to all papers receiving at least three reviews, with almost all papers receiving four reviews. This lead to ten papers being accepted for presentation at the symposium (42% acceptance rate). The posters track had eight posters which were on display throughout the symposium and which were presented by the authors during a posters session.

An essential goal of the CAe symposium is to bring together participants from two domains: those who use computers in producing their art and those who write computer programs that purport to do something aesthetic. Thus we continued last years' tradition of pairing the technical part of the CAe program with an artistic part, and thus also issued a call for art papers as well as artworks. The art papers track received 15 submissions, of which six were accepted (40% acceptance rate) based on reviews by an arts program committee. Moreover, the artworks track received 40 submissions, out of which 17 were accepted for presentation at the conference (43% acceptance rate).

The accepted technical and arts papers and a catalog of the presented artworks appear in the CAe 2011 proceedings, which this year for the first time were published by the ACM in an electronic-only format. In addition, the papers are available in the ACM digital library (http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2030441) and will be co-listed in the Eurographics digital library.

This year for the first time, CAe gave out a best paper award which was awarded to Matt Lockyer, Lyn Bartram, and Bernhard E. Riecke for their paper "Simple Motion Textures for Ambient Affect." Also, honorable mention awards were given to Marc Alexa and Wojciech Matusik for their paper "Images from Self-Occlusion," to Tiffany C. Inglis and Craig S. Kaplan for their paper "Generating Op Art Lines," and to Jonathan Haber, Sean Lynch, and Sheelagh Carpendale for their paper "ColourVis: Exploring Colour Usage in Paintings Over Time."

We thank all people who helped to make CAe 2011 a successful event. In particular, we thank Andres Wanner and Allen Bevans for putting together the arts track of this year's conference which was a great success. Also, we thank John Collomosse and Paul Asente who chaired NPAR 2011 and Ellen Do, Jean-Claude Leon, Tracy Hammond, and Andy Nealen who co-chaired SBIM 2011, all of whom helped share the organizational load and to make the symposium a successful event. In addition, we thank Christian Richardt for running the website and being the publicity chair, Bernhard Riecke for being the posters chair, Brian Wyvill for being the ACM SIGGRAPH contact, Joaquim Jorge for being the Eurographics contact, and Stephen Spencer for producing the proceedings. Furthermore, we acknowledge the support from our main sponsors Adobe and IBM as well as from our production sponsors FCAT, iWeave, SIAT, Digitech Printing Inc., KeyTown, and The Home Depot.

We are delighted to announce that next year's event will take place in Annecy, France. Following this year's experience, CAe 2012 will again be run jointly with the related workshops on Non-Photorealistic Animation and Rendering (NPAR 2012) and Sketch-Based Interaction and Modeling (SBIM 2012), and the event will be co-located with the Annecy Animated Film Festival 2012. More information will be posted on the CAe homepage at `http://www.computational-aesthetics.org/`

Tobias Isenberg and **Douglas Cunningham**
CAe 2011 co-chairs