Graphite 2005 Electronic Theatre

Submission Guidelines

The Electronic Theatre serves to showcase innovative and visionary works involving computer graphics and interactive techniques. It is an event that brings together the scientists that create cutting edge enabling technologies and the artists or practitioners that exploit such technologies for personal expressions or commercial endeavours.

Electronic Theatre submissions are invited from computer graphics visualisers, including: scientific as well as artistic research groups, video- and film- makers, game developers, architectural and engineering visualisation, computer animators and computer graphics students. The Electronic Theatre program will showcase material that demonstrates innovative computer animation or image processing techniques or that explains technical details of research development. It will include material of scientific, artistic, entertainment and cultural value.

Subject matter may include any form of visual representation that employs computer-generated imagery: animation, motion graphics, entertainment technologies, visual effects, scientific and medical visualisation, interactive technologies, research and development, education, architecture, art and design, music, dance, interactive performance, narrative works, non-narrative works, experimental works, game development and design, commercial productions for film and broadcast, and student productions.

Acknowledgement of Receipt

Submitters will not be notified of receipt of submission packages. You must retain your shipping waybill number and contact your shipping agent to verify that your package has arrived at the proper destination by the posted deadline.

Media Preparation

Prepare your video submission package and include the following THREE items:

1. Media Type

Include a PAL D1 (720x576 pixel resolution at 25fps) Digital File (QuickTime ONLY) on DVD-R of your work.

Label your media in English, label the DVD-R and its container with:

a) Contact person's name b) Affiliation c) Address d) Telephone number

e) Title of piece f) Runtime g) Time code (if appropriate)

NOTE: Only PAL D1 (720x576 pixel resolution at 25fps) Digital File (QuickTime ONLY) on DVD-R Are eligible for the jury review process. Use the Apple Pixlet codec.

2. Include a still image that represents your work.

This image is required for publications and pre-conference publicity. It is not juried. Make sure to provide a brief caption for your image. Still images must be submitted in digital format (see below).

Digital format requirements: Send one copy of a digital still image. Digital images must be of the highest quality possible, at least 300 dpi at ~8 x 10 cm, pixel resolution of at least 1200 x 1500, TIFF or EPS files, no compression, MAC or PC platforms. Digital images must be placed on a standard CD-ROM only and sent with your submission.

3. A signed and dated hardcopy of the submissions form

Complete the Graphite 2005 Electronic Theatre Submission Form.

Clearly label the physical medium in English with the title "Electronic Theatre Submission", the contact person's name and telephone number. Send your complete Electronic Theatre entry submission package to:

Graphite 2005 Conference Secretariat Electronic Theatre

C/O School of Creative Arts

Arts Centre, University of Melbourne, Parkville, VIC 3010, Australia

Email: graphite-et@cs.otago.ac.nz

All materials must be received by 15th August 2005, 5 pm (AEST). Submitted digital media and still images will not be returned.

Review & Acceptance

Jury Review Process

All submissions are reviewed with identical selection criteria: content, technical implementation, innovation, artistic achievement, production values, creativity, originality, narrative, design, entertainment value, and advancement of visualisation in the artistic and scientific fields of digital

technologies. Entries representing both technical excellence and innovation will be shown in the Electronic Theatre.

Submitted work will be considered by a jury comprised of experts from all areas of computer graphics and interactive techniques. Additionally, the Electronic Theatre chair has curatorial responsibility and discretion to select, organise, and direct the review process and to ensure the quality of every aspect of the Electronic Theatre.

Upon Acceptance

Submitters of accepted work will be notified by Monday October 7th, 2005.

Final accepted works MUST be submitted as:

PAL D1 (720x576 pixel resolution at 25fps)

Digital File (QuickTime) on DVD-R.

DVD will NOT be accepted as compilation from DVD is not possible.

Your submission must include a completed and signed Graphite2005 Submission Form. If we do not receive your completed, signed Submission Form, your work cannot be presented at Graphite2005.

The Submission Form

Graphite2005 Electronic Theatre Submission Form

The Submission Form includes an acceptance agreement, which is a legal document. It explains the uses Graphite2005 makes of presented material and requires you to acknowledge that you have permission to use this material. This may involve seeking clearance from your employer or from others who have loaned you material, such as videotapes and slides. The agreement helps prevent situations whereby Graphite2005 presentations include material without permission that might lead to complaints or even legal action. In addition, this agreement asks if Graphite2005 and/or ACM SIGGRAPH may use your materials for conference and organisation promotional material in exchange for full author/artist credit information.

Accepted submitters must provide final versions of their entries, recorded on the highest-quality equipment available to them. The **deadline for submissions is 15th August, 2005, 5 pm** (Australian Eastern Standard time). Final versions that differ significantly from jury-accepted versions will not be shown. End credits must be no longer than seven seconds. Additional credit information will be published in the Graphite 2005 Catalogue.

Video shown in the Electronic Theatre will be mastered on PAL D1 and projected in component RGB. Contributors are responsible for securing necessary permissions and licenses for visual and audio material contained in entries for the Graphite2005 Electronic Theatre. Contributors are encouraged to use original music. Small performing rights licenses must be secured for public performance of any commercial soundtrack or copyrighted musical composition. Synchronisation licenses must be secured for inclusion of copyrighted musical compositions in film or video presentations. The work in the Graphite2005 Electronic Theatre will be documented in the Graphite2005 Catalogue and other conference media. Digital images must be submitted for printed publications.

Additional Requirements

Instructions

Work in progress should only be submitted if 80 percent of the final version is complete. If the soundtrack is not complete, the jury requests the addition of a temporary soundtrack.

If your submission is longer then five minutes, please clearly indicate by timecode the selections of your work that you wish to be viewed by the jury. Submit only one project or entry per DVD-R. Collaborative and group projects are encouraged but only one completed project per videotape will be accepted: one entry and one DVD-R.

Please test your DVD-R on both PC and Mac Platforms before submission.

Do NOT submit the following:

- Video Tape (ANY format), VideoCD, CD-ROM (except for the digital still image), film, Web sites, stereoscopic images, or other forms of display. They are not accepted for jury review. Do not submit NTSC Masters.
- Videos that include commercial watermarks or "bugs." Videos that include these devices will not be reviewed.
- More than one entry or completed project per DVD-R. DVD-Rs containing more than one project or entry will not be reviewed.
- Fibre or pulp-padded mailers for DVD-Rs. If these mailers tear, the fibres can damage your DVD-R and our playback equipment. DVD-Rs sent in these mailers will not be reviewed.

Shipping, Tracking and Receipt Notification

Send all your materials to:

Graphite 2005 Conference Secretariat Electronic Theatre

C/O School of Creative Arts

Arts Centre, University of Melbourne, Parkville, VIC 3010, Australia

Email: graphite-et@cs.otago.ac.nz

Along with your video. You have sole responsibility for delivering your submission to Graphite2005. There is no special assistance available for tracking, fees, or damage claims as they pertain to shipment of your packages. Graphite2005 will not notify you that your submission package has been received. You must retain your shipping waybill number for purposes of tracking your package and confirming delivery.

Customs

Submitters located outside of Australia should note that customs delays of up to two weeks could occur. Customs labels should bear the words: "Educational material with no commercial value." Graphite2005 will not pay any customs fees, duties, or tariffs incurred by your submission. Submissions delayed past the submission deadline will not be accepted for review.

If you have any questions, please refer to or email the Electronic Theatre Chair.

Conclusion

For some submitters, meeting the Electronic Theatre deadline is a difficult and sometimes frustrating challenge. Generally, the frustration increases as the deadline draws near. We encourage you to complete your online form and prepare as many of the submission requirements (written descriptions, still image, and final digital file) as early as possible. Do not wait until your project is complete before you begin the submission process. If you have any questions, please refer to, or email, the Electronic Theatre Chairs.

We will look forward to seeing your submission. Good luck!

Frequently Asked Questions

I will not have my work finished by the submission deadline. Is it possible to submit a teaser or a trailer/promo piece as a placeholder until the actual footage is complete?

No, the jury specifically reviews the quality of the work that is submitted. The work done in a trailer or promo piece may be submitted on its own merit, but it cannot be submitted as a placeholder for other materials.

May I submit my unfinished work as a "work in progress" if it is not complete by the submission deadline?

A work in progress may be submitted if it represents at least 80 percent of the final version. If the soundtrack is not complete, the jury requests the addition of a temporary soundtrack. The "Notes to the Jury" section of the online submission & authorisation form gives you an opportunity to explain how the final piece will differ from the submitted piece.

We are an art school hoping to send in several pieces of student work. We had planned to include four or five student pieces on one reel, as one entry from our school. Is that OK?

No, students must submit separate Digital Files QuickTime) on DVD-R and separate completed and signed submission & authorisation forms. Each piece is judged on its own merit, and often pieces are viewed multiple times. We can only effectively track and review individual submissions, so: one submission, one valid online submission number, and one project per DVD-R.

Can group or collaborative projects be submitted?

Yes, absolutely. In fact, collaborative and group projects are encouraged, but only one project may be submitted per videotape/digital file and completed online submission form.

What criteria does the jury use to select pieces for the Electronic Theatre?

All submissions are juried together and based on identical selection criteria: content, technical implementation, innovation, artistic achievement, production values, creativity, originality, narrative, design, entertainment value, and advancement of visualisation in the artistic and scientific fields of digital technologies. Entries representing both technical excellence and innovation will be shown in the Electronic Theatre.

Can you tell me if there is a time limit or general suggested length that will help my submission's chances for acceptance in the Electronic Theatre?

There is no fixed or ideal time limit for submitted projects. Ultimately, technical excellence and innovation are the deciding factors. Sometimes, the jury asks submitters of longer pieces to edit for time or create a trailer for the Electronic Theatre.

Because the Electronic Theatre has a fixed run time, shorter pieces (up to 3 minutes) do have an advantage. If your work is longer, it needs to be that much better as well. Exceptional work will not be rejected because of its duration. Please note that for the jury review, submitters of pieces that are longer then five minutes are asked to indicate by timecode a shorter selection that they want to make sure the jury will view. This is an attempt to control the total time required to complete jury review.

If there is editing to be done, we would prefer that it be done pre-submission and by the submitters in order to maintain the most artistic integrity possible. However, if you are willing to edit your submission as part of acceptance, please indicate that on the online submission & authorisation form.

Will Graphite 2005 have the capability to show digital files in the Electronic Theatre?

If your work is accepted, we will discuss the display options at that time.

"Affiliation" is a required field on the Electronic Theatre Submission & Authorisation Form, but I am not associated with any organisation or school. What do I do?

You may use "Self" to indicate you are independent. There is no requirement that you be associated with an organisation or school.

I would like to submit a Flash animation to SIGGRAPH 2005. Will you accept my animation on a CD?

No. For jury review, your animation sequence must be on PAL D1 (720x576 pixel resolution at 25fps) Digital File (QuickTime) on DVD-R.

I don't understand how to pack my videotape for shipping. What is a "fibre or pulp-padded mailer" and why are they not accepted?

Some inexpensive padded envelopes are stuffed with paper-based, fibrous stuffing that creates dust when ripped. This dust can damage both your DVD-R and our playback equipment. When in doubt, use bubble wrap in a plain envelope.

How do I get tickets for the Electronic Theatre?

If you are a registered Graphite2005 attendee, you can attend the Electronic Theatre at no charge. A public screening of the Electronic Theatre for non-delegates will charge a ticket fee.

What kind of feedback can I expect to receive about my submission?

Unfortunately due to the time constraints created by submission volumes, it is impossible for us to respond with any project-specific critiques or suggestions in our responses.