

Art gallery presents new exhibit

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Courtesy of W. Keith & Janet Kellogg University Art Gallery

W. Keith & Janet Kellogg University Art Gallery has a new exhibit in the works showcasing a collection of interactive installation art by David Jang.

Jang's "Systems of Productions" defies the conventions of most exhibits by using kinetic energy to create an interactive experience that audiences can relate to, participate in and relatively interpret.

The exhibit will feature art pieces that use kinetic energy and motion sensors to mimic an interactive space experience

Jang suggests that there is no fixed meaning behind his work.

"Nothing in this world has meaning," Jang said. "In order to formulate meaning you have to go through a transition. When you start interacting that's when you start understanding how things can relate to yourself. So meaning happens in between. So when they're

activating and you're able to actually go through a physical experience that can formulate much more valuable meaning."

An exhibit preview event will be held 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday Feb. 22, including a Q & A session with the artist.

The entire exhibit elicits the idea that everything in life is a system of production.

Jang gave physical form to the idea of entropy necessitating the transformation and progression of all of life's systems.

Another primary focus of his exhibit is his use of space as an art medium.

He sought to cultivate space and sculpt it to make an interactive form of art.

Space is just as useful in art as the conventional materials such as paint, canvas, clay or other tangible objects.

"The whole main part behind it is the traditional idea of sculpture is to cut into material, but I'm using completed and found material to cut into space, sculpting and activating the space to make it more interactive," Jang said.

A few of his main works of art include motion sensors activating the installations to move as you walk through.

Jang obtained his master's degree in fine arts studying painting and sculpture.

He began his career as a hyperrealist, but changed course due to his interest in invention, and a change in perspective influenced by a college philosophy class.

"They changed my perspective about what the paintings meanings are and started looking at the painting as a casted painting medium," Jang said.

He explains that the transformation from squeezing a liquid paint from a bottle, to it solidifying as it is casted onto the canvas inspired him to pursue artwork that exemplifies everyday transformations.

Jang is a self-taught mechanic and engineer.

His childhood interest in invention, and creating things from everyday items is what pursued him to create interactive kinetic art.

He relates a time when he called a repairman to teach him the mechanics of a refrigerator so he could use the parts for a piece of artwork that he was planning.

Each piece of work could take anywhere from a few months to years to produce.

Jang's work is an exhibit that takes science, mechanics and engineering and displays it as a physical and interactive form of art.

The official opening reception will take place 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24.