

F o r I m m e d i a t e R e l e a s e

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**MIT List Visual Arts Center**

***List Projects: Sergei Tcherepnin***

**July 15–October 19, 2014**

**June 5, 2014 (Cambridge, MA)**—The MIT List Visual Arts Center is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by Sergei Tcherepnin, as part of the museum’s ongoing *List Projects* series. Sergei Tcherepnin (b. 1981) operates at the intersections of sound, sculpture, and theatre. Often invoking queer, hybrid characters such as the “listening cactus,” the “Maize Mantis,” or the figure of the Pied Piper, Tcherepnin’s scenarios cultivate play between things and bodies, compelling the audience to develop a “score” for listening to these animated objects. These interactions suggest new possibilities for intimacy with sound, where “listening” involves a more expansive state of activity: listening by feeling, listening by walking, listening by looking.

Tcherepnin’s sound recordings, emanating from a floor built above the List’s existing Bakalar Gallery floor, become a physical music: through transducers, Tcherepnin’s composition transforms the floor itself into a vibrating speaker. Sound is sensed through one’s bone, skin, and body-mass as much as through one’s auditory or visual system, and the body becomes a reservoir of potentials for different patterns of listening. In turn, the gallery itself becomes a space of overlapping physiological registers: the floor becomes a “bone” that speaks in tones, thumps, and grumbles, its voice transmitted not through the air but directly from floor to human, from “bone to bone”; fabric elements become skins that mediate sound in different ways; and metal forms derived from the shape of the tongue and mouth emerge from the floor and walls. These forms are physical sound systems that speak, characters that at times invite, at times rebuff, interaction, with each state a point of departure for other sounds and trajectories of listening. By creating an order of coexistence and succession that opens up a logic of the senses, Tcherepnin’s work looks to how both things and bodies can be constituted through sound.

**About the Artist**

Sergei Tcherepnin was born in Boston in 1981, and currently lives and works in New York. He received a BFA from Bard College and subsequently received his MFA from the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York in 2011. His recent performances and installations include: Roulette, New York; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Pavilion of Georgia at the 55th Venice Biennale; Murray Guy, NY; The Kitchen, NY; Yvon Lambert, Paris; Karma International, Zurich; Guggenheim Museum, NY; and the 30th São Paulo Biennial, Brazil. He is participating in the 2014 Whitney Biennial and is a recipient of 2014 Villa Romana Fellowship in Florence, Italy. The List’s presentation of Tcherepnin’s work will be the artist’s first solo museum exhibition.

*List Projects: Sergei Tcherepnin* is curated by List Assistant Curator Alise Upitis.

## **Support**

Support for the List Center's projects is generously provided by the Council for the Arts at MIT; the Office of the Associate Provost at MIT; the Massachusetts Cultural Council; TOKY; the MIT List Visual Arts Center Advisory Committee; and the Friends of the List. Special thanks to Murray Guy.

## **About the MIT List Visual Arts Center**

In 1950 MIT established the Hayden Gallery that was located in the Charles Hayden Memorial Library. The gallery served as a venue for a program of changing exhibitions. In 1985 the Hayden Gallery was renamed the List Visual Arts Center in recognition of a gift from Vera and Albert List that relocated the gallery to its current location on the ground floor of the Wiesner Building which was designed by MIT alumnus I.M. Pei (B.S. Architecture, 1940), and Partners Architects.

Over the years the MIT List Visual Arts Center has become highly respected as one of the most significant university art galleries in the country for its innovative, provocative, and scholarly exhibitions and publications. Just as MIT pushes at the frontiers of scientific inquiry, it is the mission of the List Visual Arts Center to explore challenging, intellectually inquisitive, contemporary art making in all media. In addition to presenting 6-9 exhibitions annually, the List Center presents a broad range of education programs in conjunction with its exhibition programming. The Center maintains and adds to MIT's permanent collection of over 3,500 artworks that includes dozens of publicly sited sculptures and hundreds of paintings, prints, photographs, drawings, and sculptures located throughout MIT's campus. The List Center is also responsible for commissioning new works for the MIT Public Art Collection through the MIT Percent-for-Art program, and organizing and administering the Student Loan Art Program, which lends over 500 works of art annually to MIT undergraduate and graduate students.

**Directions:** The MIT List Visual Arts Center is located in the Wiesner Building, 20 Ames Street, at the eastern edge of the MIT campus. It is in close proximity to Kendall Square, Memorial Drive, and the Longfellow Bridge.

By T, take the Red Line to the Kendall/MIT stop, follow Main Street west to Ames Street, turn left, and walk one block to the crosswalk. The MIT List Visual Arts Center, housed in a building identifiable by its white gridded exterior, will be on your left. Signage is on the building.

By car, coming from Memorial Drive, follow signs for Kendall Square. Limited metered parking is available on Ames Street. A parking garage is located at the Cambridge Center complex (entrance on Ames between Main and Broadway). Paid public parking is also available at the Marriott Hotel on Broadway.

**Gallery Hours:** Tues-Wed: 12-6PM; Thurs: 12-8PM; Fri-Sun: 12-6PM; closed Mondays and major holidays.

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**Additional Information:** 617.253.4680 or <http://listart.mit.edu>

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