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PRESS KIT

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BODY OF KNOWLEDGE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Professor Simon Penny Directs a Groundbreaking International Conference Featuring
World Renowned Scholars in Embodied Cognition and the Arts

IRVINE, Calif. – The University of California, Irvine's Claire Trevor School of the Arts (CTSA) will host the Body of Knowledge: Embodied Cognition and the Arts December 8 – 10, 2016. The conference will bring world leaders in this new field together for the first time to focus on the relevance of contemporary cognitive science to our understanding of arts practices. The conference is directed by Simon Penny, Professor of Art in the Department of Art at CTSA. There will be seven keynote speakers, over 60 paper presenters from across the globe, addressing issues in music, drama, dance, media arts, plastic arts, HCI, design and pedagogy, along with theoretical and philosophical matters. Also, the event includes workshops, a performance program and a specially curated art exhibition at the Beall Center for Art + Technology entitled Embodied Encounters cocurated by David Familian and Simon Penny.

"I initiated this project as a result of a strong conviction - which has grown through 25 years of practice and research – that internalist paradigms only confuse attempts to discuss creative, intelligent practice," stated Prof. Simon Penny. "For much of the last century, explanations of the cognitive dimensions of arts practices have been unsatisfying, and this is because internalist paradigms provide few useful tools to discuss embodied dimensions of cognition. The conference attendees and presenters have come to this field of inquiry from wildly different directions. Some are from a background in practice, others from a background in theory. We are Dancers, Actors, Artists, Musicians, poets, designers, Art Historians, Anthropologists, Psychologists, cognitive scientists, neuroscientists, philosophers and many others."

Professor Penny is an Australian practitioner in the fields of Digital Cultural Practices, Embodied Interaction and Interactive Art. For over three decades, he has developed custom digital and robotic systems for interactive installations. The systems address critical issues arising at the intersection of culture and technology, and are informed by traditions of practice in the arts, including sculpture, video-art, installation and performance; and by theoretical research in enactive and embodied cognition, ethology, neurology, phenomenology, human-computer interaction, ubiquitous





computing, robotics, critical theory, cultural and media studies. Over the last two decades, his research has addressed questions of embodied cognition with respect to arts and cultural practices.

The conference will host over 175 academics from around the globe, bringing together the top minds in the arena. Keynote presentations will be given by world leaders in the field including Antonio Damasio, Evan Thompson, Erik Myin, Giovanna Colombetti, Maxine Sheets-Johnstone, Anthony Chemero and David Kirsh. Attendees include cognitive scientists, neuroscientists, philosophers of mind, physiologists, psychologists, philosophers, anthropologists, computer scientists, artists, musicians, dancers, actors, and designers who will explore emerging cognitive neuroscience and theories of embodied cognition. The goal is to develop new discourses around arts practices by interfacing traditions of practice with emerging paradigms of Embodied (and Enactive, Situated, Distributed, Extended) paradigms of cognition. The exchanges in this conference promise not only enrich the theory of arts and cultural practices, but also enrich cognitive science research and provide resources relevant to Human Computer Interaction and other aspects of design.

The Body of Knowledge – Embodied Cognition and the Arts Conference has received generous support from the Science, Technology, and Society Program in the Division of Social and Economic Sciences, National Science Foundation (NSF). The conference is hosted by UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts. Additional sponsors include the Beall Center for Art + Technology, UCI Illuminations and the Office of the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning.

More information and useful links may be found on the conference website at http://sites.uci.edu/bok2016/

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BODY OF KNOWLEDGE: EMBODIED COGNITION and the ARTS December 8 - 10, 2016
University of California, Irvine

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Antonio Damasio

Professor of Neuroscience, Professor of Psychology, Professor of Philosophy, and Director of the Brain and Creativity Institute at the University of Southern California.

Ever since the publication of Descarte's Error: Emotion, Reason and the Human Brain (1994), Damasio has been a leading figure in a post-humanist rethinking of mind, cognition, affect and creativity.



Maxine Sheets-Johnstone

Independent Scholar and Courtesy Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Oregon.

Maxine Sheets-Johnstone is a dancer/choreographer and philosopher. Her books – including Giving the Body Its Due (1992), The Primacy of Movement (1999, now in an expanded 600 page edition) and the anthology The Corporeal Turn (2009) - are landmarks in the theorisation of embodied cognition. They derive their authority, in part, from her ongoing grounding in embodied practices. At A Body of Knowledge, Dr Sheets-Johnstone will

offer a movement workshop as well as a keynote address.



Evan Thompson

Professor of Philosophy, University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Evan Thompson co-authored (with Francisco Varela and Eleanore Rosch) the groundbreaking volume Embodied Mind (1991) which established the field of Enactive Cognition on a theoretical basis informed by autopoietic biology and buddhist philosophy. His recent book Mind in Life: Biology, Phenomenology, and the Sciences of Mind demonstrates his continued leadership in this field.







Giovanna Colombetti

Professor of Philosophy, Department of Sociology, Philosophy and Anthropology, University of Exeter.

In The Feeling Body: Affective Science Meets the Enactive Mind (2014), Colombetti draws from approaches as diverse as phenomenology, dynamical systems theory, cognitive science, and neuroscience to create a genuinely interdisciplinary discussion of enactive cognition and affective science. The book focuses on bodily affect, an aspect of cognition underplayed in emotion theory.



Erik Myin

Professor of Philosophy and Head of the Centre for Philosophical Psychology at the University of Antwerp.

A reviewer for Choice said of Radicalizing Enactivism: Basic Minds without Content (Erik Myin and Daniel Hutto, 2012): "One of the most original contributions to the already vast literature in recent philosophy of mind.... No collection in modern philosophy of mind is complete without this ground breaking book."



Anthony Chemero

Professor of Philosophy and Psychology, University of Cincinnati. Some so-called embodied cognitive science accommodates embodied and situated perspectives by re-instating internalism and representationalism. Working from a perspective informed by Gibsonian Ecological Psychology; in his book, Radical Embodied Cognitive Science, Chemero 'outs' such closet Cartesianism.



David Kirsh

Professor of Cognitive Science, University of California, San Diego. With his colleague Edwin Hutchins, David Kirsh is a founder of the field of Distributed Cognition. With a background in Wittgenstein, he spent five years (1984-9) as research scientist at the MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. These were the years when Good Old Artificial Intelligence crumbled and embodied and situated paradigms emerged, much of this at MIT. In1995, with Paul Maglio, he established the concept of Epistemic Action which has become fundamental to many paradigms of embodied

cognition. More recently, Kirch has worked with the Royal Ballet on distributed cognition among dancers in choreographic development.





BODY OF KNOWLEDGE: EMBODIED COGNITION and the ARTS December 8 - 10, 2016
University of California, Irvine

Embodied Encounters, Interactive Art Exhibition at the Beall Center for Art + Technology

EMBODIED ENCOUNTERS

Featuring: Rhona Byrne, George Khut, Karen Lancel & Hermen Maat, Alex May, Miriam Simun, and Sha Xin Wei

Curated by David Familian and Simon Penny

On View: October 1, 2016 - January 21, 2017



The Donald R. and Joan F. Beall Center for Art + Technology at UC Irvine's Claire Trevor School of the Arts presents *Embodied Encounters*, an inter-media exhibition featuring seven international contemporary artists. Co-Curated by David Familian (Artistic Director, Beall Center) and Simon Penny (Professor, Digital Cultural Practices, Embodied Interaction and Interactive Art), *Embodied Encounters* will take place in conjunction with UCI's conference, "Body of Knowledge: Embodied Cognition and the Arts" (December 8-10, 2016); a three-day event focusing on interfacing traditional discourses of making and doing with the emerging paradigms of Embodied (and Enactive, Situated, Distributed, Extended) cognition. The exhibition will remain on view through January 21, 2017.

Embodied Encounters addresses art-making practices in media arts via the new languages of cognition. The exhibition will demonstrate the philosophical and conceptual ways artists respond to a world made increasingly complex by technology, as well as the evolution of action in artistic creation, and the synergy between materiality and bodily awareness. Through these encounters, we see the divisions between mind and body, self and world dissolve. This phenomenon is highly relevant to contemporary artistic practice as artists become increasingly aware of the changing synergy between intuition, logic, and reason to produce their work. How does the artist's consciousness engage in a world comprised of analog, digital, and virtual stimuli? The Beall Center will address this question through an ambitious, provoking voyage through cognition and intelligence – human and artificial alike.

View the exhibition website: http://beallcenter.uci.edu/exhibitions/embodied-encounters





FACT SHEET

Event:

BODY OF KNOWLEDGE: EMBODIED COGNITION and the ARTS

December 8 - 10, 2016

University of California, Irvine

Location:

UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts Various Locations on Campus

Description:

The Body of Knowledge: Embodied Cognition and the Arts conference will bring world leaders in this new field together for the first time to focus on the relevance of contemporary cognitive science to our understanding of arts practices. The conference is being directed by Simon Penny, Professor of Art in the Department of Art at University of California, Irvine. There will be seven keynote speakers, over 60 paper presenters from across the globe, addressing issues in music, drama, dance, media arts, plastic arts, HCI, design and pedagogy, along with theoretical and philosophical matters.

Hours:

Thursday, December 8 – Saturday, December 10 from 9:00 am – 9:00 pm Registration is required.

Events:

(SEE ENTIRE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, PLENARIES, AND WORKSHOPS ATTACHED) OR – visit http://sites.uci.edu/bok2016schedule/

Registration:

Registration is \$350 for an individual (\$100 - \$125 for one-day registration). Participants must register on-line only at http://sites.uci.edu/bok2016

Parking:

Mesa Parking Structure, 4000 Mesa Rd., Irvine, CA 92617

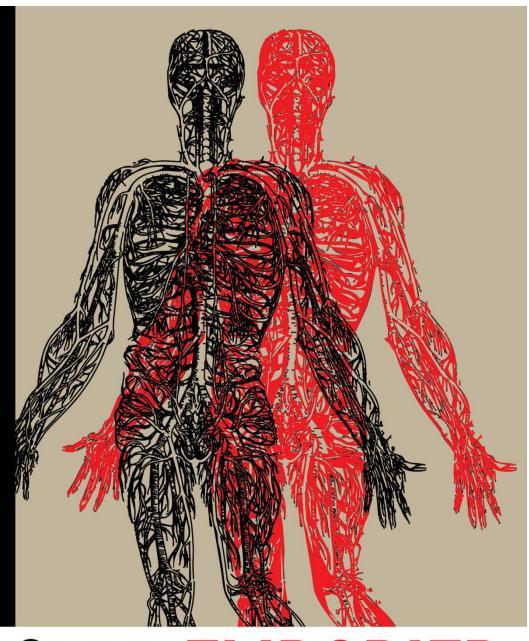
More Info:

http://sites.uci.edu/bok2016 or www.arts.uci.edu

Note to editors:

Press passes (including parking) are available on request. Publication photographers are welcome.















A Body of Knowledge: Embodied Cognition and the Arts

8 – 10 December 2016 Claire Trevor School of the Arts University of California, Irvine sites.uci.edu/BoK2016

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

| Time | | | |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| 6 - 7:30 pm | Registration and Check-In open at the Anthill Pub & Grille | | |
| 6 - 8 pm | Wednesday Evening Informal Reception For Body of Knowledge attendees arriving Wednesday, we will have an informal reception at the UCI Student Center Anthill Pub & Grille 6 pm - 8pm, with cash bar and bar food available. Directions can be found: http:// anthillpubandgrille.com/location/ The Registration Desk will also be available from 6:00pm – 7:30pm at the Anthill Pub. | | |

Thursday, December 8, 2016

| Time | Winifred Smith Hall | xMPL | PSTU 1100 - William Gillespie Dance Studio | | |
|-------------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| 7:30 - 9:30 am | Registration and Check-In open (at Winifred Smith Hall) | | | | |
| 8 - 9 am | Morning Coffee | | | | |
| 9 am | Welcome and Introduction Stephen Barker, Dean of the School of the Arts at the University of California, Irvine Simon Penny, Conference Director and Professor of Studio art at the University of California, Irvine | | | | |
| 10:15 am | | 15 Minute Break | | | |
| 10:30 am | Panel: The Performance of Experience | Panel: Embodiment and Aesthetics | Movement Workshop: If the Body Is Part of Our | | |
| | Camille Buttingsrud, Embodied Reflection | Michael Fuller: Neuronal Post-Structuralism: A Humanist's Perspective on the Mathematics of the Construction of Memory | Discourse, Why Not Let It Speak?, Maxine Sheets- Johnstone . | | |
| | Ivani Santana, The Network and The Dance, or a cognitive artifact embodied by a situated cognition | Peter Cariani, Time is of the essence | | | |
| | Stahl Stenslie, Embodied Perception in Somatic Sound - telepresentation | Luis H. Favela, An Introduction to Radical Embodied Cognitive Neuroscience | | | |
| 12 pm | Doris Dornelles de Almeida , Multisensorial experiences and embodied knowledge of professional dancers during ballet class | Geoffrey Bowker, Where is the body in all this? | | | |
| 12 - 1 pm | | Lunch | | | |
| 1 pm | Panel: Experimental Collective Experience | Panel: Towards the Interbody: Embodiment and Interface | Workshop: Thinking with the Dancing Brain: Embodying Neuroscience, Rima Faber and Sandra Minton | | |
| | Xin Wei Sha, Textural articulation and rhythm as non- anthropocentric approaches to individuation | Patricia Pisters, Perfecting the Self in Digital Media Culture Neurofeedback and Embodied Self-Knowledge | | | |
| | Elizaveta Solomonova, Embodied dreaming and improvisation in public and private places: contribution of neurophenomenology and art practice to subjectivity research | Vicente Raja and Paco Calvo, Augmented Reality: An Ecological Blend | | | |
| | Adrian Freed and John MacCallum, Sounds from the Electrified Human Body: Reconfigurations of Embodied and Encultured Knowledge from the development of Electrosomatophones | Adnan Marquez Borbon, Perceptual learning and the emergence of performer-instrument interactions with digital music systems | | | |
| 2:30 pm | Samuel Veissière, Phenomenality, Narrativity, Tulpamancy; Experience Without Subjects? | Shannon Cuykendall and Thecla Schiphorst, Untying the Knot of Dance Movement Expertise: An Enactive Approach | | | |
| | 15 Minute Break | | | | |
| 2:45 pm | Afternoon Plenary Session Introduction: Howard Gillman, Chancellor of the University of California, Irvine. Keynote Speaker: Antonio Damasio, Professor of Neuroscience, Psychology, and Philosophy, and | | | | |
| 4 pm | | e Brain and Creativity Institute at the University of South | | | |
| 4:05 pm | Panel: Cross Cultural Art and Embodiment | Panel: Autopoietic, Enactive, and Extended Musical Practices | Workshop: Interacting with the Music Paint Machine Luc Nijs - Participants are invited to bring their own instrument. Wind instruments, violin, or viola are | | |
| | Yu Zhi, Hand Scroll and the Seeing: An Embodied analysis of Chinese traditional Painting - telepresentation | Michael Golden, Music Emergent: Autopoiesis and Connected Worlds | suggested. | | |
| | Duan Siying, From "Harmony" to "Tension": the reconstruction of "body" in Chinese New Ink Art | Simon Høffding, "We-ing" in Joint Music Performance: Phenomenological lessons with "The Danish String Quartet" | | | |
| | Yuedi Liu, Somaesthetics, body and Chinese Art Tradition - telepresentation | Joel Krueger, Dimensions of the musically extended mind | | | |
| 5:35 pm | Chae Yoo and Michael Fuller responding. | Maria Witek, 'Feeling at one': Distribution of minds, bodies and beats in dance music | | | |
| | | 10 Minute Break | | | |
| 5:45 pm | | Evening Plenary Session | | | |
| 7 pm | Keynote Speaker: Erik Myin, Professor of Philosophy and Head of the Centre for Philosophical Psychology at the University of Antwerp. | | | | |
| 7 - 8:30 pm | Beall Center for Art + Technology Reception for Embodied Encounters with Beer and Hors D'Oeuvres | | | | |



Friday, December 9, 2016

| Time | Winifred Smith Hall | xMPL | PSTU 1100 - William Gillespie Dance Studio | |
|-------------------|--|---|---|--|
| 7:30 - 9:30 am | Registration and Check-In open (at Winifred Smith Hall) | | | |
| 8 - 9 am | | Morning Coffee | | |
| 9 am | | Morning Plenary Session | | |
| 10:15 am | Keynote Speaker: Maxine Sheets-Johnstone, Independent Scholar and Courtesy Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Oregon. | | | |
| | | 15 Minute Break | | |
| 10:30 am | · · | Panel: Classics, Archeology, Language | Workshop: The Art and Science of Tai Chi for Mind/Body Health, Shin Lin | |
| | | David Turnbull , To Talk of Many Things, Of Stories, Ships and String, of Connections, Collaborations, Knowledges and Kin | | |
| | Asma Mansoor, DE-ANTHROPOLOGISING THE HUMAN AND ITS IMPACT ON RACISM - telepresentation | David Wright, Sacred reptiles and native world view: enactive aesthetics and agency in Mesoamerican art | | |
| | Josh Berson, The Age of Vigilance - telepresentation | Anila Bhagavatula, Neuroscience of Rhetoric and Poetry | | |
| 12 pm | Jessie Wirkus, John Locke's Hands: The Tools of Embodiment in An Essay Concerning Human Understanding | | | |
| 12 - 1 pm | | Lunch | | |
| 1 pm | Panel: Embodied Pedagogy | Panel: The Embodiment and Embeddedness of Improvisation, 93. | Workshop: Laboratory of Speculative Ethnology, Elizabeth Chin | |
| | Ivano Gamelli and Nicoletta Ferri, PEDAGOGIA DEL CORPO- EMBODIED PEDAGOGY: AN ITALIAN PERSPECTIVE - telepresentation | Ingar Brinck, Improvisation in arts practices: Bodily coordination, imitation and engagement | | |
| | Raphael Sieraczek and David Hay, Using theatre and art- based pedagogy to achieve the practices of science in the student body | | | |
| | Maiya Murphy, Take Up the Bodies: Understanding Body- based actor training through Enaction | Mikko Salmela, Joint improvisation as interaction ritual | | |
| 2:30 pm | Sarah Klein and Tyler Marghetis, Shaping Experiment from the Inside Out | Ashley Walton, Auriel Washbun, Anthony Chemero and Michael Richardson, Musical movement: spatiotemporal patterns of coordination and embodied listening | | |
| | | 15 Minute Break | | |
| 2:45 pm | Kaumata Suaakan G | Afternoon Plenary Session iovanna Colombetti, Professor of Philosophy in the Depa | antment of Cariolams | |
| 4 pm | | Philosophy and Anthropology at the University of Exeter | | |
| 4:05 pm | Panel: Embodiment and Evolution | Panel: Where is the body in Code? | Workshop: The Embodied Performer: Creating the | |
| | Jondi Keane, Art and the Realization of Living | Sofian Audry , Aesthetics of Adaptive Behaviors in Agent- based Art | Foundation for Interpretation and Movement, Anita King , 151. | |
| | Margaret Wertheim, Art as Embodied Evolution - telepresentation | Fabio Paolizzo, Enabling Embodied Analogies in Interactive Music Systems - SKYPE | | |
| | Christine Wertheim, Transformative Structures | John Seberger, Affordances and Mediation: The Disappearing Subject in Computerized Empiricism | | |
| 5:35 pm | Takashi Ikegami and Victoria Vesna, Bird Song Diamond installation in Large Space | Chris Salter, Technologies of Sense: Quantification, Embodiment and Making up People in the Age of the Data Driven Self | | |
| | | 10 Minute Break | | |
| 5:45 | | Evening Plenary Session | | |
| 7 pm | Keynote Speaker: Evan Tho | ompson, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Bri | tish Columbia in Vancouver. | |
| 7 pm | Friday Food Trucks Dinner | | | |
| 8:30 pm | Wine and Dessert in the Beall Center for Art + Technology | | | |
| 8:30 pm | | Performances | | |
| 10 pm | Embodied Ecology; visualizing biological data with dance and technology, Koryn Ann Wicks and Piper Wallingford - xMPL | Shimmera, Lauren Hayes | "Would you like to see an invisible sculpture?" Emily Eifler | |
| | Training. Or a Mill C | | | |



Saturday, December 10, 2016

| Time | Winifred Smith Hall | xMPL | CAC Conference Room | | | |
|--------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| 7:30 - 9:30 | | Registration and Check-In open (at Winifred Smith Hall) | | | | |
| am 8 - 9 am | | Morning Coffee | | | | |
| 9 am | Morning Plenary Session | | | | | |
| 10:15 am | | | | | | |
| | 15 Minute Break | | | | | |
| | NOTE: Panels and workshop for this Session are two hours in length. | | | | | |
| 10:30 am | the Arts | Panel: Embodiment in Arts Education | Workshop: A path from Irvine: Theatrical and anthropological explorations of self-knowledge, Caroline Gatt and Gey Pin Ang - SKYPE | | | |
| | Erik Rynell, Acting as participatory sense making | Shaun Gallagher, The concept of joint body schema in educational practices in the performing arts | | | | |
| | Gretchen Schiller, The mémoire vivante project | Melissa Bremmer, What the body knows about teaching music | | | | |
| | Lukas Ligeti, Polymeters, Body, and Mind: One Musician's Creative Experiments with (Dis)embodied Rhythm | Jaco Van den Dool, Learning with the body: investigating the link between musical interaction and the acquisition of musical knowledge and skills | | | | |
| | Sally Jane Norman: Performing Arts Incorporated: Poetics of Physical Labor | Eeva Anttila, The potential of dance as embodied learning | | | | |
| | Guy Zimmerman, Ghosting the Radical in the New Gilded Age: Immersive Theatre and the Experimental Politics of Embodiment | Carolien Hermans, Participatory sense-making in dance improvisation | | | | |
| 12:30 pm | | Luc Nijs, Workshop: Digital painting with music and movement: multimodal learning in instrumental music education | | | | |
| 12:30 - 1:30 pm | Lunch | | | | | |
| | NOTE: Panels and workshop for this Session are two hours in length. | | | | | |
| 1:30 pm | Panel: Embodiment and Materiality in Art Experience | | Workshop: Research Methodology as Embodied: The Phenomenological Interview, Simon Høffding and | | | |
| | Emanuele Quinz and Samuel Bianchini, BEHAVIORAL OBJECTS: A New Paradigm for Art and Design? | Joanna Ganczarek, Daniele Nardi, and Marta Olivetti Belardinelli, Am I here or there? Space and Action in Aesthetic Experience | Kristian Martiny | | | |
| | Frances Joseph, Sapient Textiles: Materiality, mediation and embodiment | Daniel Weiskopf, Embodied Encounters: The Role of the Body in Art Criticism | Pre-registration required: http://sites.uci.edu/ bok2016schedule/2016/11/17/workshop- research- methodology-as-embodied-the- phenomenological- | | | |
| | Elisabeth Nesheim, Physical sketching, abstract movements and creative processes - the promise of updating the body schema with haptics - telepresentation | Jonathan Chou, Phenomenology in Practice: Implications for the Art and Craft of Fiction | interview/ | | | |
| | Aurélie Besson, Senses of movement and embodiment in interactive artworks | Claudia Villegas-Silva, Embodiment and Post- Human Aesthetic in Contemporary Latin American Theater and Performance | | | | |
| 3:30 pm | Yelena Gluzman, Interdisciplinary Approaches to Interaction | YSusanna Melkonian-Altshuler, Knowing-how and artifact concepts | | | | |
| | | 10 Minute Break | | | | |
| 3:40 pm | Closing Plenary Session Keynote Speaker: Anthony Chemero, Professor of Philosophy and Psychology at the University of Cincinnati. | | | | | |
| 5:30 pm | Closing Statements and Roundtable Simon Penny, Conference Director and Professor of Art at the University of California, Irvine | | | | | |
| 5:30 - 7 pm | Beall Center for Art + Technology - Embodied Encounters Artists Panel | | | | | |
| 7 pm | LASER Talk by Leonardo Art Science Evening Rendezvous | | | | | |
| | Pre-registration required: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/laser-talk-embodied-encounters-at-uc-irvine-tickets-29089531572 | | | | | |