Natural Technologies

Ecokinetics and the Art of Loïe Fuller

Jody Sperling considers the dynamic conversation between technology and nature as played out in the performance art of Loïe Fuller (1862-1928) and her own Fuller-inspired creations. A technological wizardress, Fuller advanced the technologies of lighting and projection design to conjure natural elements onstage. Sperling has been furthering Fuller's idiom into the ecological arena with a focus on creating dances that evoke natural processes, such as melting ice and changing wind patterns. The presentation includes media representing Fuller's oeuvre and Sperling's recent ecokinetics productions in collaboration with ecoacoustics composer Matthew Burtner.

Following the presentation, Sperling will join a panel discussion with John Toenjes (Dance), Chiara Vincenzi (Art & Design: Experimental Fashion), Gillen Wood (English; Earth Science & Environmental Change), Jenny Oyallon-Koloski (Media & Cinema Studies), and Kim Curtis (Theatre).

For background information, consult cas.illinois.edu or call 217-333-6729. Photo: Jody Sperling