CAMOUFLAGE: Art, Science and Popular Culture

an international conference at the University of Northern Iowa

Saturday, April 22, 2006
8:30 am to 8:30 pm
Kamerick Art Building

ON-SITE REGISTRATION is $20 by cash or check made out to UNI Department of Art. This conference is free to all presenters, and to UNI students, faculty and staff.

Schedule of Events

Registration Coffee, conversation, etc. 7:30-8:30 am, KAB South First Floor Lobby

- Reinhold Bubser (Interim Dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, University of Northern Iowa) Introductory Remarks 8:30-8:40 am, KAB Room 111
- Marvin Bell (Poet, University of Iowa) Dead Man Poem on Camouflage 8:40-8:55 am, KAB Room 111
  AMERICAN POET Marvin Bell, Flannery O’Connor Professor of Letters (Emeritus), Writers’ Workshop, The University of Iowa, and the state’s first Poet Laureate, will officially open the conference with the first public reading of a new poem from his “Dead Man” series, on the subject of camouflage, written especially for this gathering. Printed copies will be available as broadsides.

- Roy R. Behrens (Graphic Designer, University of Northern Iowa) A Chronology of Camouflage 8:55-9:15 am, KAB Room 111
  THE USE OF deception in warfare is as old as human history. But camouflage as we know it began during World War I, in response to the use of the airplane and photography for aerial surveillance. This presentation is an illustrated chronology of camouflage, a fast-paced visual overview of nature, art, fashion and warfare that begins in the 19th century and continues to the present day.

- Eugene Wallingford (Computer Scientist, University of Northern Iowa) NUMB3RS Meets The DaVinci Code: Information Masquerading as Art 9:30-10:00 am, CAC Room 108
  COMPUTER SCIENTISTS use camouflage, with a twist. In various contexts, people want or need to conceal information. One solution is to encrypt it, to change its form so that it can be communicated through a relatively open medium with little or no risk of being understood. A second approach is to hide the information within another kind of file. This presentation will explore examples of this, known as steganography, and discuss how it pertains more generally to the subject of camouflage.

- Jane Gilmor (Artist, Mount Mercy College) Art and the Blind: An Unorthodox Phallic Cultural Find 9:30-10:00 am, KAB Room 270
  A FEW years ago, this artist was surprised to find (in a hunting equipment store) a wheelchair-accessible camouflaged hunting blind—in the obvious form of a phallus. This talk describes and demonstrates various constructions, films and installations that were inspired by her discovery of this bizarre cultural phenomenon.

- David Bower (Artist, Northern Illinois University) Camouflaged Small Environments 9:30-10:00 am, KAB Room 111
  THIS ARTIST’S work might be described as a cross between painting and sculpture, even architecture. He makes exquisite small scale rooms, not unlike miniature stage sets, then toys with the minds of his viewers by obscuring features of these odd shelf environments, employing a range of camouflage schemes from military history and hunting.

www.cs.uni.edu/~wallingf/camouflage-conference/

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