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Curators, ArtBots: The Robot Talent Show  
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New York City

We think that this mix of intriguing questions, strange ideas, and sheer, shameless fun is what makes a project like ArtBots worth doing. We hope you will agree.

Of course, not every category of artbot is represented in the show. Due to logistical issues we were not able to include robotic theatrical performances, despite several interesting entries. We would like to pursue this in the future. We hope that the twenty-two works in this year's ArtBots show are as engaging, frustrating, mystifying, entertaining, and affecting for you as they are for us. These works probably ask more questions than they answer, and we think that's a good thing. What is authorship? Can a machine be creative? Who is responsible for the actions of a machine? Can a machine think? Does it matter? Can a non-human be conscious? And what is consciousness, anyway?

For this, the second annual ArtBots show, we received far more entries than we could possibly include. Clearly melding art and robotics is an idea that is in the air. To help narrow the field, we developed some curatorial guidelines. Primary among these is a preference for physical devices that move and systems that have some degree of autonomy.

Each artist has her own answer. As curators, our attitude is: "if you think it's a robot and you think it's art, then let's take a look." In a field as young and open as this one, we've tried to encourage people to take chances and to be creative with the idea of an "artbot." Some artists interpret "artbot" as "a device that makes art," while others see it as "a robot that is a work of art." We like both.

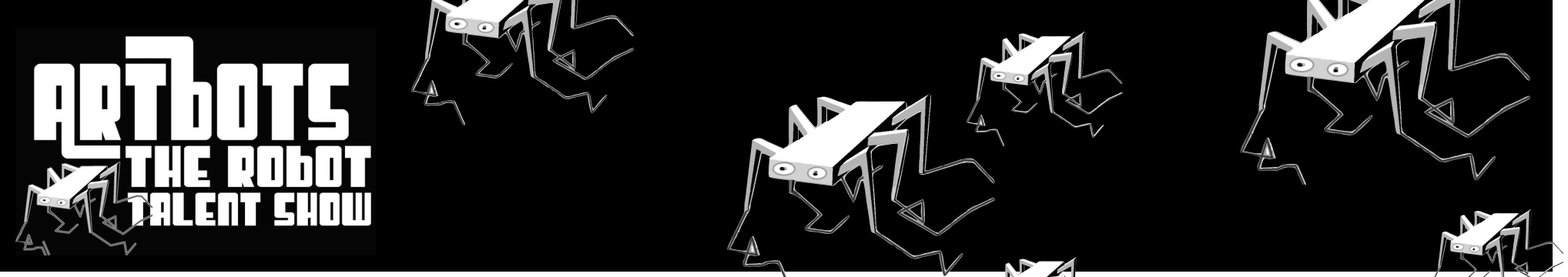
# ARTBOTS THE ROBOT TALENT SHOW



**ArtBots: The Robot Talent Show** is an annual international art exhibition for robotic art and art-making robots. This year's show features work by 23 artists and groups from six countries. It is being presented as part of EYEBEAM's summer robotics festival, ROBOT, Log on to: <http://artbots.org> for the full catalog and details of show.

**ArtBots Director:** Jenny Lee  
**ArtBots Director:** Douglas Repetto  
**ArtBots Director:** Philip Galanter

**Producing Organization:** The Columbia University Computer Music Center  
**Hosting Organization:** EYEBEAM  
**Additional Sponsors:** NYU Arts Technology Group, Pratt Institute



THE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
COMPUTER MUSIC CENTER

New York University

Pratt

EYEBEAM



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ArtBots <http://www.artbots.org/> and the artists gratefully acknowledge the support of the following sponsoring organizations, institutions and individuals:

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Re-live ArtBots every night at Remote Lounge. Stop by Remote Lounge to see continuously running video clips and images from ArtBots 2003

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