Cutaneous Sensation

The sensitivity of the skin, with its sensorial receptors, enables us to transform outside information into nervous impulses, which then travel through the central nervous system to be interpreted. With *Peripheral Response*, Tingley has created an interactive environment inspired by this process. She links and robotizes modules which hammer the wall and floor in response to the presence of visitors. /

The mere action of standing in front of one of the nine elements which make up this immersive environment sets off a series of actions in each of them. This journey to the heart of the body brings us into contact with various layers of the epidermis, thereby situating viewers at the heart of the representation. Without their presence, these elements would stop moving due to lack of stimuli. /

Peripheral Response is a depiction of the microscopic chain reaction of the various parts of the human epidermis. The result is an impressive spider's web, like a network of sensitive components which make possible an interaction with the viewers, who are connected to a simulated central nervous system, a computer-brain controlling various sensors. /

Jane Tingley creates environments that use both new and old technologies to explore sensory worlds based on the viewers' experience. Her work is currently based on an exploration of the epidermis, where information is released little by little through organic systems, which metamorphose through the action of chemical, electrical, and mechanical interactions. She is interested in the cooperation and creation involved in "sensory experimentation" when systems fuse, invent themselves, and communicate from the microcosms of the body to the macrocosm of the living world. /

She obtained a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg in 1999 and is a recipient of the Kenneth Finkelstein Prize for Sculpture. She completed her M.F.A. at Concordia University in Montreal.

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www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk/yourgallery/artist_profile/Jane+Tingley/27429.html