

George Maciunas/Fluxus Foundation Inc.
Progress Report: Newsletter #1

George Maciunas
point d'appui
 Nov.10th, 2011 - Jan. 31th, 2012

Fluxhouse
 Maciunas Prefabricated Mass Building System



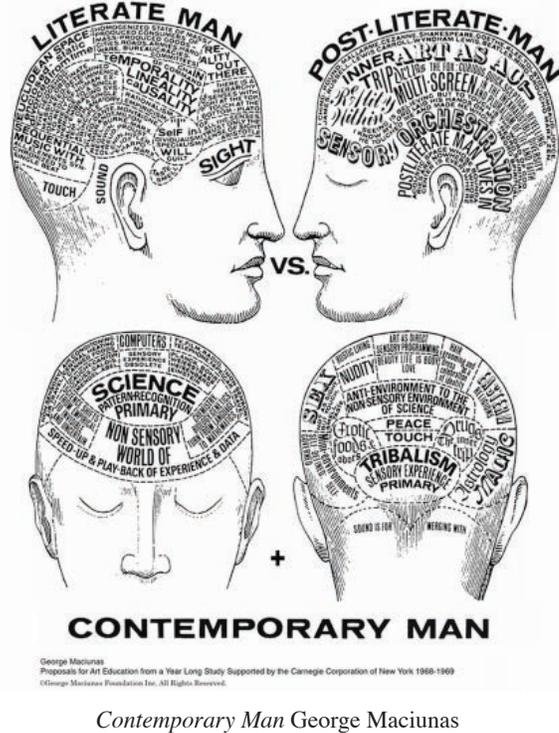
Curriculum Plan
 Intermedia
 Improving Art Education

Learning Machine
 Preliminary Proposal For
 a 3 Dimensional System of
 Information Storage and Presentation



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Founded in 2009, **George Maciunas/Fluxus Foundation** became active in **November 2011** with its first exhibition, **“George Maciunas: Point d’appui”** in its newly renovated exhibition space at **454 West 19th Street**.

‘Point d’appui’, which is the point of soldiers gather before entering battle, was a metaphor for the inaugural opening of the foundation as well as George Maciunas’ initiative towards improving higher education. Featuring Maciunas’ experimental proposals, charts, and diagrams, these works argued against premature and arbitrary specialization in universities. The foundation space also displayed a small scale construction of Maciunas’ prefabricated modular house known as **Fluxhouse**.



Fluxhouse™



Radmila Lolly, Harry Stendhal

The commercial applications of Fluxhouse were examined in the newly published “An Assessment Report” which explores the aesthetic and social appeal of Fluxhouse, and proposes a sequence of steps designed to commercialize the Maciunas system for the current market. George Maciunas/Fluxus Foundation celebrated its opening with a party hosted by talented and beautiful opera singer Radmila Lolly.

In March and April, **George Maciunas/Fluxus Foundation** presented the conceptual web exhibition, “*Knowledge as Art: Chance, Computability, and Improving Education*”, and was complemented by *three paintings of Maciunas from the 1950’s*. The concept of this project originated with Maciunas’ “*Learning Machine*”, a diagrammatic work which expresses the shift from two-dimensional to three-dimensional forms of knowledge processing. Centered on the experimental intersections between machine learning and art, the exhibition commemorated the innovative visions of three theoreticians of mathematics and art: **Thomas Bayes**, **Alan Turing**, and **George Maciunas**.

The poster features a clean, white background with text centered. At the top, the title "Knowledge as Art:" is in a large, bold, dark grey font, followed by the subtitle "Chance, Computability, and Improving Education" in a smaller, dark grey font. Below this, the text "The Three Eminent and Enigmatic 1750 -1968" is centered, followed by the names "Thomas Bayes, Alan Turing, George Maciunas". The website "www.georgemaciunasfoundation.org" is listed below. The word "KNOWLEDGE" is written in large, multi-colored letters (K: green, N: orange, O: blue, W: yellow, L: green, E: orange, D: blue, G: yellow, E: orange). Below it, the word "ARTS" is written in large, multi-colored letters (A: yellow, R: blue, T: orange, S: black). At the bottom, the text "George Maciunas/Fluxus Foundation Inc." is centered, with "Fluxus" in orange. Below this, there is a small, multi-line disclaimer in a very small font.

Knowledge as Art:
Chance, Computability, and Improving Education

The Three Eminent and Enigmatic
1750 -1968
Thomas Bayes, Alan Turing, George Maciunas

Conceptual Web Exhibition
www.georgemaciunasfoundation.org

KNOWLEDGE

ARTS

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The exhibition shed new light on importance of *Bayes’ Theorem*, a statistical theory with diverse uses ranging from calculating the location of planets to predicting the outcome of presidential elections. In conjunction with Bayes’ Theorem, Maciunas’ theories on education were explored with the Turing Machine, a theoretical model used to aid understanding on computer models. A collection of original documents, journal articles, as well as a critical essay by **Jessica Rhee** were used to support and delve into the multifaceted nature of this project which examined mathematical subjectivity, improving education via artificial intelligence, and Eastern and Western philosophies.

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A) P(A)}{P(B)}$$

Bayes' Theorem

“Given the number of times on which an unknown event has happened and failed: Required the chance that the probability of its happening in a single trial lies somewhere between any two degrees of probability that can be named.”
--Thomas Bayes, “Doctrine of Chances”

“The Bayesian approach, in which the arguments A and B of the probability operator $P(A|B)$ are true-false propositions (with the truth status of A unknown to you and B assumed by you to be true), and $P(A|B)$ represents the weight of evidence in favor of the truth of A, given the information in B.”
--Professor David Draper

The foundation celebrated the exhibition and the opening of its newly renovated gallery space on March 12th with a party organized and hosted by Harry Stendhal. The party was co-hosted by the humorous presence of Anthony Haden-Guest, an emmy-winning writer and artist, and by the beautiful Elizabeth Kurpis, the founder and author of FemaleLawyer.com. A mix of artists, art critics, and fashion designers were present to enjoy the exhibition and guests were treated to peachcolored champagne elixirs and music by the Rhee Chamber Ensemble.



Rhee Chamber Ensemble



Harry Stendhal, Anthony Haden-Guest, Elizabeth Kurpis

In May, **George Maciunas/Fluxus Foundation** sponsored an exhibition on **Viktor Tsyganko's** paintings and works on paper, "*Viktor Tsyganko: From Homelessness to Art World Stardom*".

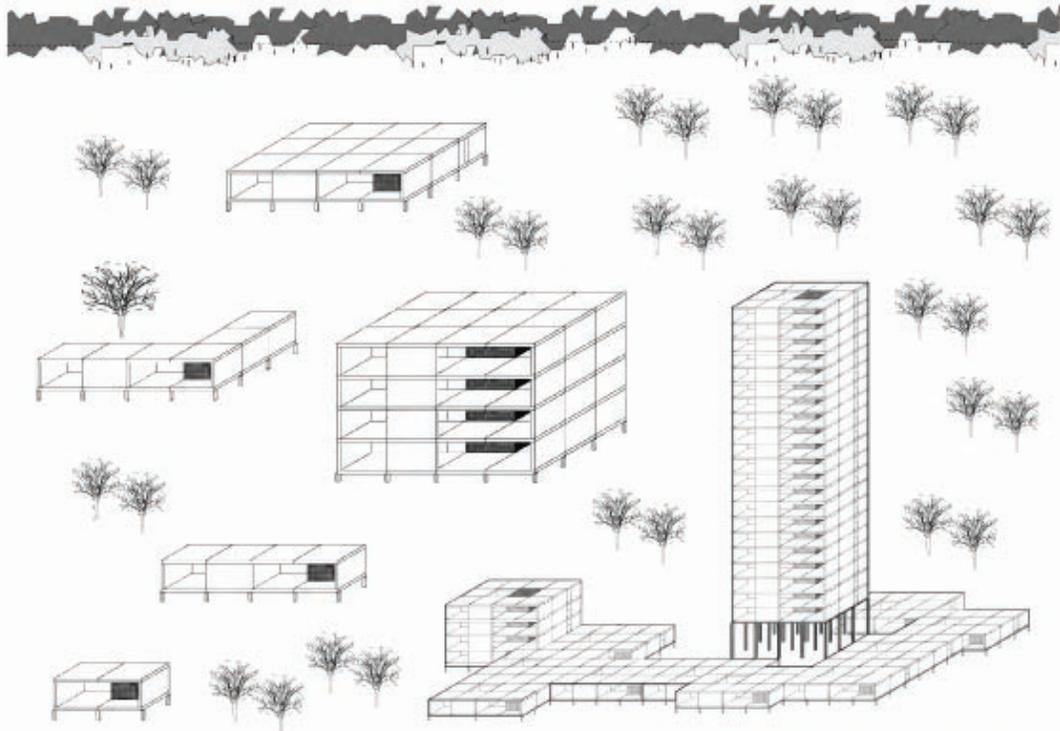
Educated at the prestigious **Stieglitz St. Petersburg State Academy** of Art and Industry in Russia, Tsyganko mysteriously appeared in SoHo in 1990 and has led a nomadic lifestyle on the streets and in various institutions in New York City. With the help of an anonymous patron, he was offered residency and treated for schizophrenia by Art Pathways, an organization which uses creative recovery treatments to assist artists and writers who face homelessness. Despite his circumstances, Tsyganko displays an uncanny technical virtuosity at odds with his disruptive mental illness. Tsyganko's condition raises questions on mental illness and the 'artistic mind' as well as broader issues on homelessness.



Portrait of Two Men Viktor Tsyganko 14.5"x15.5" Oil on Board

Fluxcity™

Prefabricated / Modular
Solution for Social Housing



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June - September, 2012

George Maciunas/**Fluxus**
Foundation Inc.

George Maciunas/Fluxus Foundation is pleased to present “*Fluxcity: Prefabricated/Modular Solution for Social Housing*”. The exhibition will open in **September 2012** with a **conceptual web exhibit** and related works will be available to view at the foundation exhibition space at **454 West 19th St.**

Sustainability has never been a more pressing need in the state of current socio-economic trends. George Maciunas, who stated “*efficiency is giving the most performance for the least cost*”, invented the 1900-square-foot prefabricated mass building system known as Fluxhouse as an flexible solution for social housing. Echoing MoMa curator **Pedro Gadanho**’s famous statement, “*curating is the new criticism*”, the exhibition will engage the concept of urban sustainability through adaptive design solutions.

Maciunas, who is known as the “Father of SoHo” for gentrifying this neighborhood with artists’ cooperatives, envisioned Fluxcity as an adaptive ‘knowledge-city’ manifesting collective intelligence into the built environment. As the world faces its greatest economic challenges due to poor speculation in property developments and an expanding global population, prefabricated systems emphasizing communal, flexible, and inventive spaces cope with this nascent instability and call attention to architecture as a creative process. Fluxcity currently holds its greatest potential as a cost efficient government sponsored solution used to repair lower and middle class communities and raise the standards of living for the world today.

Fluxhouse™

AN ASSESSMENT REPORT



Fluxcity™

Prefabricated / Modular
Solution for Social Housing

George Maciunas/Fluxus
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The commercial applications of Fluxhouse are examined in the newly published “*An Assessment Report*”. **Eric Gould**, founder and director of Helicon Design Group, and architects **Scott Weinkle**, **Dominic McKenie**, and **Mauricio Arduz** will present experimental 3D digital renderings of Fluxcity. The exhibition space will display images from “*Ciphers*”, the latest project of **Christoph Gielen**, whose aerial photographs of isolated suburban settlements reveals the hidden geometries of living environments. The topics of architectural consumerism, cooperative living arrangements, nomadism, and urban morphology will be studied in the scholarly works of writer **Stewart Brand**, mathematician **Nikos Salingaros**, design theorist **Christopher Alexander**, **Dr. Michael Haerdter**, and professor **Rosi Brandotti** among others.



Ciphers Christoph Gielen

The degree of artificiality present in the geometric logic of these habitats are effects of the ideologies which propel urban and suburban sprawl. Often profit driven and badly planned, suburban sprawl is generally defined as the low-density horizontal growth from a city into rural or undeveloped areas. The majority of suburban developments that Gielen has photographed are isolated, car-dependent, and made up primarily of single family homes. The negative effects of suburban sprawl include higher greenhouse gas emissions, higher obesity rates, and a great deal of time lost in traffic. As Gielen suggests that many of these neighborhoods are “*absolutely self-contained*” and are “not changing anymore”, the architectural forms of these gated communities awakens awareness as to how sub/urban planning has influenced the way people interact, move, and are separated from one another.

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