

Aphids in association with Asialink presents

Matt Gardiner's

ORIBOTICS

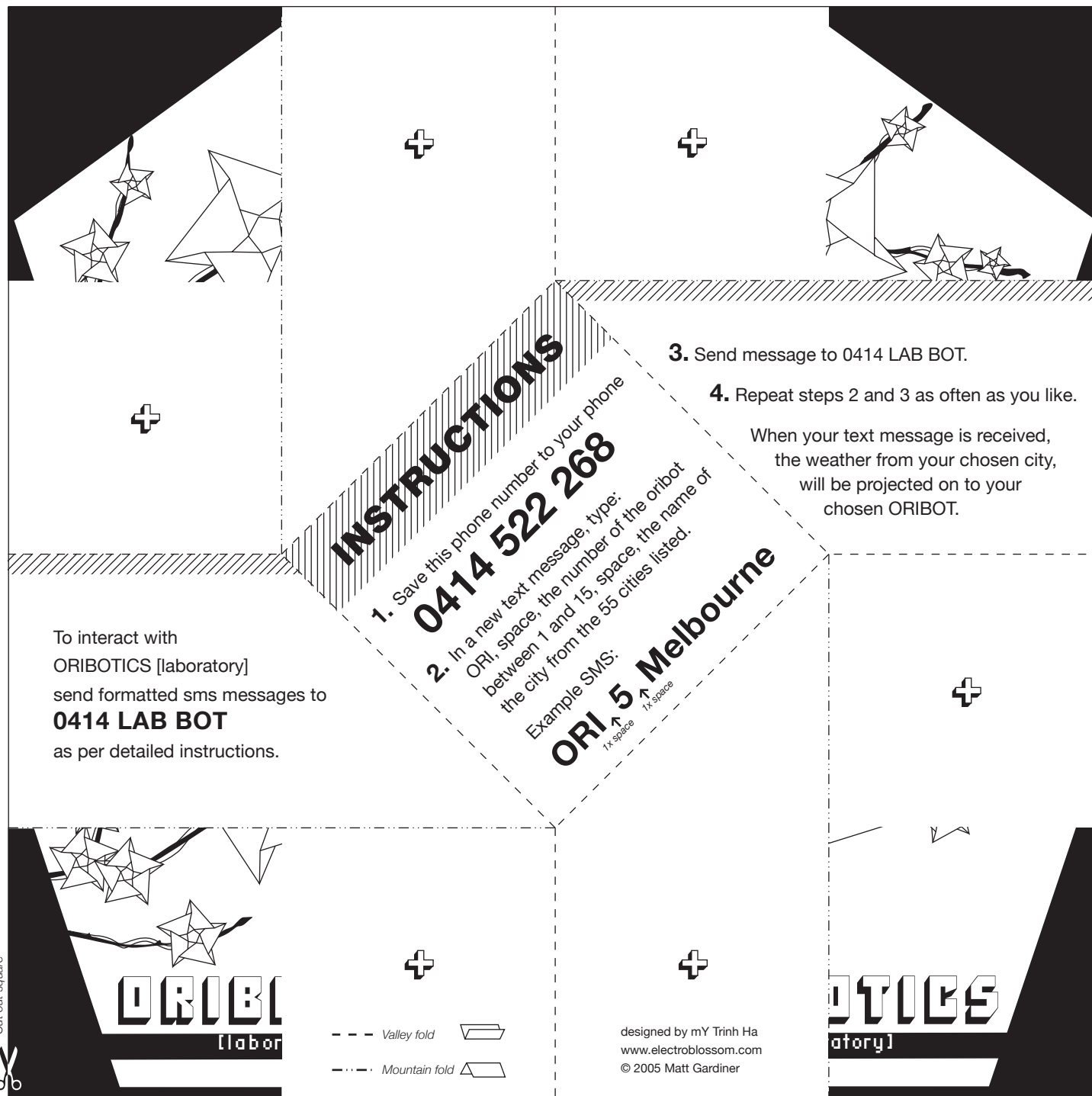
[laboratory]



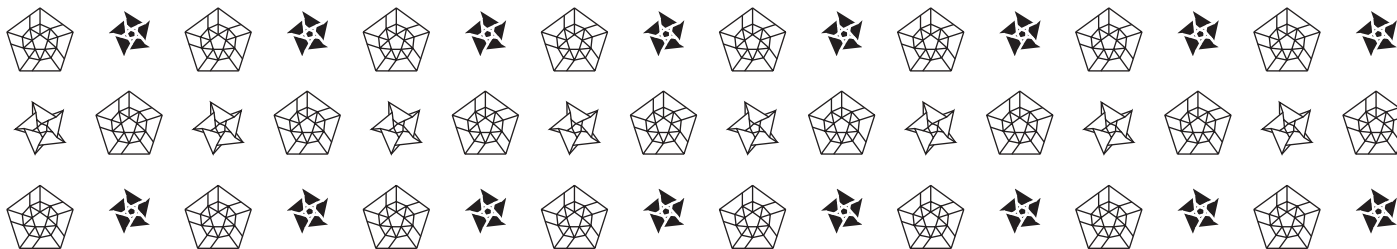
55 CITIES

Atlanta	Milano/Linate
Austin	Montreal
Barcelona	Moscow
Belgrade	Mumbai
Berkeley	Munich
Berlin	Nara
Bern	New York
Bologna	Notre Dame
Bonn	Osaka
Brussels	Oxford
Cambridge	Paris
Canberra	Pecs
Caracas	Perth
Catania	Pittsburgh
Coimbra	Prague
Gifu	Saint Petersburg
Hannover	San Diego
Harvard	Sapporo
Hobart	Stanford
Hong Kong	Stockholm
Jerusalem	Sydney
Karlsruhe	The Hague
Kyoto	Tokyo
Leicester	Yokohama
Lille	York
Linz	Zaragoza
London	Zurich
Melbourne	

Cut out square



designed by mY Trinh Ha
www.electroblossom.com
© 2005 Matt Gardiner



ARTIST STATEMENT

Oribotics [laboratory] presents the next evolutionary step in my research into robotic origami.

I am calling this new generation of oribotic flowers, or oribots, the 'Atom' generation, taking their name from their birthplace, Takadanobaba, a suburb of Tokyo. They were born during my artist residency in Tokyo earlier this year.

The manga icon and author of the Astro Boy comics, Osamu Tezuka, wrote that Astro Boy (or 'Atom' in Japanese) was born at the Ministry of Science in Takadanobaba. I studied Tezuka's original Japanese versions of the comic, in particular 'The Birth of Astro Boy', in an attempt to better understand humans' desire to create robots. I was also seeking to delve deeper into my own inspiration and motivation for researching and creating robotic origami. In the comic, Astro Boy's father loses his real son, Tobio, and builds Astro Boy in his son's image. There are parallels between our loss of nature, so graphically represented by the concrete jungle of Tokyo, and my own creation of robotic flowers. Furthermore, there are links between creating life - as Astro Boy's father does - and creating something that can be loved. And the world loves Astro Boy.

When considering how an oribotic flower might communicate, the most natural way seemed to be through light. Light causes all flowers to open, hence light is the most natural form of interaction for a flower. The oribots also need to gather nutrients from the world. A network of weather data has been created for them to listen to. The network 'speaks' with the light from a data projector, giving the oribots details of the weather in remote cities. The oribots respond with movement, and their environment responds with sound.

The weather data is gathered from an online weather service. The cities were selected for their links to significant origami or robotic activity. Interaction with this weather data system is enabled via a mobile phone text message. A simple message is interpreted by the system, linking a selected city to an oribot of choice. This transaction becomes the link between the viewer and the work. As a contemporary form of communication it encourages remote intimacy, and electronic immediacy.

Matt Gardiner
November 2005
www.oribotics.net

CREDITS

Oribotics Matt Gardiner

Music David Young

Sound design Jethro Woodward

Percussion Eugene Ughetti

Percussion instruments Rosemary Joy

Electronic design & software Ray Gardiner

Graphic design mY Trinh Ha

Production manager Margie Mackay

Photographic documentation Yatzek

Video documentation Eugene Schlusser

THANKS TO

Swee Lim, Lucy Moore, Sarah Tutton, Jason Reid & everyone at Asialink, Christine, Amy, Melinda & everyone at Howard Park Wines, Cynthia Troup, Una Mary Gardiner, Davis Music, Jason Bunn, Jeff Haynes & the University of Melbourne, Louise Curham, Melanie & Michael Young, Peter Humble, Rose Walsh, Sarah Pirrie, Adam Stewart & everyone at the Wood Design Centre, Sam Nwabachili, Jodi Hodge, Makoto Yamaguchi, Jun Maekawa, Darren Scott, Chung Li, Charmaine Cruise, Mike Hopkins, Akio Hizume, James & Mark at Ausfab, Daniel Maughan at Arrow Laser.

ARTS VICTORIA

Victoria
The Place To Be

Australian Government

Australia Council
for the Arts

City of Melbourne

Living the Arts

Asialink

ELECTROBLOSSOM
www.electroblossom.com

AIRSTRIIP
<http://www.airstrip.com.au>

hotbeam
COOL LIGHT

MAGNA
Tokyo Japan

MAD FISH
FINE WINES
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Oribotics is supported by Arts Victoria, the Federal Government through the Australia Council - its arts funding and advisory body, the City of Melbourne, Electroblossom, Airstrip, Magna Tokyo Japan, Hotbeam and MadFish Fine Wine.

Aphids

artistic director David Young

general manager Rosemary Joy

www.aphids.net

