

# NEWS RELEASE

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**Mills Gallery at the Boston Center for the Arts presents**  
**info@blah: Overload and Organization**  
*March 20<sup>th</sup> - May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2003*

Through the mid-to-late nineties, at the height of the tech boom and amidst what we were proudly touting as the Information Age, it seemed as though all the new media and technology would soon transform our world into a shining, humming utopia. Now, just a few short years later, reality has sunk in. And while our society has certainly been changed, it's not the perfect world we had envisioned. In fact, we are now faced with new challenges put forth by the glut of gathered information and stimuli that bombards us daily. This is the very concept explored by **info@blah**, a new exhibit curated by iKatun and presented by the Mills Gallery at the Boston Center for the Arts as part of the 2003 Boston Cyberarts Festival.

**info@blah** runs March 20 - May 11, 2003, with an opening reception to be held March 20, 2003 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Both the exhibition and reception are free and open to the public. Regular gallery hours are Wednesday & Thursday 12:00 - 5:00 pm, Friday & Saturday 12:00 - 10:00 pm, Sunday 12:00 - 5:00 pm.

The exhibition will be part of the Boston CyberArts Festival, a major biennial event dedicated to the presentation and exploration of artists working with new technologies. **info@blah** was conceptualized and curated by iKatun and is being presented by the Mills Gallery as part of its Visiting Curators program. Founded in 2000 by Pirun and Kanarinka, iKatun is a Boston-based, non-profit collective of artists and technologists who are interested in exploring questions of communication, information, and ideology which frequently leads to an examination of the structures behind technology and the anatomy of messages and their transmission.

**info@blah** showcases artwork in various media that use artist-created systems of organization as a response to information overload. Attendees will experience a wide range of art—from works on paper to video to installation to net.art. The exhibition also has an online component which can be experienced at [www.ikatun.com/info@blah](http://www.ikatun.com/info@blah). The exhibition features regional artists as well as artists from California, New York, France, and Austria, including: Angie Waller, Anna Shapiro, Anouk De Clercq, BaronvonBerg, Clover Archer, Guy Marsden, Joseph Smolinski, Nicolas Clauss,

Nicholas Knight, Rachel Egenhoefer, Tohru Kanayama, Victor Liu, and Rachel Perry Welty, among others.

Though this exhibition deals with issues related to technology, it is not “about technology.” The artists use both traditional and new media to deal with themes of overload, organization, and complexity. For example, Rachel Beth Egenhoefer’s “Revealed Messages” invites visitors to alter binary data by eating chocolate. A piece by Nicolas Knight depicts the process behind complicated algorithms with a series of large pencil drawings. Angie Waller’s book of graphs that follow the flow of information garnered by Amazon.com subverts the system, revealing the fallacy of a computer program that tries to predict personal tastes.

“Think of all the visual and auditory stimuli you are bombarded with each day. Now, try to imagine it all condensed into a two-minute time span. Could you handle it? This is the world we live in. The artwork found at info@blah is a reaction to this information overload and an exploration of ways to organize it all,” said Pirun, co-founder of iKatun. “The Mills Gallery, with its history of innovative and forward-thinking exhibitions, is the perfect place for a show such as info@blah. We are proud to be at the Boston Center for the Arts as well as part of this year’s Cyberarts Festival.”

#### **About the Boston Center for the Arts:**

Founded in 1968, the **Boston Center for the Arts** is an umbrella organization housing and fostering more than 400 painters, dancers, sculptors, actors, playwrights and composers representing all ages, styles and levels of experience. The organization’s facilities span a city block in Boston’s historic South End and encompass 50 studios, a gallery, three small theaters, educational spaces, and the 23,000 square-foot Cyclorama. The BCA has evolved as a performance and visual arts complex with a mission to “promote the arts, support the artists and build new audiences.”

#### **CALENDAR LISTING:**

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the public. More information about the festival and this exhibition's part in it may be found at [www.bostoncyberarts.org](http://www.bostoncyberarts.org).

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**Editor's Notes:**

- Media welcome to attend.
- Interviews with Pirun (617-501-6538 & Pirun@ikatun.com) or Kanarinka (617-501-2441 & Kanarinka@ikatun.com) encouraged.
- Additional background, artist list and photos available. Visit [www.bcaonline.org](http://www.bcaonline.org)
- Digital images available directly at <http://www.ikatun.com/info@blah/printimages/>
- <http://www.ikatun.com/info@blah>