

# ISEA International

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ISEA International Board  
Founded in The Netherlands  
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## Abstract

Founded in the Netherlands in 1990, ISEA International is an international non-profit organisation fostering interdisciplinary academic discourse and exchange among culturally diverse organisations and individuals working with art, science and technology. The main activity of ISEA International is the continuation of the annual International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA).

## Keywords

ISEA, international, art, science, technology, interdisciplinary, organisation, symposium, nomadic, electronic art, innovative.

## History

The series of symposia known as the International Symposium on Electronic Art was initiated in 1988 in order to support the founding and maintenance of an international network of organisations and individuals active in the field of the electronic arts. This network took the shape of an association, founded in 1990 in The Netherlands, called the Inter-Society for the Electronic Arts. The Board and membership of ISEA has always been international. From the founding of ISEA until 1996, the organisation was based in the Netherlands. From 1996 to 2001, ISEA headquarters (HQ) was based in Montréal, Canada. After a period of a provisional HQ again in the Netherlands, in 2008 a new headquarters was established at the University of Brighton, United Kingdom. The Inter-Society existed for over 15 years as a membership organisation and in 2009 it was changed from the association to a foundation called “**ISEA International.**”

## Administration

The organisation is managed by the ISEA International foundation Board, whose main role is to select and work with the host city of each symposium, manage an archive of past symposium materials, and maintain communication with the ISEA community via a website and listserv. The Board also plans and oversees special projects and initiatives to further ISEA International’s mission.

The ISEA International Advisory Committee consists of select members of the ISEA community who have been supportive of ISEA’s mission. This group of experts in the field of electronic art, science and technology advise the ISEA International Board on a variety of matters.

## Symposia

Historically the symposia were held as both biennial and annual events. As of 2009, the symposium has been held annually. ISEA symposia differ from most conferences in that they typically include art exhibitions and public events that take place throughout the host city. The symposium sometimes takes place in multiple cities within the 4-10 day-long event. Being nomadic has enabled the symposium series to incorporate local and regional culture and themes.

## List of ISEA Symposia

- 1988 Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 1990 Groningen, The Netherlands
- 1992 Sydney, Australia
- 1993 Minneapolis, United States
- 1994 Helsinki, Finland
- 1995 Montreal, Canada
- 1996 Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 1997 Chicago, United States
- 1998 Liverpool/Manchester, United Kingdom
- 2000 Paris, France
- 2002 Nagoya, Japan
- 2004 Helsinki/Tallinn/Baltic Sea, Finland/Estonia
- 2006 San Jose, United States
- 2008 Singapore
- 2009 Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 2010 Dortmund/Essen/Duisburg, Germany
- 2011 Istanbul, Turkey
- 2012 Albuquerque/Santa Fe/Taos, United States
- 2013 Sydney, Australia
- 2014 Dubai/Abu Dhabi/Sharjah, UAE
- 2015 Vancouver, Canada
- 2016 Hong Kong
- 2017 Manizales, Colombia

## Future

ISEA International is working on future initiatives to improve communication with constituents, ease the migration of symposium content into the archives, and address integration of current technologies and social media trends into the organisation and future symposia. The board has been working on a new concept called “ISEA Central” which will manage data flow and provide innovative options for symposium hosts. Finally, ISEA2016 will be held in Asia for the first time in 14 years and ISEA2017 will be hosted in South America for the very first time. ISEA2017 will be bilingual with translations in both English and Spanish.