Tech_2

BS LS

Tech_2 is a series of events, workshops, seminars and discussions, involving people who are using digital technologies for building independent media structures, developing and exposing their own forms of expression, and supporting interventions into social and cultural spaces.

Tech_2 participants are: digital artists, musicians, technical experts, independent journalists, radio and video makers, researchers, dancers, DJs, writers, poets, organisers... and many people who cross over these categories and many people who don't fit into any.

Tech_2 emphasizes skills and knowledge sharing and developing networks, as well as an exploration of the social and political aspects of technology.

Free events and workshops. It's for you to get involved!

Tech_2 installment_01

Tech_2 spreads itself across two UK cities — swarms of people and possibilities colliding with each other over a three month period.

In Tech_2 Bristol, open-to-anyone workshops on using salvaged and scrap computer components, and getting them to work with open source software such as Linux, will encourage people to set up their own networks out of affordable and available technology.

Also we want to get together a bunch of people from around the world working up spaces for online publishing projects, independent media and get-it-done yourself technologies, will pull together to develop solutions to shared technical problems.

Tech_2 Bristol will also include discussions about strategies for building our own technologies, both software and hardware, and how to identify the specific needs of users. These activities and connected debates, will emphasise ways of working that try to break down the social divisions between programmer and user, designer and viewer, technical expert and content creator. We want

to see how far we can go in creating and controlling appropriate tools and structures for supporting self-generated content creation and distribution in lots of different networks and communities.
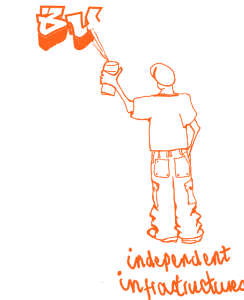
In Leeds we're mashing together music and poetry, local archives and self-documentation, DJing and spoken words, to create multimedia with ideas and concepts flying around, echoing and connecting to each other in unforseen ways. Tech_2 Leeds will also include two other events putting the workshop in context; an open day that will present a range of digital arts and music projects, and a seminar around cultural conflicts to do with issues around archiving and self-historification.

In Tech_2 Leeds we will look at the effect of collaboration and dialogue and how that enables new multimedia content to be generated from participants' existing work in sound, image and text. We reckon that we can use multimedia software tools to express experiences at speed. Ideas can be thrown together, different versions can exist in the same space. We want to see how putting

these things together allows us to examine the relationships between the different media elements, between ourselves as individuals and groups, and with our environments. The Tech_2 Leeds workshops combine practical skill learning, intense periods of creative application and then an active reflection on the experiences.

Both Tech_2 Bristol and Leeds aim to encourage an approach to media production that views form and content, medium and message, as intimately connected. In other words, what we say and how we say it are both part of an on-going push towards a culture that enables everyone access to a means of expression and communication, a culture that celebrates our social relationships in all of their compexity and diversity.

We want to encourage the creators to make use of all resources available to them — hardwares, softwares, all local and transcultural networks that can be plugged into. It's all up for grabs. We want Tech_2 to encourage more dialogue and collaboration, because working collectively gets more things to

happen. And we hope that these events will build the confidence to use digital technologies to help develop various kinds of autonomous spaces — spaces that can exist physically, virtually and in your head.

Tech_2 is about making all our spheres of thinking and doing continue to mutually affect and inform each other. Theory and practice goes hand-in-hand, moving to and from Bristol and Leeds, summer 2001. Look out for Tech_2 installment_02 in 2002.

Community Communications
Video Screens
independent infrastructures
extreme DIY activity
using available resources
visions
wiring experiments
content development
collective networking

STOP PRESS

Despite fire damage to our intended Bristol venue, The Cube in late July, The Cube is going out on the road to host Tech_2 and other events during August.

Look on the back page for the venues for Tech_2, and look forward to September when the Cubers can return home with more films and special events for you.

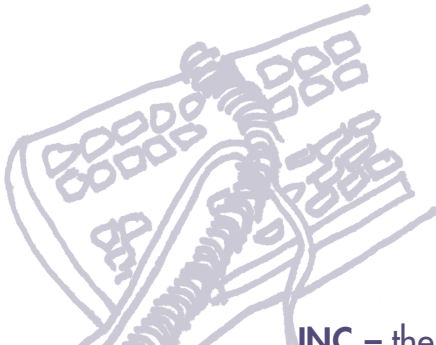For updated info, call The Cube 0117 9074190 or check www.cubecinema.com

Tech_2 contact: 07946 378905
info@tech2.southspace.org   http://tech2.southspace.org

TECH_2:BRISTOL
independent infrastructures

An 8 day gathering of collectives from the UK and around the world who create online and offline spaces for independent publishing, community communications and socially conscious networking. Find out about projects in Australia, US, India and Europe that are providing self-managed internet services and local media networks. Visit us for screenings and discussions, and stand by for workshops, wiring experiments and extreme DIY activity. It's for you to get involved.

INC – the house of KUSH

By the time Tech_2 hits the Archway centre, a new cultural centre for Chapeltown and Harehills will be open for business.

inc "incorporates" three organisations who have been actively supporting and promoting artistic talent in the local area: Kush UK, Sketch and Vinyl Frontier.

Taking over a whole building right next to the bus stop on Roundhay Road, inc will be a gallery, visual artists studio, sound studio and cybersuite, for the first time providing a permanent and public exhibition space and venue for the organisations and their collaborators and friends.

The focus of inc is on supporting the local community, showcasing and providing resources for local people. One of the core organisations, Kush UK, has been operating for 10 years but this is the first time that it will have a base of its own. "Kush" is the name of an ancient African civilisation, a now lost society. Through inc and the groups housed there, the organisation aims to support and expose the cultural life in Harehills and Chapeltown, in which all dancers, musicians and artists are welcomed and play a part.

WELCOME to the CUBE-MICROPLEX

The Cube Microplex, Bristol, England is one of the world's several Micro-Cinemas. Micro-Cinemas are small but compact local focal points for cultural and network exchange through the social agency of Cinema. Sometimes they are buildings like the Cube and sometimes they are purely inside peoples' heads.

Is the Cube like other cinemas?
Hogge: The Cube is an application in a social context. It's an artist-run cinema where the project is the running of it by artists.
We've invaded form — we're transforming the social activity of cinema and transferring it into other applications. It's still a cinema but we're trying to run other things, experiment in other ways with the overall shape. Although we're still limited to what people will perceive as an event. And pay money to come to.
From the Cube faq (frequently asked questions) http://www.cubecinema.com/faq/:
NONPROPRIETY EXISTENCE check it out.
thanx to Heath, Hogge and Kate.

PROJECT DJ

Each monday from 11am to 6pm Archway centre rattles and pulsates with tunes and shouts from Archway members.

Project DJ started in 2001 as a 14 week course for Archway members to develop DJ and sound recording skills. Now its evolved into a regular session where members can practice and make recordings using minidisc and CD recorders.

There's never been a formal tutor for project DJ, its more of a process where people learn from each other. It's a chance for people to get together, learn something, and put their work into a standard format and get it sent out.

One of the members, Leyon Herah, applied for a grant from the Millenium Awards for Archway to boost up its sound recording capability, and now that equipment is helping people get their music down onto disc and out into the world.

Next, the members are thinking of running beginner workshops, and in the meantime want to make more CDs that promote the work of the more experienced DJs in the group.

IRATIONAL

close to my soul

Hindrances leave me
Confidence precede me
Life enjoy me
Life employ me
Heart strength me
Love embrace me
Man, son of Solomon
Please do not deface me
Sky abide me
Stars guide me
Sun warm me
Moon cool me
Earth support me
Oceans transport me
Rain water me
Wind talk to me
Storm calm with me
Snow fall on me
Rivers nourish me
Flowers flourish me
Life live in me
Love give in me
Creator be with me
In me and over me
Creator be with me
See me and send me
With wings of love
So I can fly
Lovingly
Soulfully home.
Lucretia Liburd St Ange

we need you: skillfull operator
repackage the noise and discharge

sick of the drone in your lobes?
create community communications

content! force-fed and fed-up:
options are here, click

the edge of sanity exists in all of us:
defend your self

from subjects to citizens to consumers:
break with the path and mutate!

with modern techniques and computers -
we participate in image-clash 2001

we care because you do

free-thought? just do it

[rundum lines from bubotic]
http://bubotic.net

"Most with access to television understand the world through it so video is a powerful tool for positive (and negative) social change."
www.videonetwork.org
support/information network for those using video for positive change

I-CONTACT

THE IDEA OF BREAKERS UNIFY CAME ABOUT IN '97 when 'Old Skool' Breakers (who accepted the Nu Skool) and other Hip Hoppers decided to help young people learn break dance. Breakers Unify believes it has great understanding of Break Beat Culture and the way it has changed peoples' lives. It has brought rival crews together. It never mattered where you were from, they met and the battle was on. No matter who's crew, it was all about the moves. The more different the move, the better it was. It was about being original with your own vibe.
We aim to: >> Have a say in how our culture is portrayed in the media >> Network positive information about what is happening on the Hip Hop scene >> Create suitable and safe outlets especially for young people's talent & enthusiasm >> Train and advise young people in terms of safe practice >> Give due credit to where Street & Breakdance came from >> Network youth & community organisations

BREAKERSUNIFY.CO.UK

INDYMEDIA IS A COLLECTIVE OF INDEPENDENT
NON-CORPORATE COVERAGE. INDYMEDIA IS A
SIONATE TELLINGS OF TRUTH. http://www.indymedi

boston washington dc seattle italy belgium mexico ontario la philadelphia
imc **independent media center**
rockymountain uk calgary windsor france hamilton san francisco maui switzerland atlanta

Local Area Intranet + Internet Service (LAN) Project overview

Resident Service Organisation Compatible

Compiled by Cae Gests project manager for Sheridan McGlochlin. September 25th 1998

The Project

FEATURES:

The Intranet – When computers and other devices are connected together within a local geographical area, they can share resources and information together. Newsgroups, local information, events, timetables and forums are all possible as simple introductions. A diverse range of cultural and individualised information packages could spring from this, and would foster increasing awareness of the medium.

The Internet – The global linking of other computer systems, allowing for transatlantic communication, shared software programs and access to the 'Information society', electronic commerce, online communities and a world of information.

REQUIREMENTS:

System – The LAN is created by direct connection of computers using: Category 5 digital cable RJ45 connectors
Network cards, 1 per networked computer
Hubs (for distributing network traffic)
Server (mid-range Pentium standard for system software and security requirements).

Household – The individual has to have access to a network compatible computer, 486 or above with 8+ meg RAM

Redbricks LAN has been functioning since 1998
http://www.redbricks.org.uk

Tuesday Night Munching

Tuesday Night Munching is a project set up by a handful of Archway members that has gone from strength to strength and got everyone involved.

In early 2001 some of the members had an idea to cook at Archway, one night per week. The orginal idea was to set something up so that people who were just getting a new flat could swap tips from other members about how they could cook up cheap good food for themselves. Now it's become more of a social thing; a chance to chill and chat. Food costs 50p with the money going to either charity, or supporting the next Munching evening.

Around 5 or 6 different groups of people have cooked so far; the style of cuisine is a kind of "Urban Lifestyle Interpretation" says Gareth Gumbs, one of the founders, with contributions so far encompassing Indian, Caribean, Arabic and English cooking. Aside from the occasional exploding dumpling, one of the things that he likes about the night is that it allows everyone to "get together and make food for everyone in a way that reflects our different backgrounds, so we can learn about each other and all our different ways of preparing food."
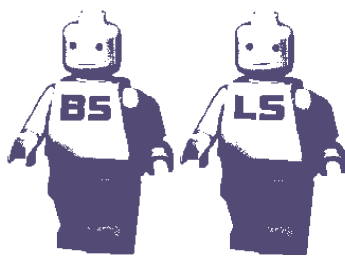
RTI is an arts group based in Sheffield, England. It started in 1997 with a group of artists who wanted to get involved with information technology, but didn't have the resources to buy computers. So instead they went about getting their hands on trash computers, finding new ways to be creative with old technology, then exhibiting the results.

Why?

Last year over 1 million PCs were dumped by British businesses. Most of this equipment ended up in landfill. Lateral thinking and a creative approach are ideal ways to unlock the potential of redundant technology.

In this way we can investigate playfully and be creative with what the machines can do, rather than being frustrated by what they can't.

What are computers for anyway – just tools for us to work more and consume more? We're much more excited by the empowering potential to create and communicate that computers give to individuals.

There's been a lot of media attention given to art that makes use of the newest, most expensive computers. But a lot of these creations seem less like artworks than sales demonstrations for the latest technology.
http://www.lowtech.org

Gang, Tribe, Group, Cell, Has-Affinity-With, YouMel, HyBred, Friend : Club Server

myspinach is technically administered by a small group of tech nically minded people who are also sharing and redistributing their skills and knowledge to others who are not so technically minded. The server operates using open-source software.
http://www.myspinach.org

TECH_2: LEEDS
Archway Versions, Active Versions, Black Presence in...

Tech_2 in Leeds is a series of events that are built around workshops with the members of Archway Housing Resource Centre in Chapeltown.

In September an intensive series of practical and content development workshops with Archway members will build multimedia dimensions to their existing work in visual media, sound, music, writing and spoken word. This will culminate in an open day at HOST (a newly built media resource centre in Leeds) on 15 september, that will present various independent performance, arts and media projects.

After a month of supported access to equipment for the workshop participants, Tech_2 returns to Leeds during Black History Month, for a one-day seminar (13 October) that will put the workshop in a broader context, looking at what the Tech_2 project can offer to debates about history, archiving, and self-documentation.

Following this seminar, Archway workshop participants will showcase their work, together with performances by local DJs, poets and dancers. The programme for this will be developed during the Archway Versions workshops.

Sarai: the New Media Initiative is a space for research, practice and conversation about the contemporary media and urban constellations. Sarai began to take shape in the summer of 1998 in Delhi, a time for many new beginnings in Delhi. The nineties had been a decade marked by doubt and rethinking on many fronts, all of which seemed to have come to a head for some of us during that summer. At the same time, Delhi witnessed a quiet rebirth of an independent arts and media scene. New ideas, modes of communication and forms of protest were being tried out and tested on the streets. And there was a vibrant energy evident in street level improvisations with new technologies. Public phone booths were transforming themselves into street corner cyber cafés, independent filmmakers were beginning to organise themselves in forums and a new open source and free software community made its mark in the city's BBSs (Electronic Bulletin Boards). The city itself, as a space and as an idea, was becoming a focus for enquiry and reflection, and a provocation for a series of creative experiments. It was from within this ferment of ideas, rough & ready plans, and fragments of proposals, that a series of conversations on film history, new media theory, media practice and urban culture was able to mature into the conceptual foundation of Sarai. Underlying these conversations was a desire to create a space which, like the sarais for which Delhi was once well known, would be a convivial place where people from many backgrounds could gather, converse and work together.
http://www.sarai.net

Sarai सराय

BRISTOL TECH_2: PROGRAMME

18th – 20th August 2001
Three group working days confronting some of the endemic problems in running a small-scale internet infrastructure. Backing up each others' services such as webhosting, email lists and chat, plus developing methods for dealing with high demands on services by distributing them over a network of similar servers. If you think you have something to contribute please email: map@mediaartprojects.org.uk

DAYTIME EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

Tuesday 21 August 2001
RUBBISH TO ROUTER
13.00 - 19.00 free
How to build a fully functional, internet-connected local area network from salvaged, scrap and easily available components and using open source softwares and domestic internet connections such as ADSL. All levels of technical knowlege welcome. Bring tools: screwdrivers – pliers – soldering iron – and any computer components.

Wednesday 22 August 2001
TOWERBLOCK TV
13.00 - 19.00 free
Discover how to hack into the towerblock cable feed and operate resident-run television from your own highrise flat. Discuss this activity with interested individuals from Dove Street Action Group plus other interested projects and individuals including picnic.org [Newcastle], Redbricks [Manchester], Pirate TV [London], Bristol City Council CCTV. Bring wire cutters — cameras — video player – recorded video material – television sets.

Thursday 23 August 2001
ROUNDING OFF
13.00 - 19.00 free
A day for picking up issues, finishing off tasks and documenting activity from the workshop days, and some special guest presentations on security and cryptography. Call Tech_2 for more info.

Friday 24 August 2001
OPEN CONTENT, OPEN TOOLS
12.00 – 19.00 free
If you know a task or a community well, you might be the best person to design software to make it run. The day starts with a discussion that takes the Sarai Media Lab "Cybermohalla" project – a progamme to develop a computing culture with appropriate software within non-elite social spaces – as a starting point. Also with the participation of users of other applications, including Indymedia's Active, the Irational toolkit and Mongrel's Linker. Followed by a practical workshop introducing relevant software languages and applications such as PHP, mySQL and PERL. All levels of technical knowlege welcome.

Saturday 25 August 2001
BRISTOL COMMUNITY NEWS DAY
13.00 – 17.00   £3/£2
A day of talks and short presentations from alternative news providers in the UK, Australia, US and elsewhere. Plus representative from Greenet on Communication Rights Charter, Redbricks on self- building a community LAN on permaculture principles, and a general round-up of legal and cultural frameworks and possibilities in different countries. Finishing with a round-up discussion about building a community news service for Bristol.

EVENING EVENTS

Tues 21st / 7pm/ free
TECH_2 INTRO YOURSELF
With arts, community and activist orgs: Spinach and Octapod (Australia), Sarai (India), Riseup.net and Protest.net (USA), Irational.org (distributed), Indymedia.org (international), Redbricks (Manchester), I-contact (Bristol).

Thurs 22nd / 7pm / free
FILM NIGHT   (selected by Sarai)
Monica Narula, cinematographer and one of the founders of the Sarai Media Lab in Delhi, presents "In the Eye of the Fish", "Present Imperfect Future Tense" by RAQS film collective of which she is a member plus "Satya" (1988), a feature film by Ram Gopal Verma about Bombay and its underworld life.

Fri 24th / 8.30pm / free
TECHNICAL HEROINE (Films and Talk)
Cube regular "Independent Heroine" night presents a special event for and about Technical Heroines. Including a special interview with JESSICA ABEL, the ink(h)er of cult Fantagraphics comic "ARTBABE", and Tech_2 Heroines and friends on the decks. Plus special feature film to be announced; running late: digital hardcore, videogame hacking and satellite television transgressions from RTmark.

VENUES:
Daytime events
**Windmill Hill City Farm
Philip Street, Bedminster BS3**

All evening events plus
sofa style music, screenings and special events:
Every night 21–25 Aug from 7pm
and Community News Day
**All happens upstairs @
The Hatchet
Frogmore Street BS1**

(Sarai film night is THURSDAY 23rd Aug)
CHECK ALL DETAILS BY PHONE OR WEB

LEEDS TECH_2: PROGRAMME

10th September –14 September 2001
ARCHWAY VERSIONS
Archway Centre
A free five day intensive workshop with up to 12 members of Archwary Centre: covering sound, visual and multimedia skills, and providing time and resources for developing content ideas. A chance to put a multimedia dimension to existing work, collaborate with colleagues and further explore local resources in the lead-up to the Showcase Event in October 2001.

If you are interested in taking part, put your name down at Archway reception.
Information day: *Saturday 14 August 2001*

TALKS OPEN TO ALL

At Archway Centre

Tuesday 11 September at 18.30
Workshop facilitators introduce themselves plus Tuesday Night Munchies.

Thursday 13 September at 18.30
Former Switched-On trainees return to Archway to talk about their next moves.

Friday 14 September at 15.30 - 16.30
Workshop participants present their projects in progress.

For full information ask at the reception at Archway Centre.

Saturday 15 September 2001
ACTIVE VERSIONS
Host Media Centre
A day of short snappy presentations by people from Leeds and beyond, busy with all sorts of self-initiated and self-organised artistic and cultural production: poetry, publishing and performance, community radio, net-radio, wireless/SMS, DJ-ing, break dance, independent record production, community internet access, banner making, small scale publishing and more.
11.00 – 13.00
Introductions by: Carole Wright (visual artist and Tech_2 workshop facilitator at Archway Centre), Dawn Cameron (Director of HOST) and presentations by: Michelle Scally Clarke (writer and performer) and Audrey Okyere Fosu (vocalist and broadcaster).
13.00 – 14.00 lunch
14.00 – 15.30
Presentations by: Roshini Kempadoo (visual artist) and Rachel Baker (communication artist), plus reports from the Tech_2 workshop in Bristol in August and internet radio and FM projects in Leeds.
16.00 –17.00
Presentations with tunes from: Ambush Records, Project DJ, Sneha Solanki, Breakers Unify. Plus other guests to be announced.

EVENTS FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Saturday 13 October 2001
BLACK PRESENCE IN. . .
11.00 –17.00
Leeds Central Library
A one-day seminar that puts Archway Versions in a broader context, looking at some of the ways visual and multimedia artists approach working with artefacts, histories, archives and self-documentation. Through presentations, we will look at how artistic projects can question and broaden the archiving process that libraries and museums engage with. With: Faisal Abdu' Allah (photographer), Roshini Kempadoo (digital artist), Shane Fenton (Breakers Unify), plus contributions from Archway members and other guests to be announced.

Saturday 13 October 2001
SHOWCASE EVENT
Leeds Central Library
An evening multimedia, music and performance event, showcasing the work of of the Archway members, put together with performances by poets, DJs and dancers from in and around Leeds. The full programme will be developed during the Archway Versions workshop. Check: http://tech2.south-space.org and special flyer for updated info.

VENUES:
**ARCHWAY CENTRE
95 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS8 5AQ
Tel: 0113 383 3900
HOST
Host Media Centre, 21 Savile Mount,
Leeds LS7 3HZ
Tel: 0113307 0178
LEEDS CENTRAL LIBRARY
The Headrow, Leeds, LS1 3AB**

Tech_2 Bristol Participants

Sarai Initiative
Independent Media Lab and projects in New Delhi, India.
http://www.sarai.net
Octapod
Youth, arts, environment, media organisation in Newcastle, Australia.
http://www.octapod.org.au/
Redbricks
A community local area network providing internet connectivity and shared media to a housing estate of around 250 households in Manchester, UK
http://www.redbricks.org.uk
Tao
Providing network resources to a wide host of activists in canada and abroad.
http://www.tao.ca
Protest.net
Calendar of events and information for activists in the US and worldwide.
http://www.protest.net
Indymedia
Trans-national open publishing, non-corporate media.
http://www.indymedia.org
Riseup.net
A 100% volunteer effort of activists using technology for radical social change.
http://www.riseup.net
i-contact video network
Support and information for those using video for positive change.
http://www.videonetwork.org
Dove Street Action Group
Tenants organisation neigbouring the Cube with a media sensibility.
The Cube
Bristol's microplex.
www.cubecinema.com
Abduction.org
Tech expertise with a progressive sensibility. Look out for some UK critical mass documentations.
http://www.abduction.org
Irational.org
Virtual network and tools for cultural intervention.
http://www.irational.org
Media Arts Projects
Shareware funding strategies
http://mediaartprojects.org.uk/ntp2001app.html
Rachel Baker
Irationalist, artist and aspiring office worker.
http://www.irational.org/rachel
myspinach.org
Hosting virtual domains and also email facilities and lists to activists and 'progressive' stuff.
Based in Australia.
www.myspinach.org
safetycat.org
Putting Tech_2 on the net and programmers extraordinaire.
http://www.safetycat.org
Suspect Package
Comix for the net.
http://audiorom.com/adam/
Independent Heroine
Fusing the oldest means of spreading information (the poster) with the newest (the internet) to attract world wide audiences and participants to womens history.
http://sparror.cubecinema.com/independent/
Bureau of Inverse Technologies
An information agency servicing the Information Age.
http://www.bureauit.org
Picnic.org.uk
Streaming media training and net-radio set-up at ISIS Arts, Newcastle, UK
http://picnic.org.uk
Redundant Technology Initiative
Exhibiting trash technology art around the UK and across Europe, and campaigning for low cost access to information technology.
http://www.lowtech.org
Ambient TV
A group of streaming media producers, software and communication technology developers.
http://www.ambienttv.net
Pirate TV
Streaming media 24/7
http://www.piratetv.net

Tech_2 Leeds with the support of Pavilion: Pavilion promotes the creative use of new media in public spaces, by initiating and facilitating partnerships between artists, the community and a wide range of partner organisations.

**Tech_2 contact:
07946 378905
info@tech2.southspace.org
http://tech2.southspace.org**

website by http://safetycat.org

THE ARTS COUNCIL OF ENGLAND