

the joint at the hard rock, las vegas february 9th, 2006

ACADEMY OF INTERACTIVE ARTS & SCIENCES



NICE AIAS.

Congratulations to all the 2006 Interactive Achievement Award nominees and winners.







# 9th Annual Interactive Achievement Awards WELCOME



Joseph Olin, President Academy of Interactive Arts & Sciences

Welcome to the Academy of Interactive Arts and Sciences'® fifth annual D.I.C.E. Summit™. The Academy is excited to provide the forum for the interactive entertainment industry's best and brightest to discuss the trends, opportunities and challenges that drive this dynamic business. For 2006, we have assembled an outstanding line-up of speakers who, over the next few days, will be addressing some of the most provocative topics that will impact the creation of tomorrow's video games.

The D.I.C.E. Summit is the event where many of the industry's leaders are able to discuss, debate and exchange ideas that will impact the video game business in the coming years. It is also a time to reflect on the industry's most recent accomplishments, and we encourage every Summit attendee to join us on Thursday evening for the ninth annual Interactive Achievement Awards®, held at The Joint at the Hard Rock Hotel. The creators of the top video games of the year will be honored for setting new standards in interactive entertainment.

Thank you for attending this year's D.I.C.E. Summit. We hope that this year's conference will provide you with ideas that spark your creative efforts throughout the year.



#### The Academy's Board of Directors

Since its inception in 1996, the Academy of Interactive Arts and Sciences has relied on the leadership and direction of its board of directors. These men and women, all leaders of the interactive software industry, have volunteered their time and resources to help the Academy advance its mission of promoting awareness of the art and science of interactive games and entertainment. Each director has lent his or her talent and prestige to the common concerns of the interactive entertainment industry.

The Academy's Board of Directors is composed of the following industry leaders representing Sony, EA, Nintendo, Microsoft, and Ubisoft as well as the independent development community:

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9th Annual Interactive Achievement Awards

# nintendo Wi-Fi connection Nintendo is proud to be a sponsor of the 9th Annual Interactive Achievement Awards. ACADEMY OF NTERACTIVE Nintendo

# 9th Annual Interactive Achievement Awards THE AWARDS SHOW



#### Hosted by Jay Mohr

ay Mohr is a quadruple threat. Film, television, radio, and stand-up are all among the treasures in the bag of tricks he's been working on throughout the 15-year career he began as a teenager.

He has worked with superstars, matching wits and chops with Tom Cruise in *Jerry Maguire*, Al Pacino in *Simone*, Eddie Murphy in *Pluto Nash*, and Bill Murray in *Speaking of Sex*.

He starred as Peter Dragon in the critically acclaimed Fox series *Action*, and co-created, executive produced, and hosted NBC's smash reality show *Last Comic Standing*.

He often guest hosts Premiere Radio's "Jim Rome Show," the number one syndicated sports radio program in the country and is a most-requested guest on L.A.'s number one morning show, KROQ's "Kevin & Bean."

He sells out theaters, clubs, and colleges all

over the country, earning standing ovations for his keen observations on the world and the people who live in it.

The multi-talented Mohr had his breakthrough film role as rival agent to Cruise in the blockbuster hit *Jerry Maguire*, and followed up in a touching good-guy turn opposite Jennifer Aniston in *Picture Perfect*. His other film credits include *Go, Pay It Forward*, *Suicide Kings, Kings Ransom* and the upcoming films *Jump Shot* and *The Groomsmen*.

Summer 2004 peaked with publication of his book *Gasping for Airtime* (Hyperion), a darkly funny memoir of his two years in the trenches as a writer and featured performer on *Saturday Night Live*. Mohr first wowed SNL audiences with his dead-on impressions of Christopher Walken, Ricki Lake, Dick Vitale, and Sean Penn. *Gasping* is a brutally honest look at both the hilarity and the flipside of the fun.



#### Clear Static

he Maverick self-titled debut from sensations Clear Static evokes images of mascara, frilly shirts, flamboyance and hedonism. The band has brought rock's most excessive era back to life—and yet they are determined to not mimic the past but to play what they want. Their sound is a spacious production, the big drums, smooth bass stylings, the keyboards that wash across the mix or percolate in pinprick rhythms, vocals

that drip with high fashion attitude: it blends echoes of the romantic era into a fully modern sound, adding up to a unique blend of depth and immediacy. In early 2005, Duran Duran invited them to open for them on their dates in the UK and in the US. That was their first tour, and they're barely out of their teens. Clear Static's self titled debut Make -Up Sex , hits stores in mid February.



#### DJ Champion

ccomplished multi-instrumentalist and music composer, guitar god, producer and a deeply rooted DJ within the Montreal electronic music scene, Maxime Morin, alias Champion, is a well-known and talented musician.

A music lover since early childhood, Champion began to study his passion at the age of five. Soon after, he chanced on a partner for life: A electric guitar. Throughout his musical career he has helped formed many rock and punk bands and along the way discovered his new calling: Electronic music. After a decade of performing and producing (under his alias Madmax and the Max), he finally fused his two main obsessions into his opus: Chill'em all.

By combining the exquisite melody of guitars and familiar techno rhythms, Champion has created an inspired performance unlike anything else. With its sharp guitars, sensual grooves and cleverly mixed rhythms, the music will excite your senses. It stages two types of live performances with unique sounds, with Champion acting as conductor and performer.











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- 5. DEATH IS AN OPPORTUNITY
  - Catch an enemy in the shoulder and spin him around into the enemy behind him, blow the balcony out beneath anotherget creative with your kills.

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#### 9th Annual Interactive Achievement Awards THE PANELISTS

#### About the awards process

he Academy's Peer Panelists perform one of the most important roles in the Academy's award process. Panelists determine the finalists for each award category from the total set of nominations through a process of game-play, review, debate and discussion. These industry experts comprise an incredible body of accomplishments in all facets of game craft: art, design, engineering, animation, performance and production. That these men and women, those most involved in the creation process of video games, determine tonight's finalists and winners,

distinguishes the Interactive Achievement Award from any other.

All Academy voting is conducted in secret: online, supervised and certified by eBallot, Inc. The integrity of this system coupled with a broadbased voting population of the Academy's membership assures that Interactive Achievement Award® recipients are an honor among peers.

The Academy Board of Directors thanks its Peer Panelists, who have generously volunteered to give up their evenings and weekends to insure that the Interactive Achievement Awards truly reflect the industry's best.

#### The AIAS wishes to thank our peer panelists for their time.

Rod Abernathy Jason Ades Amer Ajami Brian Algier Rich Amtower Pete Andrew Ed Annunziata E. Daniel Arey David Arnspige Alan Averill Sean Baity Dan Baker Ralph Barbalgallo Graeme Bayless Chris Bennett Dan Bernstein Nick Berry Mike Boeh Harvard Bonin Ed Boon Andrew Boyd Kendall Boyd Jeff Brown Jason Bucher Tracy Bush Ashley Bushore Jeff Butler Greg Canessa Jeremy Cantor Louis Castle Shane Caudle Chris Chamberlain David Chan Heather Chandler Jim Charne Patrick Charpenet Dexter Chow Robert R. Coddington David Coleman Jason Conaway Steve Conrad Eddy Cramm Lee Crawford Robert Crombie Chris Cross James Dargie Rob Davidson Danan Davis Ian Lane Davis Charles Deenen Alan Denham Stuart Denmar Steve Derrick Jorge Diaz Flint Dille Brent Disbrow Chuck Doud William Douglas Marc Doyal Amir Ebrahimi Jerry Edall David Elton Matt Esget Chuck Eyler Noah Falstein Michael Fetterman Brian Fleming Scott Foe Nick Fortugno Keith Francart Derek French Martin Galway Rodney Gibbs Frank Gigliotti Jeff Gilbert Troy Gilbert

Steve Gilmour Mike Glosecki John Gnuechtel Juan Gril Benedikt Grindel Jeffrey Gosztyla Jeff Gregg James Gwertzman Alex Hackford Frik Haldi Lyle Hall James Hannigar Melanee Hannock Keith Harmon Peter Hastings Chris Hedstron Amy Hennig Bill Hindorff Stevan Hird Alistair Hirst Marc Taro Holmes Frank Hom Tom Hubina Damon lannuzzeli David Jaffe Daniel James Michael John Karlo Kilavko Frank Klopecki Raph Koster Chuck Kroegel Bill Kvdd Denis Lacasse Pascal Lalancette Tim Langdell Keith Lee Mike Legg Brian Lemon

Adam Levesque Ken Lobb Starr Long Cyrus Lum Jennifer MacLean Dev Madan Wes Mailman Mike McDonald Matt McEnerney Mitzi McGilvray Steve Meretzky Jeff Miller Joshua Milligan Ron Moravek Hugo Morin Kris Morness Brian Morrisroe Colin Munson Dave Murrant Ray Muzyka Jeff Nachbau Dave Nash Josh Nizzi Alan Noon Jeannie Novak Glenn O'Bannon Frank O'Connor Paul O'Connor Greg O'Connor-Read Marty O'Donnell Dwight Okahara Steve Okimoto Rob Pardo Frank Pape David Perry Erik Peterson Winifred Phillips

Luigi Priore Dave Prout Steve Rabin Bob Rafei Tim Ramage Steve Reid Brian Reynolds Chris Rickwood Tim Riley Scot Ritchey Brett Roark Brian Robbins Nile Rodgers Frank Rooke Ron Rosenberg Ken Rosman Tanya Rover Marc Schaefger Adam Schimpf Steve Schnur **Bob Settles** Mark Skaggs Chris Shelton Jez Sherlock Steve Sim Chip Sineni Andrew Sinur Andy Sinur Tom Sloper Kelly Snapka P.J. Snavely Matt Soares Paul Stephanouk Henry Sterchi Adrian Stone Mike Stout Greg Street

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#### About the Academy of Interactive Arts & Sciences:

he Academy of Interactive Arts & Sciences (AIAS) was founded in 1996 as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement and recognition of the interactive arts.

The Academy's mission is to promote and advance common interests in the worldwide interactive entertainment community; recognize outstanding achievements in the interactive arts and sciences; and conduct an annual awards show (Interactive Achievement Awards) to enhance awareness of the interactive art form. The Academy also strives to provide a voice for individuals in the interactive entertainment community. More information about the AIAS can be found at http://www.interactive.org.

# 9th Annual Interactive Achievement Awards Lord British Enters the Hall

By John Gaudiosi



ichard Garriott is known to millions of gamers as Lord British, which is fitting for an innovative game creator who lives in a castle on a 25,000 square foot estate in southeast Texas. Garriott, co-founder of Origin Systems with brother Robert and creator of the *Ultima* role-playing game franchise, is considered the creator of the massively multiplayer online (MMO) space. His *Ultima Online* was the first game that allowed a large number of gamers to congregate in a virtual world.

Nestled in his native Austin, Garriott has spent recent years developing new MMO experiences. He's currently working on the upcoming sci-fi RPG, *Tabula Rasa*, for NCSoft, the Korean-owned publisher that is a leader in the MMO business. In addition to creating online virtual worlds for others to play in the game designer, who created his first game, *Akalabeth*, at the age of 19, has been able to adventure to the far reaches of the real world. Garriott has explored the bottom of the ocean in a research

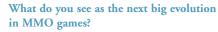
submarine and ventured to Antarctica. He has a collection of antique weapons and owns a moon buggy. And he's known as well in Austin for his past Halloween parties as he is for his amazing videogames.

Lord British took some time out of his busy schedule to reflect on his career:

#### Can you talk about how the MMO industry has evolved since your early days?

Of course online games have existed as long as people have been able to connect two computers together, which was done pretty much from the beginning. That being said, I have had the good fortune of helping to create the first "massively" multiplayer game with *Ultima Online*. When we began, 15,000 users was about the most that had ever been seen in one game. *Ultima Online* broke new ground and proved that with great game play and visuals you could bring millions of people into the market now referred to as the MMO genre.

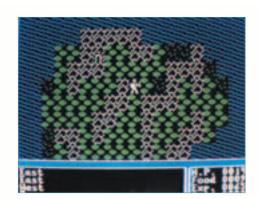
In my mind the MMO genre is still VERY MUCH in its infancy. MMOs have yet to create experiences that substantially exceed the "level grind" that marks this first generation of games.



So far MMOs have been slow-paced "level grinds," where you walk up to a creature and see who does the most "DOT", damage over time, and thus who wins the battle. Next generation games will have game play that feels and acts more like offline games but still let you play with your friends! Games like *Auto Assault* and *Tabula Rasa* are signs of the industry moving in this direction.

What impact do you see the always-on capabilities of next gen consoles having on the MMO space?

Garrioth's games have sold millions worldwide. *Tabula Rasa* (left) is his latest and greatest epic. The *Ultima* series (right) remains his masterpiece... for now.





**Garriolt on his famous nickname**, Lord British: "I've had this name since my high school days. Some older students were giving nicknames to the younger ones.

I was called Lord British because they claimed that I had a British accent."

MMOs will be successful on consoles and PCs but the focus of games will be somewhat different. Consoles are great short-session, light-interaction portals, so games like FPSs will flourish. PCs are better at immersive, deeper relationships with others beyond your screen, so the persistent games will flourish on PCs, I believe.

How can game makers replicate the global mass market success of a *World of Warcraft?* 

World of Warcraft is arguably the best example of the first generation of online games, and it has brought millions of new players to our genre. Most people play an online game for six to nine months if they like it, and so World of Warcraft is already on their second and third batch of millions of players. So World of Warcraft is helping to create future successes in this space!



#### Does the MMO industry need to move beyond the "men in tights" gameplay?

Of course! MMOs will exist in all genres of game play. But in the earliest stages, where we had so many other problems to deal with, beginning with slower-paced medieval style walking games was the right place to start. Others are now on their way!

What role do you see Hollywood IPs like *Star Wars, Lord of the Rings* and Star Trek playing in growing the MMO audience?

Online games are still at the early stages of their life cycle and this stage is a great opportunity for creating new IP. *Ultima, Bard's Tale* and *Might and Magic* are examples of new PC based IP. Only later, when the space gets "full" do people need licenses such as *Dungeons & Dragons*, etc. to differentiate themselves. I think it is a mistake for early





players to use outside licenses. It often means they have no innovations of their own.

#### What accomplishment are you most proud of when you look back at your career?

That I've been a meaningful part of the emergence of an industry. It's been a fun ride. And I am proud of my contribution, beyond the numbers. I am proud that I have helped bring in things like storytelling, ethics, and deeper gameplay than might not have existed without me.

#### What are you most looking forward to when you look ahead?

Getting close to the unachievable holy grail of games, which for me, is a virtual world deeper and more complete than *Ultima VII* and *Ultima Online*, with more compelling fiction and crafting than *Ultimas IV* through *VI*, gameplay that is fast and realistic (perhaps with a bit of VR equipment) and sounds and visuals at the same level as we see in the movies.



9th Annual Interactive Achievement Awards

### AWARDS

#### OVERALL GAME OF THE YEAR



God of War

Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



Guitar Hero

oublisher Red Octane developer Harmonix Music Systems



Shadow of the Colossus

Sony Computer Entertainment America developer Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.



Call of Duty 2 publisher

Activision developer Infinity Ward



**Nintendogs** 

publisher Nintendo developer Nintendo EAD







Sid Meier's Civilization IV publisher

2K Games developer Firaxis Games



Battlefield 2 publisher

Electronic Arts developer Digital Illustions



publisher Microsoft developer

The Movies

publisher Activision developer Lionhead Studios



Computer Console

Game of the Year

Game of the Year



God of War Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



Guitar Hero

publisher Red Octane developer Harmonix Music Systems



Shadow of the Colossus

publisher Sony Computer Entertainment America

Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.



Call of Duty 2

developer Infinity Ward



**Nintendogs** publisher Nintendo

developer Nintendo EAD

### **AWARDS**

Call of Duty 2

Condemned:

**Criminal Origins** 

publisher

developer

Infinity Ward

publisher

developer

Activision

### Action/Adventure Handheld

God of War publisher Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



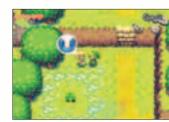












Legend of Zelda: The Minish Cap oublisher Nintendo developer Capcom



Grand Theft Auto: Liberty City Stories publisher Rockstar Games developer Rockstar - Leeds



**Burnout Legends** publisher Electronic Arts developer Electronic Arts - UK Fusion



Mario & Luigi: Partners in Time publisher Nintendo developer Alpha Dream



#### Strategy Game | First Person Action of the Year Game of the Year



Civilization IV publisher 2K Games develope Firaxis Games

Empire Earth II

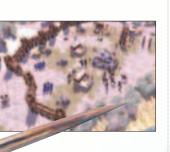
Vivendi Universal Games

Mad Doc Software

publisher

developer



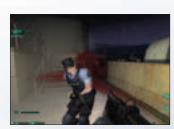






Brothers in Arms: Road to Hill 30 publisher . Ubisoft developer

Monolith Productions



F.E.A.R. (First Encounter Assault Recon) oublisher Vivendi Universal Games developer Monolith Productions



Battlefield 2 publisher Electronic Arts developer Digital Illusions

## AWARDS

### Game of the Year | Game of the Year

The Movies publisher Activision developer Lionhead Studios

Silent Hunter III

publisher

developer

Ubisoft - Romania

Ubisoft



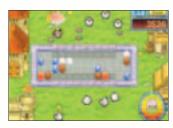




Simulation Downloadable



Oasis publisher PlayFirst developer Mind Control Software



Egg vs Chicken publisher PlayFirst developer GameLab

Chuzzle



Tradewinds Legends oublisher Sandlot Games developer Sandlot Games

Soul Calibur 3 publisher developer Namco



Tekken 5 publisher Namco developer Namco



Fight Night Round 2 publisher Electronic Arts developer Electronic Arts - Chicago





Fighting Racing
Game of the Year

Game of the Year



Forza Motorsport publisher Microsoft developer Microsoft Game Studios



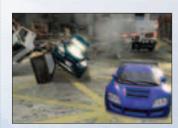
PGR 3 publisher Microsoft developer Bizarre Creations



Mario Kart DS publisher Nintendo developer Nintendo EAD



Need For Speed: Most Wanted oublisher Electronic Arts developer Electronic Arts-Vancouver



Burnout Revenge publisher Electronic Arts developer Criterion Games

### AWARDS

#### Massively Multiplayer Family Game of the Year Game of the Year

City of Villians publisher NCSoft developer Cryptic Studios

Guild Wars

publisher

developer

ArenaNet



NCSoft









Guitar Hero publisher Red Octane developer Harmonix Music Systems



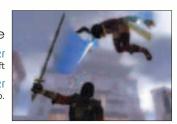
Dance Dance Revolution: Mario Mix oublisher Nintendo developer Konami



LEGO Star Wars publisher TT Games developer Traveller's Tales

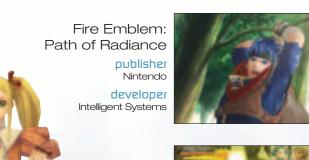


Jade Empire publisher Microsoft developer Bioware Corp.



Dragon Quest VII Square Enix developer Level 5







### Role-Playing Children's Game of the Year



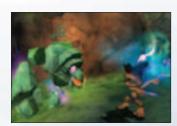
Chicken Little publisher Buena Vista Games developer Avalanche Software



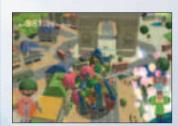
Madagascar publisher . Activision developer Toys for Bob



Honor Among Thieves . Sony Computer Entertainment America developer Sucker Punch Productions



Tak: The Great Juju Challenge publisher THQ developer Avalanche Software



We Love Katamari publisher Namco developer Namco

# AWARDS

## **AWARDS**

NBA 2K6 publisher 2K Games developer Visual Concepts

MLB 2006

developer

Sony Computer Entertainment America

Sony Computer Entertainment America











Sports Cellular
Game of the Year



Mile High Pinball publisher developer Bonus.com



Skipping Stone publisher developer Gamevil



One publisher Nokia developer Digital Legends

High Seize

publisher

developer

Red Lynx

Nokia



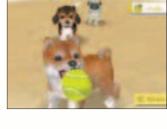
Ancient Empires II oublisher Glu Mobile developer Glu Mobile





**Nintendogs** publisher Nintendo developer Nintendo EAD

publisher



Guitar Hero publisher Red Octane developer Harmonix Music Systems











#### **Outstanding Achievement** in Game Design



Guitar Hero oublisher Red Octane developer Harmonix Music Systems



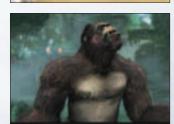
God of War publisher Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



the Colossus oublisher Sony Computer Entertainment America Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.



**Nintendoas** publisher Nintendo developer Nintendo EAD



Peter Jackson's King Kong publisher Ubisoft developer



Psychonauts publisher Majesco Entertainment developer Double Fine Productions

Ubisoft - Montpellier



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### **AWARDS**

#### Achievement in Art Direction Achievement in Soundtrack

Shadow of the Colossus publisher Sony Computer Entertainment America developer Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.

Sony Computer Entertainment America

God of War

SCEA - Santa Monica

developer













### Outstanding Outstanding



Guitar Hero publisher Red Octane developer Harmonix Music Systems

SSX On Tour

Electronic Arts - Canada

publisher

developer

oublisher

developer

Electronic Arts





Wipeout Pure oublisher Sony Computer Entertainment America developer Studio Liverpool



Burnout Revenge publisher Electronic Arts developer Criterion Games

## Outstanding Achievement in Outstanding Achievement original Music Composition in Sound Design

God of War publisher Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



Rise of the Kasai Sony Computer Entertainment America developer Bottlerocket Entertainment



Gun publisher Activision developer Neversoft Entertainment









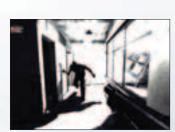
F.E.A.R. (First Encounter Assault Recon) publisher Vivendi Universal Games developer Monolith Productions



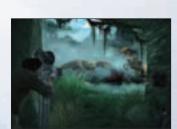
God of War Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell Chaos Theory publisher . Ubisoft developer Ubisoft



Condemned: Criminal Origins publisher Sega developer Monolith Productions



Peter Jackson's King Kong publisher Ubisoft developer Ubisoft - Montpellier

## **AWARDS**

### **AWARDS**

### Story & Character Development in Game Play Engineering

Gun

publisher

developer

Neversoft Entertainment

Activision

Peter Jackson's King Kong publisher Ubisoft developer Ubisoft - Montpellier













### Outstanding Achievement in Outstanding Achievement



**Nintendogs** publisher Nintendo developer Nintendo EAD



Guitar Hero publisher Red Octane developer Harmonix Music Systems



God of War publisher Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



Lumines oublisher Ubisoft developer Q Entertainment



Zoo Tycoon 2: Endangered Species Microsoft developer Blue Fang Games

Battlefield 2 publisher Electronic Arts developer Digital Illusions

Microsoft

Bizarre Creations



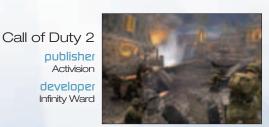
Mario Kart DS publisher Nintendo developer Nintendo EAD











#### Outstanding Achievement Outstanding Achievement in Online Game Play in Visual Engineering



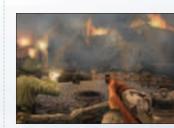
F.E.A.R. (First Encounter Assault Recon) publisher Vivendi Universal Games developer Monolith Productions



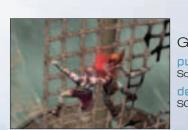
the Colossus oublisher Sony Computer Entertainment America Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.



Elements of Power publisher Microsoft developer



Call of Duty 2 oublisher Activision developer Infinity Ward



God of War Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica

### **AWARDS**

#### Outstanding Character Outstanding Character

God of War publisher Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



Oddworld Inhabitants Stranger's Wrath publisher Electronic Arts developer Oddworld Inhabitants

Gun

publisher

developer

Neversoft Entertainment

Activision

Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell Chaos Theory publisher Ubisoft developer Ubisoft



### Performance - Male Performance - Female



Jade Empire oublisher developer Bioware Corp.



Gun publisher Activision developer Neversoft Entertainment



Prince of Persia: The Two Thrones oublisher developer Ubisoft - Montreal



Most Wanted publisher Electronic Arts developer Electronic Arts - Vancouver

Need for Speed:

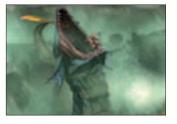


#### Outstanding Achievement in Animation

Shadow of the Colossus Sony Computer Entertainment America developer Sony Computer Entertainment Inc.



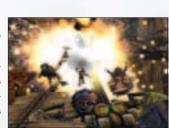
God of War Sony Computer Entertainment America developer SCEA - Santa Monica



Prince of Persia: The Two Thrones oublisher Ubisoft developer Ubisoft - Montreal



Rise of the Kasai oublisher Sony Computer Entertainment America developer Bottlerocket Entertainment





#### About the Awards

"It was a blockbuster year for video games," said Joseph Olin, president, AIAS. "The competition for the Interactive Achievement Awards was cutthroat, and all these finalists deserve credit for their innovation and vision."

Finalists for each genre and craft category are selected by a peer panel of eight to 12 AIAS members. The members of the peer panel play and evaluate all nominated titles in their assigned category. Interactive Achievement Award recipients are then determined by a vote of qualified Academy members. AIAS voting is secret, conducted online and supervised and certified by eBallot. The integrity of the system, coupled with a broad-based voting population of AIAS members, makes the Interactive Achievement Awards the most credible, respected and recognized awards for interactive entertainment software.

"It was a great honor to lead a panel of my fellow game developers, whom I respect greatly, as we played, discussed, and sometimes debated the various aspects of game design achievement for 2005," E. Daniel Arey, creative director, Naughty Dog - SCEA. "This process of picking finalists for the AIAS Interactive Achievement Awards is vital to further advancement of state-of-the-art games, in that who better than fellow peers deep in the trenches of development to evaluate each other's work, and to recognize innovation and achievement from a discerning, industry point of view."



### CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE STELLAR FINALISTS & WINNERS FOR THE 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INTERACTIVE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

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### FINDING THE ART IN THE GAME

Into the Pixel: An Exhibition of the Art of the Videogame showcases the fine art in videogames, as selected by world class museum curators, culting-edge gallery owners and industry art veterans

nto the Pixel is an exploration and celebration of computer and video game art, co-founded by the Electronic Entertainment Expo (E3), the Academy of Interactive Arts & Sciences, and the Prints & Drawings Council of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA).

Now in its third year, *Into the Pixel* has established itself as the one annual opportunity for computer and video game artists to receive critical review of their creative achievements by both peers in the digital art world and renowned fine art experts. For the artists whose work is selected, to see their art

printed, framed and hung in a gallery setting is an honor indeed.

#### 2006 Into the Pixel iurors include:

- Kevin Salatino, Lead Juror
   Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- Cynthia Burlingham, Hammer Museum
- Ryan Church, Skywalker Ranch
- Caryn Coleman, art gallery sixspace/ art.blogging.la
- Tim Langdell, University of Southern California / EDGE Games
- Lorne Lanning, Oddworld Inhabitants: President/Creative Director
- Louis Marchesano, Research Library, Getty Research Institute: Collections

Last year, nearly 1000 guests joined artists, jurors, committee members, media and industry insiders for the *Into the Pixel* Gallery Opening event at E3. After its unveiling, the art remained on display for the duration of E3, where

more than 70,000 attendees had the opportunity to view the collection.

Media interest in *Into the Pixel* has continued to grow. Stories about the exhibition appeared in most trade publications, the *Hollywood Reporter*, *USA Today's* website, the *London Times* and much more.

The 2006 Exhibition seeks to expand the conversation of how talented artists are forging opportunities to create art using video games as their medium – and showcase these creative contributions to the art repertoire.

Into the Pixel continues to foster a fascinating dialogue between the digital and traditional art establishments. "There is simply too much talent in the video game world to dismiss the seriousness of the work its many gifted artists produce," says Into the Pixel lead juror Kevin Salatino, of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. "What I have seen in the many submissions to Into the Pixel is a dizzying array of graphic skill and artistry using all manner of techniques in strikingly original ways."

Last year, the jury reviewed more than 140 artworks and selected only sixteen for the Exhibition.

Video games are an influential aspect of pop-culture and entertainment whose impact goes beyond the digital arts to influence perspectives in art, cinematography, literature and even fashion. And behind every game character and dynamic environment are artists whose talents birthed the image seen in the 3D world.

"I predict that, as more and more artistic talent is absorbed into the game world, the crossflow from discipline to discipline, from fine to applied art and vice versa, will become ever more imperceptible," says Salatino.

"Call it life influencing art, or games influencing life, or art influencing games. Or, better yet, why not just call it art?"



Congrats to the nominees of this year's Annual Interactive Achievement Awards.

Thanks for hours and hours of great entertainment



# TO ALL OF YOU WHO'VE MADE ENTERTAINMENT BETTER THIS YEAR, WE PRESS OUR PAUSE BUTTONS AND TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK YOU.

