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Visualization Sciences' best to be displayed this week

By Jeremy Osborne THE BATTALION

Attendees should expect a cyber circus spectacular as this year's Vizagogo promises to be a true multimedia experience.

Vizagogo is the annual, year-end exhibition of work from graduate students in the visualization science program in the College of Architecture. This is the 11th year for the event.

"(Vizagogo) is going to be the biggest yet," said Tamara Cuellar, visualization science graduate student and exhibition chair. "We have everything from 3-D animations and videos to interactive systems, photography and flat work."

Cuellar said Vizagogo is similar to an art show where the best work from many mediums are juried in by students in the program.

"This year-end exhibition is a showcase for our finest work," said Nathan Bowden, Vizagogo publicity chair and visualization science graduate student. "It's pretty much the one time of the year when the rest of the world gets to see what we've been doing.

For example, the summer 2003 project, "3 in 1," produced by visualization science students and experts from the special effects firm Industrial Light and Magic Inc. will be included in the exhibition, Cuellar said.

Choreography and music have been incorporated into this year's presentation for the first time, said Karen Hillier, a visualization science professor.

"I received an interdisciplinary grant and worked with several professors to incorporate different elements in the exhibition," Hillier said.

Molly Snell-Witt, former Cirque de Soleil performer and health and kinesiology assistant professor, assembled a dance troupe and choreographed a dance based on music written especially for the exhibition by

Performance Studies Assistant Professor, Leon Couch.

"This show is really going to push the envelope," Bowden said. "This is the first year we're trying to make a really big event out of it (Vizagogo).

Students in senior lecturer Donna Hajash's advanced graphics class have been producing much of the advertising for the exhibition as well, Hillier said.

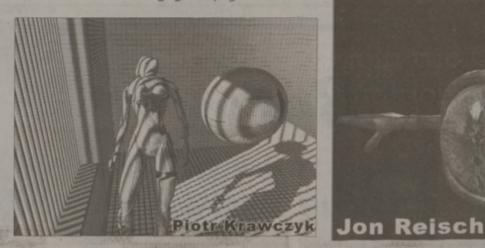
A virtual master of ceremonies will also be a part of Friday and Saturday night's free presentations of the time-based work. The virtual projection will be interacting live in real-time with an actor on the stage. Off stage, visualization science graduate student Ruben DeLuna will be providing the voice.

"Every syllable, every phonetic sound you can make has been programmed beforehand,' Cuellar said. "It runs so smoothly that you think it's already been set up.'

Another part of Vizagogo is the presentation of scholarships to students from leading industry firms.

"Former students (of the visualization science program) who now work for Industrial

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For more informtion, visit www.vizagogo.org



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