

# Vesalius Continuum

Under the auspices of  
The Municipality of Zakynthos

&

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium in Athens



**Vesalius Continuum**  
commemorating the 500th anniversary of  
**Andreas Vesalius**  
**Conference programme**  
**Zakynthos, Sept 4 – 8 2014**

Organized by

Pascale Pollier, President BIOMAB, AEIMS, Artem-Medicalis  
Mark Richard Gardiner, Emeritus Professor University College London  
Theo Dirix, Consul, Embassy of Belgium in Athens

# Vesalius Continuum

## Thursday, 4 September 2014 morning session

**10.00:** gathering of the officials, speakers & guests

(Theatre of Sarakinado, 29100 SARA KINADO, 6 km outside of ZAKYNTHOS)

**10.30:** Opening Ceremony (hosted by Theo Dirix):

Greeting of Welcome by the Mayor of Zakynthos,

Opening speech by **Mrs Olga Kefaloyianni, Minister of Tourism**

Greetings by H.E. Marc Van den Reeck, Ambassador of Belgium in Athens,  
and Pascale Pollier, President BIOMAB and AEIMS.

**11.15:** Key-note Speech by Stefanos Geroulanos, MD, PhD, Professor of Surgery,  
University of Zurich; Prof emeritus History of Medicine, University of Ioannina, and  
President of the International Hippocratic Foundation.

**12.00:** Unveiling of the new monument sculpted by Richard Neave and Pascale Pollier  
& Plinth with Vesalius coat of arms sculpted by Chantal Pollier, The Vesalius plaque  
engraved by the Kindersley Workshop

(At Solomos Square Zakynthos)

**12.30:** Welcome reception (hosted by Dr. Stephen Joffe)

Opening exhibition Fabrica Vitae introduced by Pascale Pollier and Eleanor Crook  
(at the Municipal Hall, Cultural center, Solomos Square, Zakynthos)

**13.30 -14.30:** Lunch

**16.30:** gather at the Vesalius bust sculpture behind the library to take shuttle  
buses back to the conference centre

# Vesalius Continuum

**Thursday, 4 September 2014 afternoon/evening**

**17.00 – 19.30: Round Table:**

«Travelling through time with a camera in Zakynthos, Vesalius and the healers in his footsteps»

(Theatre of Sarakinado, 29100 SARA KINADO, 6 km outside ZAKYNTHOS)

with:

**Katerina Demeti**, Director of the Museum of D. Solomos and Eminent people of Zakynthos : Nicholaos Barbianis and Andreas Vesalius: The contribution of N. Barbianis and his management of the historical information surrounding Vesalius's death on Zakynthos.

**Dr Katerina Kabassi**, Head of the Division of Conservation of Cultural Heritage, Department of Environmental Technology, School of Applied Sciences, TEI of Ionian Islands: Travelling in time via Internet: The Internet as a tool for the study of the past. Case Study: a multidimensional search for Vesalius.

**Nikias Lountzis**, Lawyer, writer, President of Society "Friends of Museum of D. Solomos and Eminent people of Zakynthos": Galean - Vesalius: Preconception and revelations.

**Very Reverend Panagiotis Kapodistrias**, Vicar General / Holy Metropolis of Zakynthos, Master of Theology Approaching from the orthodox theological aspect of the achievements of modern medicine.

**Dionysios Flemotomos**, Writer-poet, President of Giostra di Zante : The role of Saints, healers and folk remedies in epidemics on Zakynthos.

**Dr. Christos Karydis**, Lecturer at the Division of Conservation of Cultural Heritage, TEI of Ionian Islands and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki : The iconographical representation of Andreas Vesalius portrait and his anatomy drawings.

**Dr. Nikolaos Sarris**, Book & Paper Conservator The Art of Printmaking and Bookmaking in Editions of Medical Anatomy.

# Vesalius Continuum

**Friday, 5 September 2014 / morning session 09.00-12.30**

## **Session 1: Andreas Vesalius – The Life**

**Chairs:** Maurits Biesbrouck (BE) and Stephen Joffe (USA).

### **Speakers:**

**09.00 – 09.20:** Raffaele De Caro - Vesalius' time in Padova

**09.20 – 09.40:** Theodoor Goddeeris - Itinerarium Andreae Vesalii

**09.40 – 10.00:** Maurits Biesbrouck - The last months of Andreas Vesalius

**10.00 – 10.30:** Discussion

**10.30 – 11.00:** Coffee break

**11.00 – 11.20:** Pavlos Plessas - Powerful indications that Vesalius died from scurvy

**11.20 – 11.40:** Sylviane Dederix- The Quest for the Grave, a G.I.S of the vicinity of the Santa Maria delle Grazie church

**11.40 – 12.00:** Omer Steeno - Franciscus and Anna: Vesalius' Brother and Sister in the Spotlight

**12.00 – 12.30:** Discussion

**12.30 – 14.00:** Lunch

### **Topics**

The details of Vesalius' life were established, to a considerable extent, in Charles O'Malley's biography published in 1964 on the 400th anniversary of his death and in a later work by Stephen Joffe.

However, much recent original historical work (by Steeno, Biesbrouck Goddeeris and Plessas) has focused on the circumstances of his last voyage, his death and his burial place on the island (The Quest for the Grave: Pantokrator or Santa Maria delle Grazia?). Presentation of a G.I.S. by Sylviane Déderix of the Foundation for Research & Technology, Hellas (F.O.R.T.H.) & Institute for Mediterranean Studies (I.M.S.) (deputy director Apostolos Sarris) and Pavlos Plessas, seconded by EBSA, the Belgian School in Athens (director Jan Driessen), sponsored by Agfa Healthcare and coordinated by Theo Dirix. An attempt is made to identify Vesalius' cause of death (Pavlos Plessas).

# Vesalius Continuum

Friday, 5 September 2014 / afternoon session 14.00 – 17.30

## Session 2: Andreas Vesalius – The Work

Chairs: Vivian Nutton (UK)

### Speakers:

14.00 – 14.20: Guy Cobolet – Vesalius' De Humani Corporis Fabrica in context

14.20 – 14.40: Daniel Garrison - Vesalius' Epistle on the China Root (1546):  
The Recovering Humanist

14.40 – 15.00: Jacqueline Vons - Vivitur ingenio

15.00 – 15.30: Discussion

15.30 – 16.00: Coffee break

16.00 – 16.20: Stephane Velut - Vesalius' Anatomical Observations

16.20 – 16.40: Vivian Nutton - Vesalius and his Annotations

16.40 – 17.00: David J. Williams - Vesalius at Cambridge

17.00 – 17.30: Discussion

### Topics

The Fabrica (1543) will of course be the central focus. There are two new developments of special interest concerning what is rightly considered to be one of the great treasures of Western civilisation. A second edition has recently been discovered which scholarly analysis (by Nutton) suggests was annotated by Vesalius himself in preparation for a never published third edition. Karger, located in Basel where the original was published, are bringing out a new English translation (by Garrison and Hast) to coincide with the quincentenary. Attention will also be directed toward his other works such as the Epitome and the China Root Epistle.

# Vesalius Continuum

Friday, 5 September 2014 / evening session

**20.30:** Open Air Concert (at Faneromeni, Doksaradon / Matinegkou Streets) with Beatriz Macias (flute, voice), Yannick Van De Velde (piano) and Roeland Henkens (trumpet). The concert opens a tour on the Ionian Islands as part of the cultural cycle: Things from Belgium.



# Vesalius Continuum

**Saturday, 6 September 2014 / morning session 09.00 – 12.30**

## **Session 3: The art of human anatomy: Renaissance to 21st century**

**Chairs:** Brian Hurwitz (UK) and Ruth Richardson (UK)

### **Speakers:**

**09.00 – 09.20:** Robrecht van Hee – Vesalius' long term impact

**09.20 – 09.40:** Francis Wells – Leonardo's working heart

**09.40 – 10.00:** Roberta Ballestriero – Three dimensional anatomy

**10.00 – 10.30:** Discussion

**10.30 – 11.00:** Coffee break

**11.00 – 11.20:** Ruth Richardson – Gray's Anatomy

**11.20 – 11.40:** Paolo Mazzarello and Valentina Cani – Golgi and the fine structure of the nervous system

**11.40 – 12.00:** Marco Catani – the art of brain imaging

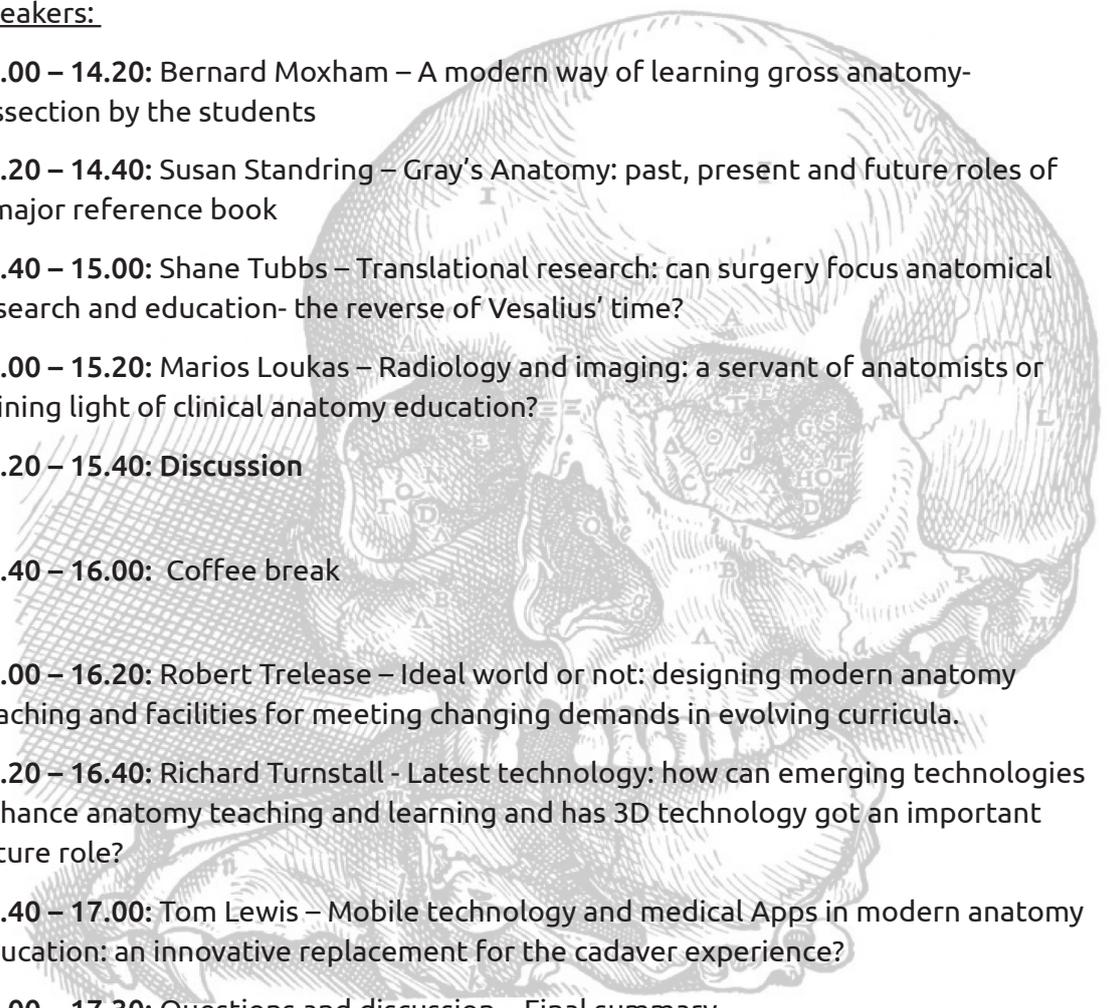
**12.00 – 12.30:** Discussion

**12.30 – 14.00:** Lunch

### **Topics**

Relations between the art and science of anatomy from the time of Vesalius to the present will be considered with particular emphasis on the role of the medical artist and the changing nature of anatomical illustration over the last five centuries. Pivotal changes in the art of anatomy will be examined including the evolution of media and brain imaging from Golgi to Geschwind.

# Vesalius Continuum



**Saturday, 6 September 2014 / afternoon session 14.00 – 17.30**

## **Session 4: 21st century anatomy teaching and learning**

### **Quo Vadis?**

**Chairs:** Peter Abrahams (UK) and Francis van Glabbeek (BE).

### **Speakers:**

**14.00 – 14.20:** Bernard Moxham – A modern way of learning gross anatomy- dissection by the students

**14.20 – 14.40:** Susan Standing – Gray's Anatomy: past, present and future roles of a major reference book

**14.40 – 15.00:** Shane Tubbs – Translational research: can surgery focus anatomical research and education- the reverse of Vesalius' time?

**15.00 – 15.20:** Marios Loukas – Radiology and imaging: a servant of anatomists or shining light of clinical anatomy education?

**15.20 – 15.40: Discussion**

**15.40 – 16.00:** Coffee break

**16.00 – 16.20:** Robert Trelease – Ideal world or not: designing modern anatomy teaching and facilities for meeting changing demands in evolving curricula.

**16.20 – 16.40:** Richard Turnstall - Latest technology: how can emerging technologies enhance anatomy teaching and learning and has 3D technology got an important future role?

**16.40 – 17.00:** Tom Lewis – Mobile technology and medical Apps in modern anatomy education: an innovative replacement for the cadaver experience?

**17.00 – 17.30:** Questions and discussion – Final summary

**Speakers all sponsored by:** St. George's University, Grenada, West Indies

# Vesalius Continuum

**Saturday, 6 September 2014 / evening 19.00 – 21.00**

**19.00: Film: 'Do we feel with our brain and think with our heart?'**

by Jan Fabre & Giacomo Rizzolatti 00:15 min

Parma, Filmed at: Parma University, Department of Neurosciences

Color, sound: english language

Cameraman / Sound / Lights: Jacopo Niccoli

Filming coordination: Solares Parma

Editing: Jan De Coster

Sound design: Electroacoustic music by Sylvie Bouteiller

Production: Angelos bvba / Jan Fabre

Distributed by LIMA, Amsterdam

**19.30: Film: Fabrica Vitae Pilot**

by Sofie Hanegreefs and Jelle Jansens 00:12 min

"Genius lives on, all else is mortal." Unique visions on the future of humanity and the hitherto "organic carbon man"

A group of contemporary, brilliant scientists and innovative artists will be questioned about their work and what they perceive the future of "humanity and the physical human body" to be. It will be fascinating to record their unique visions of man's mortality, decay and death. Along with the écorchés of the 'Fabrica', the exploration and 'dissection' of these pioneering minds will be the backbone of this documentary.

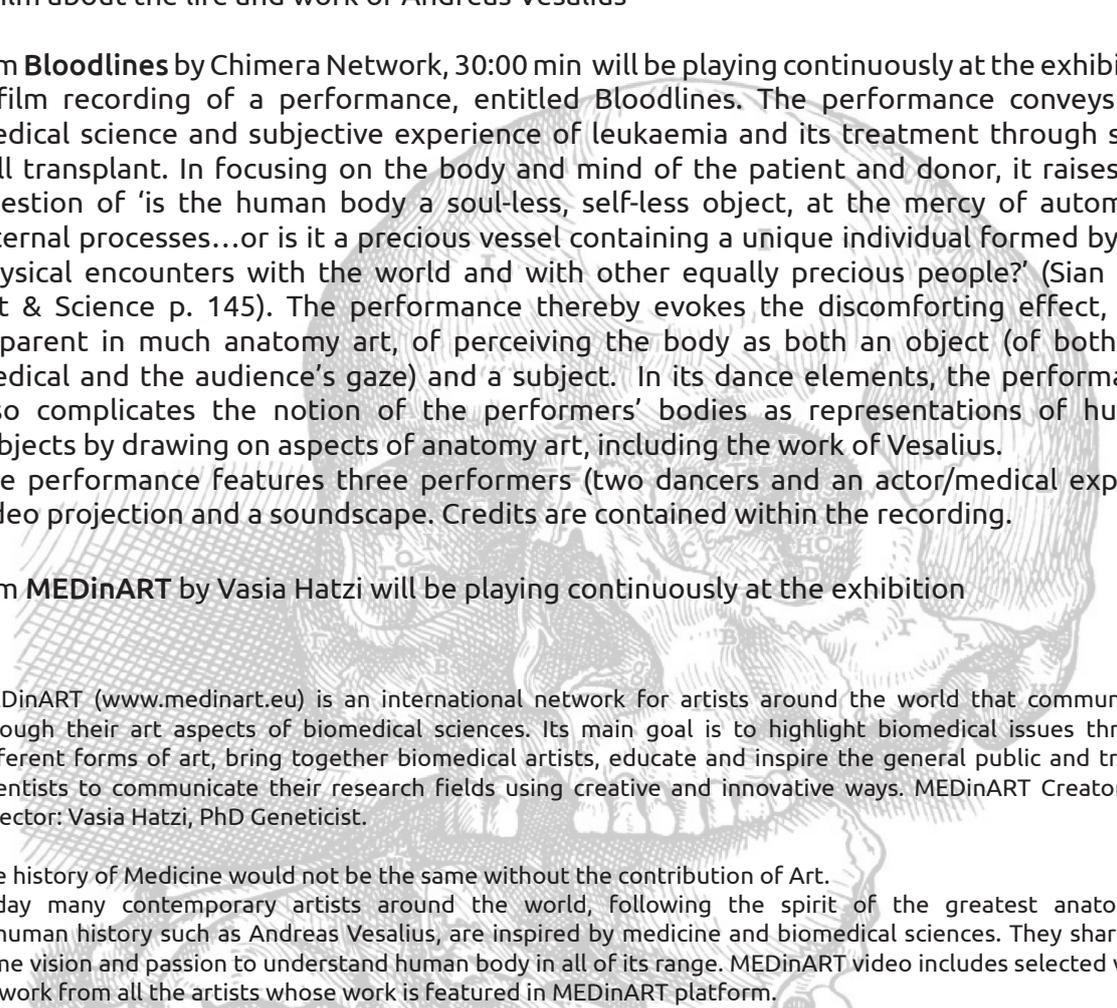
**19.30 - 20.00 discussion Film: Fabricae Vitae by Jelle Jansens and Sofie Hanegreefs. (Andere Wereld films)**

**20.00 - 20.30: film: LIMINALITY by Valentina Lari & Laurence Talairach-Vielmas**

The future of anatomical collections concern both conservative medical professionals, as well as researchers and artists working on the subject. Whether artificial or natural anatomical models, preparations, illustrations or photographs, these collections are an integral part of the history of Western medicine, and the history of universities and institutions in which museums anatomy emerged and developed. However, with the advent of modern techniques and advances in medical imaging, these collections were gradually relegated to oblivion.

Because of poor storage conditions and inadequate conservation, lack of space, insufficient funding or a general disinterest some of these forgotten patients and anatomical preparations, who were once the flagship of medical museums of previous centuries, seem today condemned to oblivion. This project aims to educate both health professionals and general public to the uncertain future of some scientific collections.

# Vesalius Continuum



Taking the example of the Museum of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, Toulouse-Rangueil (Université Toulouse III – Paul Sabatier), the project science - art Liminality, which includes a short film (co-produced by Valentina Lari & Laurence Talairach-Vielmas and directed by Valentina Lari) and a photographic exhibition (Valentina Lari), highlights how these collections constitute today an incredible and important heritage that is crucial to save.

**20.30 - 21.00 film: The Art of Vesalius, Francis Van Glabbeek, Hedwige Daenens, 38:00 min**  
a film about the life and work of Andreas Vesalius

film **Bloodlines** by Chimera Network, 30:00 min will be playing continuously at the exhibition a film recording of a performance, entitled Bloodlines. The performance conveys the medical science and subjective experience of leukaemia and its treatment through stem cell transplant. In focusing on the body and mind of the patient and donor, it raises the question of 'is the human body a soul-less, self-less object, at the mercy of automatic internal processes...or is it a precious vessel containing a unique individual formed by felt physical encounters with the world and with other equally precious people?' (Sian Ede, Art & Science p. 145). The performance thereby evokes the discomforting effect, also apparent in much anatomy art, of perceiving the body as both an object (of both the medical and the audience's gaze) and a subject. In its dance elements, the performance also complicates the notion of the performers' bodies as representations of human subjects by drawing on aspects of anatomy art, including the work of Vesalius. The performance features three performers (two dancers and an actor/medical expert), video projection and a soundscape. Credits are contained within the recording.

film **MEDinART** by Vasia Hatzi will be playing continuously at the exhibition

MEDinART ([www.medinart.eu](http://www.medinart.eu)) is an international network for artists around the world that communicate through their art aspects of biomedical sciences. Its main goal is to highlight biomedical issues through different forms of art, bring together biomedical artists, educate and inspire the general public and trigger scientists to communicate their research fields using creative and innovative ways. MEDinART Creator and Director: Vasia Hatzi, PhD Geneticist.

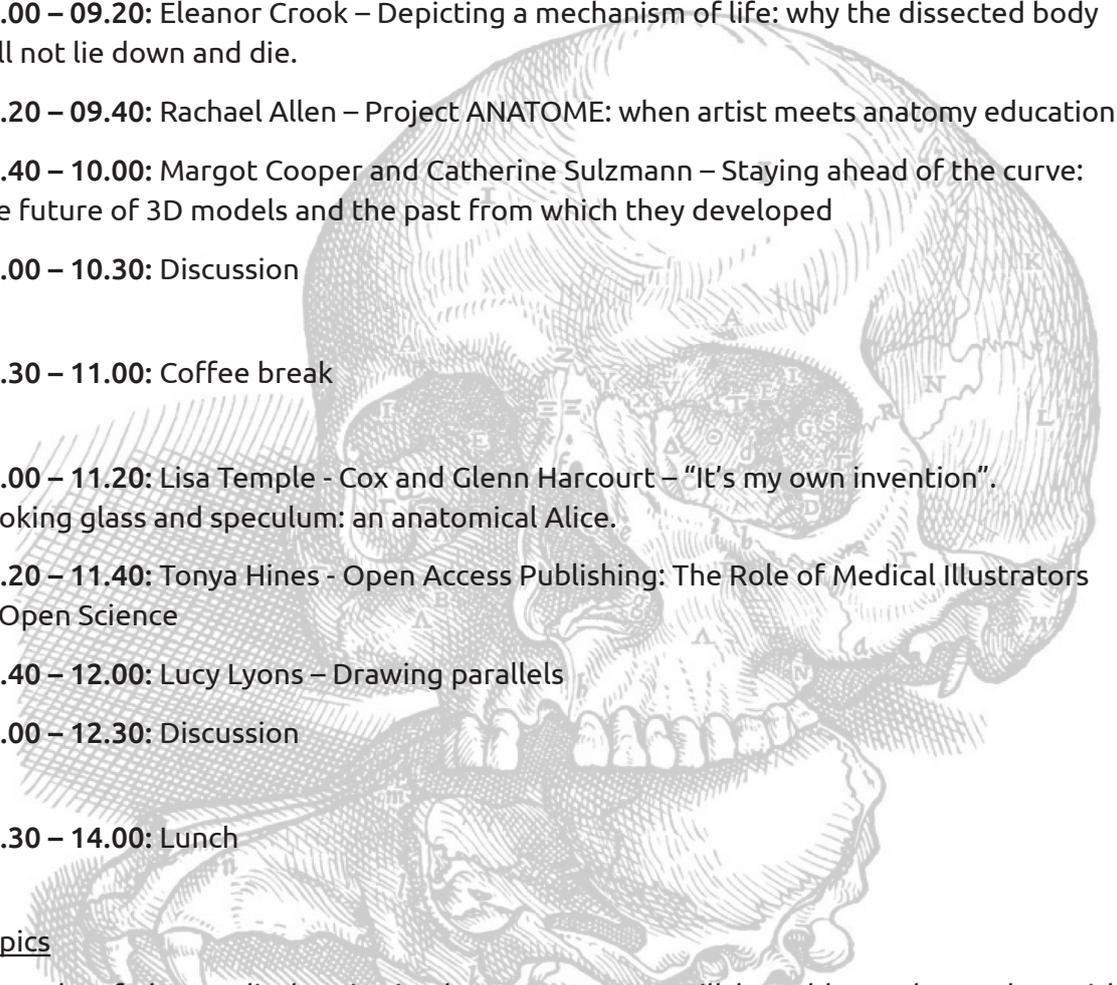
The history of Medicine would not be the same without the contribution of Art. Today many contemporary artists around the world, following the spirit of the greatest anatomists in human history such as Andreas Vesalius, are inspired by medicine and biomedical sciences. They share the same vision and passion to understand human body in all of its range. MEDinART video includes selected visual artwork from all the artists whose work is featured in MEDinART platform.

Selection and organization of MEDinART video content: Vasia Hatzi.

Video production: Costis Economides and Elli Pavloudi of ONTIME productions.

Soundtrack: Lunicon.

# Vesalius Continuum



**Sunday, 7 September 2014 / morning session 09.00 – 12.30**

**Session 5: 21st century art of human anatomy.**

Chairs: Ann Van de Velde (BE).

Speakers:

**09.00 – 09.20:** Eleanor Crook – Depicting a mechanism of life: why the dissected body will not lie down and die.

**09.20 – 09.40:** Rachael Allen – Project ANATOME: when artist meets anatomy education.

**09.40 – 10.00:** Margot Cooper and Catherine Sulzmann – Staying ahead of the curve: the future of 3D models and the past from which they developed

**10.00 – 10.30:** Discussion

**10.30 – 11.00:** Coffee break

**11.00 – 11.20:** Lisa Temple - Cox and Glenn Harcourt – “It’s my own invention”. Looking glass and speculum: an anatomical Alice.

**11.20 – 11.40:** Tonya Hines - Open Access Publishing: The Role of Medical Illustrators in Open Science

**11.40 – 12.00:** Lucy Lyons – Drawing parallels

**12.00 – 12.30:** Discussion

**12.30 – 14.00:** Lunch

Topics

The role of the medical artist in the 21st century will be addressed together with strategies for the education of medical artists and medical students. The wider field of medical art in the forensic field, in the research field and in the publishing world and literature will be explored, and a close look taken at European art and science courses and collaborations.

# Vesalius Continuum

**Sunday, 7 September 2014 / afternoon session 14.00 – 17.00**

## **Session 6: Fabrica Vitae; the stuff of life**

**A perception of the human body seen through the eye of the contemporary artist**

**Chairs:** Pascale Pollier (BE) and Martin Kemp (UK).

### **Speakers:**

**14.00 – 14.20:** Stelarc – Engineering aliveness and affect in humanoid robots.

**14.20 – 14.40:** Nina Sellars – The optics of anatomy and light

**14.40 – 15.00:** Mara Haseltine – Geotherapy, Art from the Nano to the Geo :  
Art that addresses the link between our biological and cultural evolution.

**15.00 – 15.30:** Discussion

**15.30 – 16.00:** Coffee break

**16.00 – 16.20:** Joanna Ebenstein - The Morbid Anatomy Museum: A New Institution  
Devoted to Art and Medicine, Death and Culture, and the Things Which Fall Between  
the Cracks

**16.20 – 16.40:** Andrew Carnie – A change of heart

**16.40 – 17.00:** Disucssion

### **Topics**

A session devoted to a variety of cultural events at the interface between the human body, science and technology, sci art, the cyborg body, quantum physics, encompassing performance art, theatre, music and poetry.

## **Special Plenary Lecture**

**17.30:** Martin Kemp 'Rhetorics of the real world and image in the Fabrica'

# Vesalius Continuum

**Monday, 8 September 2014 / morning session 09.00 – 10.00**

**09.00 – 10.00:** Annual General Meeting for AEIMS and other associations

## **With thanks to our sponsors**

Paulsen Media BV

Dr. and Mrs Stephen N. Joffe, USA

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Association Européenne des illustrateurs Médicaux et Scientifiques (AEIMS)

Biological and Medical Art in Belgium (BIOMAB)

H.E. Marc Van den Reeck, Ambassador of Belgium, Athens

Theo Dirix, Consul, Embassy of Belgium, Athens

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