FEELING REMOTE? NEW EXHIBITION DEMONSTRATES YOU’RE NOT ALONE

French-Canadian robotics artist Louis-Philippe Demers’ multi-touch installation *The Prayer Drums* will be the centre point of *Remoteness*, a new-media exhibition at The Block (Kelvin Grove) from 4 May.

Demers’ wall is operated by motion-detecting cameras and sensors and is inspired by the rotating cylinders – or prayer drums – found in Buddhist monasteries.

Visitors will be invited to touch and spin an array of virtual drums to create their own omnipresent humming soundscape. Each drum changes sound and colour dependant on the spinning amplitude and velocity. The wall in turn acts like a complex musical instrument.

See *The Prayer Drums* in action: [http://www.vimeo.com/21136133](http://www.vimeo.com/21136133)

Another key piece is American Christopher Baker’s *Hello World! Or: How I Learned To Stop Listening And Love The Noise*, an immersive video installation featuring over 5000 video diaries found online.

See *Hello World!* in action: [http://vimeo.com/1553583](http://vimeo.com/1553583)

“The project is a meditation on the contemporary plight of democratic, participative media and the fundamental human desire to be heard,” Baker says of his work.

*Remoteness* brings together the work of over 20 digital artists including Demers (Singapore) and Baker (USA), as well as *Ash Keating* (Australia), *Marko Mäetamm* (Estonia), and *Johanna Billing* (Sweden). These artists draw upon the social, emotional and physical remoteness that has come to define our modern-day environment, one that is both more connected and more isolated than ever.

The exhibition includes stop-motion animation, immersive video art and interactive installations on display at The Block, Brisbane’s hub for new-media located at QUT’s Kelvin Grove campus.

The exhibition is curated by Matthew Perkins and Dr Elaine Miles and supported by Monash University and Frankston Arts Centre.

**Remoteness**

Official opening: Tuesday 3 May, 6.30pm (social photographers welcome)
Open to public: 4 to 21 May 2011
Admission Free

The Block, QUT Creative Industries Precinct
Cnr Kelvin Grove Road and Musk Ave, Kelvin Grove
07 3138 5495 | ciprecinct@qut.edu.au | ciprecinct.qut.edu.au

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**Media Contact**

Alison Clifford
Senior Marketing Officer
(07) 3138 3248 or a.clifford@qut.edu.au