

ARTS CATALYST PRESS RELEASE

LESS REMOTE: **The Futures of Space Exploration** **An Arts and Humanities Symposium**

30 September - 1 October 2008
International Astronautical Congress, Glasgow, Scotland

www.lessremote.org

For the first time, the arts and humanities have been officially invited into the professional space explorers' global summit, the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) in Glasgow. **Less Remote** is a two day symposium where artists, thinkers and writers will contribute to debates about going back to the moon and on to Mars, living in space, art in zero gravity, the future of the International Space Station and the search for life and human origins in scientific missions. It could well be the most inspiring and wide-reaching interdisciplinary conference of the year, and runs on 30 September and 1 October 2008.

Organised by The Arts Catalyst (the science-art agency) with artist/curator Flis Holland, **Less Remote** features presentations by Tomas Saraceno, Agnes Meyer-Brandis, Marko Peljhan, Zbigniew Oksuita, Rachel Armstrong, Andy Miah, Sarah Jane Pell, Nina Czegledy and many other key contemporary figures who have worked either with space agencies or in the space context recently. The symposium aims to foster a dialogue and exchange between the cultural and space communities. The sessions will explore issues of humanity's introspective urge, extending our reach, cultural concerns, inhabiting space and the possible demands of future 'spacefarers'.

Registering for **Less Remote** allows delegates access to the highlights of the International Astronautical Congress. The cost is £35 for two days or £20 for one day, with a range of concessions; IAC delegates can participate for free. Full details about registration can be found at www.lessremote.org.

About The Arts Catalyst

The Arts Catalyst commissions art that experimentally and critically engages with science. It brings together people across the art/science divide and beyond to explore science in its wider social, political and

cultural contexts. It produces provocative, playful, risk-taking projects to spark dynamic conversations about our changing world. Further details at www.artscatalyst.org.

About Flis Holland

Originally qualified in Astronautical Engineering, Flis Holland chose instead to follow a career in fine art and undertook an MFA at the University of Leeds, graduating in June 2008. Flis is now a full time practicing artist; her first solo exhibition is currently installed at Bowery Gallery, Leeds, from 21 August - 21 November.

Venue:

The IAC, Scottish Exhibition & Conference Centre (SECC), Exhibition Way
Finnieston, Glasgow G3 8YW

Further details about the 2008 International Astronautical Congress at www.iac2008.co.uk

Less Remote is organised by The Arts Catalyst with artist/curator Flis Holland, Leonardo/OLATS and i-DAT at the University of Plymouth.