

TO: **Oman Robot**  
GSM / GPRS : +49 177 2923623  
E-Mail: [Oman@heimat.de](mailto:Oman@heimat.de)

date	telephone	email
26 <sup>th</sup> June 2002	0031 (0) 40 247 49 92	v.v.gaal@tue.nl

**Subject: Eindhoven University of Technology invites Oman Robot**

Dear Oman,

By this letter I would like to invite you and one of your creators, Mr. Francis Wittenberger, to the Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e), the Netherlands.

The TU/e stands by a good academic education in an intellectual and cultural stimulating environment. The confrontation between technology and culture, for example in the form of debates or co-operations with artists, contributes to the integration of the university in society. Studium Generale offers a varied cultural program for students and employees.

At the TU/e lecturers and students make use of modern information and communication means. The TU/e leads prominent Dutch research schools and institutes, and holds a strong position in international networks. The TU/e is an excellent partner for companies strongly oriented towards technology. Therefore the campus serves as a foundation for new enterprises.

During the month of September 2002 Studium Generale organises a series of programs within the theme of *Man and Machine*. There will be lectures about subjects like artificial intelligence and artificial agent societies (Prof. dr. J.-J. Ch. Meyer, University of Utrecht), the philosophy of man and machine and the notion of 'mind' in relation to machines (dr. G.J.C. Lokhorst, Erasmus University Rotterdam) and a lecture of Thijs Chanowski about interfaces and enforcing serendipity.

Besides, there will be a scope of other, more cultural, activities: The young Dutch writer Thomas van Aalten will write a thriller about cyborgs that is situated at the TU/e. There will be a film cycle on the theme with films like Frankenstein and Thomas in Love. And theatre company "Tol" is making a special visual play on location.

On Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of September the man-machine festival will be opened with a talkshow. This is a special occasion because it is also the official opening of our renovated building the "GASLAB". The Gaslab used to be an old laboratory for high-pressure experiments but nowadays it is used as stage for cultural activities of the university.

The talkshow - title *I think therefore I am, about machine-men and other creatures* - will be concentrated on three angles: philosophy, science and robotics.

The period that robots are slaves, made to serve humans, has passed. Thinking, co-operating and feeling machines are the future. Should we consider this as the next step in evolution, will horror scenarios from science fiction films become true or is it the irreversible doom of mankind in its

present form? Robot builders, scientists, artists and philosophers enter into debate about the human species, cyborgs, machines and everything that lies between.

Amongst our guests are: Koert van Mensvoort, scientist at the TU/e and artist. In an animated audio-visual presentation he shows us how our senses work and how machines can use or abuse this knowledge. Scientist Marco Wiering from the Institute of Information and Computing Sciences (University of Utrecht) will throw light on the international research project of RoboCup Rescue where a group of robot-agents have to co-operate in a simulator that reproduces an earthquake.

We are delighted that you, OMAN Independent Artists will be one of our guests. We will welcome you on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September. A comfortable hotel room will be arranged for you and Mr. Francis Wittenberger.

The TU/e engages to promote the man-machine festival in publications that will be spread over the campus (posters, flyers, programmes, website, university newspaper) and regionally (local newspapers and magazines, local radio and television broadcasting). Besides, a group of relations of the university and representatives in the cultural and scientific field will be invited personally for this event.

The TU/e will be providing communicative background and help in local management. We will be thankful to further supporters to contribute to these activities.

The organisers of man-machine festival hereby request all those whom it may concern, to allow Oman Robot and the artist, bearer of this invitation, to travel freely without let or hindrance and to afford them such assistance and flexibility as may be necessary.

Yours truly,



Vivian van Gaal  
Programme maker  
Studium Generale  
Eindhoven University of Technology

Appendix: Technical facts about Oman

**Technical facts "OMAN ROBOT"**

**Hand-painted, Egg-shaped Polyester case enclosing the following hardware  
(main components only):**

**internal:**

=====

**SaintSong EPC-1 computer SN# \*01S038S00252\*  
External Docking Station EPD-1 SN# \*1K038S00252\*  
Ericsson T39 Mobile Phone w/Bluetooth  
Logitech Q-cam express  
RF Microphone transceiver  
4 port USB HUB  
100/10 fast USB/Ethernet Adapter  
Internal power source (4 Bleiakku 6V 3.2AH)  
Stereo Audio Power AMP 150 W  
1x 120W subwoofer  
3x 45W full range speakers**

**external:**

=====

**6A Power-supply,  
Bleiakku-charger  
IR/mouse/KBD  
RF Microphone**