



American Society for Cybernetics

The Warren McCulloch Award of the American Society for Cybernetics
is awarded to

Julia Frazer and John H. Frazer

for outstanding and profound lifelong contributions to the nurturing of cybernetics in the
fields of architecture and design.

For several decades, through teaching, research and professional practice, Julia and John Frazer have promoted cybernetic thinking and techniques in the field of architectural design, and thereby contributed significantly to the elevation of architecture from a craft to a digital practice and research discipline. In doing this, they have continually advocated for the use of computers to facilitate conversation, emergence and co-creation in the design process, and to provoke continual critical re-assessment of the role of the architect in society and the role of tools and technology in architectural design and production.

Along with numerous other contributions, Julia and John Frazer were among the very first who applied autonomous non-determinism in the context of adaptive architecture, and who promoted the use of computers as interactive, generative design tools. Julia and John Frazer furthermore pioneered the field of tangible computer interfaces with innovative machine-readable models designed to facilitate user participation in design processes. They inspired and contributed significantly to the digital toolkits deployed by architects around the world, and laid the intellectual and practical foundations that underpin the approaches by which digital technology applications are currently explored in many architecture and design curricula worldwide.

We make this award in recognition of Julia and John Frazer's above achievements and their instrumental roles in promoting cybernetics in the fields of architecture and design.

Michael Lissack
President of the American Society for Cybernetics
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