

LEONARDO

Journal of the International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology

VOLUME 42 | NUMBER 4 | 2009

SPECIAL ISSUE

ACM SIGGRAPH MIT Press Leonardo/ISAST \$25.00



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Growth Rendering Device

Growth Rendering Device,
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Growth Rendering Device is a kinetic installation that captures the growth of a pea plant over a 24-hour period. Suspended in a nutrient-rich hydroponic solution, the pea plant growth is recorded during the length of the exhibition. Attached to a wall, the plant is connected to a vertical scanner, an ink-jet printer, and a growth light. This system provides everything that is needed to sustain and record the plant's development. The device produces a rasterized drawing every 24 hours. After each new drawing is produced, the system scrolls the roll of paper approximately



Growth Rendering Device,
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four inches to make way for the next drawing cycle to begin. The outcome of this work is not predetermined. As the name suggests, the focus is on growth—a complete feedback system between machine and plant. However, it is possible that what the machine may record is also the decay and demise of the plant. Drawing marked parallels to Gregor Mendel's work on inheritance in peas, *Growth Rendering Device* seems to ask whether both the machinic and the artistic parents will leave their mark on their offspring.

David Bowen is a studio artist and educator. His work has been featured in numerous group and solo exhibitions nationally and internationally. He received his BFA degree from Herron School of Art in 1999 and his MFA degree from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, in 2004. He is currently an assistant professor of sculpture and physical computing at the University of Minnesota, Duluth.