

## News release

**To be released:** Immediately  
**Date:** 15 September 2003

### DIGITAL ART COMMISSION FOR ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND EAST Utopic Blurr by Erika Tan

**Utopic Blurr** is a new digital work commissioned by **Commissions East** for Arts Council England East's offices in Cambridge.

The work by artist, **Erika Tan** comprises the dual elements of a series of digital media light-boxes sited in the main atrium stairwell of the building and a parallel series of screen savers for the individual computer workstations of the staff.

Erika Tan, whose work is informed by cultural, geographical and physical contexts aims to create situations that excite, provoke, question, confront and invite comments from her audience. The five screen saver animations were created in collaboration with **Karl Bunyan**, a programmer and animator. Arts Council staff were then given the option of which screen saver to install and thereby adding a further interactive dimension to the commission.

Referencing artists such as Constable, Gainsborough and 19th Century photographer, Emerson and their work within the East of England, Utopic Blurr merges the boundaries between painting, photography and digital landscaping opening up new spaces for contemplation. Erika Tan describes her intention as to:

'celebrate, question and unravel the nature of picturesque, utopian ideals and dystopian anxieties'.

This commission reflects Arts Council England East's role as the regional development agency for the arts, celebrating regional identity and a commitment to new technology.

- Ends -

#### **Commissions East**

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