

Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art News

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BETTY FOY SANDERS DEPARTMENT OF ART



PlantBot Genetics Co-Founder Wendy DesChene to Host Lecture, Demonstration Next Week

Opening Lecture:

MONDAY, APRIL 15 at 5:30 p.m.

Visual Arts Building, Room 2016

Join the **Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art** and **Wendy DesChene of PlantBot Genetics, Inc.** on Monday, April 15 for a lecture presenting the EcoBot Project at Georgia Southern University. [The EcoBot Project](#) is dedicated to bettering the human race through robotic, genetic-based, agricultural innovations. DesChene will present a lecture detailing the project's formation, tactics and goals.



This lecture is free and open to all!

Public Demonstration:
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17 at 11:30 a.m.
Russell Union Rotunda, Georgia Southern

EcoBot Program Details

The program encourages participants to question their food, where it comes from and where it may be going. BFSDoArt Ceramics Professor and PlantBot Genetics Partner Jeff Schmuki explained that this event is relevant to “anyone who eats food.”

During DesChene’s visit to campus, she will work closely with advanced sculpture students to create “EcoBots,” bizarre creations that emphasize the irrationality of actual biotech products.

“We can only guess what will happen to the world’s food supply after subsequent generations of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and other transgenic modifications. In answer to this, PlantBot Genetics grafts plants onto remote controlled robotic bases to become organisms with no clear heritage and no clear future,” explained Schmuki.

The students’ EcoBots will be used to complete a public demonstration at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17 at the Russell Union Rotunda. On-lookers and passersby will be given the opportunity to drive the remote controlled creations while creating discussion about our current food sources.

“PlantBot Genetics raises awareness on human and environmental sustainability, the fair distribution of nutritious food while acknowledging the need for thoughtful regulation that addresses necessary human and environmental protections,” Schmuki added.

To learn more about the PlantBot Genetics, visit <http://www.monsantra.com>

This program is supported by Georgia Southern University’s Campus Life Enrichment Community and student activity funds.



About Wendy DesChene + PlantBot Genetics, Inc.

Canadian Artist Wendy DesChene and American Artist Jeff Schmuki began practicing as an artist team in 2009. Both artists have personal exhibition experience, and awards as solo artists before gaining the experience that formed the basis for their collaborative team.

PlantBot Genetics and “Monsantra” has been displayed at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh the Goethe Institute in Egypt and Bach Modern in Austria. While working with the department of Engineering at Auburn University, they also

created a community project at the Jules Collins Museum of Art. In 2010 they created a significant contribution to their body of work while at the American Academy in Rome as Visiting Artists.

DesChene earned her B.F.A. from Concordia University, Montreal, Canada and her M.F.A from Tyler School of Art Painting, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

For more information about Wendy DesChene, visit her [website](#).



All events are free and open to the public. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Georgia Southern University will honor requests for reasonable accommodations. For more information contact the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art at (912) GSU.5358 or online at <http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/art>

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