

The Galaxy of the Brain

Considering all the recent scientific and medical discoveries about the structure and function of the human brain, it is a timely subject ripe for creative exploration as well. This unique collection of work by 24 artists was organized by Audrius V. Plioplys in support of the BRAIN Initiative (Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies) and includes topics ranging from the artists whose ranks include neurosurgeons, stroke victims and caretakers who have much more than an aesthetic interest in the subject. This was originally exhibited as the BRAIN-ART Initiative at the Beverly Arts Center in Chicago.

Since art is more about interpretation than scientific accuracy, the images evoke conceptual abstraction and emotional interaction. Each work engages the audience with an idea that contains the essential ingredients of our humanness. The physiological brain is the mechanical center of our thoughts, our feelings, our senses, our memories, our motions and our individuality. Brain activity is used to determine that we are alive from birth to death. In that context, artists look for meaning beyond function. That open ended search carries the work of scientists and doctors to another level, the spiritual level where we find purpose in our existence.

That is why the artistic interpretation of the brain is so vital and matters so much. The connection between the brain and our being is like no other in the known universe. It is our personal galaxy.

The University of Chicago
Medicine & Biological Sciences
Healing Arts Program

The Galaxy of the Brain exhibit took place at the November 1, 2014 – March 10, 2015, at the 2nd floor corridor link between the Duchossois Center for Advanced Medicine (DCAM) and the Center for Care and Discovery (CCD), 5758 S. Maryland, Chicago, IL.

Of the originally exhibiting 24 artists, 8 were selected for a continuation of the exhibit through May 10, 2015, at the Knapp Center for Biomedical Discovery, at the 3rd floor link to the Gordon Center for Interactive Science.