LA PLISSURE DU TEXTE is a computer networking art project
designed by ROY ASCOTT for the major exhibition devoted to
the historical and contemporary review of Electricity in Art
organised by FRANK POPPER for the Musee d'Art Moderne de la
Ville de Paris. The exhibition is called "ELECTRA 1983" and
will open at the beginning of December 1983 and run for three
months.

La Plissure du Texte is a collaborative story telling project
using a computer timesharing network of artists located in
Europe, North America and Australia. Artists using terminals
in their own studios or at publicly accessible locations will
be involved in a process of "distributed authorship". They will
employ the ARTBOX network of I.P.Sharp's APL system (who have
donated free network time to the project).

The video display and print-out of this collaborative project
in the form of a "planetary fairy tale" will constitute the
contribution to ELECTRA.

The text will be in French and English and will be generated as
the result of each artist (or group of artists) at each terminal
location adopting a role or identity (a sphere of action) drawn
from the repetoire of fairy tales, such as villain, hero, helper,
princess etc. Given the diversity of input, it is expected that
the text will be witty, wise, bizarre, polemical, poetic and enter-
taining, creating "plaisir" out of the "plissure" as Roland Barthes
might have hoped.

Collaborating with ROY ASCOTT in this project and coordinating
the collective input of other artists in their local area are:
ROBERT ADRIAN X (Vienna and Vancouver), BRUCE BRELAND (Pittsburgh),
ERIC GIDNEY (Sydney), NORMAN WHITE (Toronto), HELMUT J. MARK (Vienna)
GREGORY MCKENNA and TOM KLINKOWSTEIN (San Francisco), DAVID GARCIA
and ANNIE WRIGHT (Amsterdam), JOHN SOUTHWORTH (Honolulu).

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