

## ***France Cadet***

**[www.cyber-doll.com](http://www.cyber-doll.com)**

Artist and Professor:  
Aix-en-Provence School of Art

Born on 03/29/1971  
Leaves in Marseilles, FR.

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France Cadet, born in 1971, is a French digital and robotics artist whose work ironically raises questions about various aspects in science debates and contemporary anxieties about biotechnology, exploring the complex relationship between humans and animals, between humans and androids, while blurring boundaries between natural and artificial.

She is the head of the robotics lab at the Ecole Supérieure d'Art d'Aix-en-Provence, and was a professor at the renowned School of the Art Institute of Chicago. In addition, she has been giving robot-like training workshops for several years.

Ms. Cadet came from a background in science before turning to artistic studies. Known by her robotic and bio-oriented multi-media installations which combine these two interests, she has done solo and group exhibitions nationally and internationally. She received the 1st Prize of VIDA 6.0, an Art & Artificial Life International competition in Madrid, and was mentioned by the Digital Stadium Awards in Tokyo. Her work was also purchased by the Museum of Contemporary Art, the MEIAC in Spain.

Most of France Cadet's artworks tackle serious problems but in an ironic and ludic way: funny toys, pleasant games, charming pets, cute robots...

In a large part of her work she uses a commercial robotic dog on which she performed surgery, customized their forms, and reprogrammed them with unusual behaviours. These new strange creatures allow her to embody questions concerning contemporary anxieties about biotechnology, animals rights, dangers of cloning, eugenics, and to make a critical social comment about ethical questions and possible consequences of a technologically driven future, through ironical caricaturization but which is based on very-real facts.

*" France Cadet: Barking up the right tree "*

France Cadet has the soul of a seeker and a deeply ingrained spirit of inquiry, a curiosity about everything that lives or moves. Science was her first vocation. As a child she was equally fascinated by biology, mechanics and physics. From bacteria to the great apes, how do we function? How do we think? How do we love? Isn't love a matter of secretions, hormones and neurological information? Loving and living ... beyond science and scientific inquiry, it was art that seemed to her the most fruitful path. From her laboratory days she has retained a taste for experimentation; to that she adds subject/object interactivity, abolishing the barriers between the observed and the observer. "Would you like to play with me?" her cyber-creatures seem to say. And indeed she does training sessions with her robot dogs. Her discovery mats for grown-ups invite the collector to get involved in the artwork by scratching it so that it responds. France Cadet subverts intellectual talk and parodies dogmas to distance us from them. She studied art in Toulon and Aix-en-Provence, but mostly she has worked abroad. She teaches robotics in Chicago and won first prize in the VIDA 6.0 competition in Madrid.

Gérard Martin for Cote Magazine - 2013