



## Ryan Wolfe

BRANCHING SYSTEM (butterfly hurricane)

Materials: individual programmed motherboards, motors, dried leaves, wire

Physical Size: Variable

Series of 10 site specific installations

2007-p

Video available on request.

ABOUT BRANCHING SYSTEM (butterfly hurricane)...

An installation inspired by the theories of Edward Lorenz.

This one man's giant impact on contemporary thinking leaves everything after him forever changed...

Masses of robotic leaves flutter like butterflies, transforming the gallery space into a jungle-like network of complex, serendipitous motion. Individual viewers have an impact on this motion, and their physical interactions with the piece ripple out across the network like wind.

Branching Systems (butterfly hurricane) is an interactive installation exploring Lorenz's famous "butterfly effect" which signalled the beginnings of modern Chaos Theory. It tangibly reimagines cause and effect wrapped into a single moment, and demonstrates how small variations of the initial condition of a nonlinear dynamic system may produce large variations in the long term behavior of the system.

ARTIST STATEMENT: "Does the flap of a butterfly's wings in Brazil set off a tornado in Texas?"  
- Edward Lorenz

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