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Preface

The program for EGSR 2012 follows a long tradition of papers that help shape the field of rendering and push its boundaries. In addition to traditional topics such as physically-based rendering, real-time rendering, and material modeling, the conference features other contributions including inverse problems, acquisition, non-photorealistic rendering, or digital fabrication. We are excited by the papers and look forward to the presentations!

We received 69 submissions, a healthy increase from last year’s 60. Based on the reviews, and after a week-long discussion process, the International Program Committee members recommended 21 for acceptance, and referred four more to Computer Graphics Forum with major revisions. This puts the acceptance rate at about 30%, and 36% when CGF is included, confirming EGSR as a selective venue.

The international program committee was composed of AAA members from all around the world, and each paper received at least four reviews, three from committee members, and one from an external reviewer. The selection process was entirely blind this year, and committee members did not know the authors or affiliations of the papers they were deciding upon. This required extra logistics for the selection of external reviewers, and committee member had to suggest a couple of options, which were checked by the program chairs to avoid conflicts of interest.

Last, we would like to thank:

• All authors for submitting such great work to EGSR
• The International Program Committee members and the external reviewers who all did an impressive and thorough evaluation of the submissions
• Stefanie Behnke for her constant assistance during all the steps of the process
• Oliver Deussen and Holly Rushmeier for their help with the CGF process
• Tamy Boubekeur and Elmar Eisemann, the local conference chairs
• George Drettakis and the EGSR steering committee for their guidance

We hope you enjoy this year’s program!

Frédo Durand and Diego Gutierrez
EGSR 2012 Program Chairs
International Programme Committee

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Drettakis, George
Durand, Fredo
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Gutierrez, Diego
Hachisuka, Toshiya
Hasan, Milos
Jarosz, Wojciech
Kautz, Jan
Klein, Reinhard
Krivanek, Jaroslav
Laine, Samuli
Lawrence, Jason
Lefebvre, Sylvain
Lehtinen, Jaakko
Lensch, Hendrik P. A.

Lischinski, Dani
Magnor, Marcus
Marschner, Steve
Munoz, Adolfo
Myszkowski, Karol
Narasimhan, Srinivasa
Paris, Sylvain
Pellacini, Fabio
Ramoorti, Ravi
Reinhard, Erik
Ritschel, Tobias
Rushmeier, Holly
Sen, Pradeep
Slusallek, Philipp
Theobalt, Christian
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Berger, Kai
Bosch, Carles
Burley, Brent
Clarberg, Petrik
Dachsbacher, Carsten
Debevec, Paul
d’Eon, Eugene
Dodgson, Neil
Dong, Zhao
Echevarria, Jose I.
Egan, Kevin
Eisemann, Elmar
Fascione, Luca
Frisvad, Jeppe Revall
Fuchs, Martin
García Castañeda, Antonio
Gu, Jinwei
Guthe, Stefan
Havran, Vlastimil
Hays, James
Hullin, Matthias
Jakob, Wenzel
Jarabo, Adrian
Jia, Leo Jiaya
Kang, Sing Bing
Karlik, Ondrej
Kim, Min H.
Kontkanen, Janne
Lalonde, Jean-Francois
Lee, Sungkil
Lin, Stephen
Loop, Charles
Lopez-Moreno, Jorge
Matsushita, Yasuyuki
McDonnell, Rachel
Novak, Jan
Nowrouzezahrai, Derek
Ostromoukhov, Victor
Pajaro, Renato
Patow, Gustavo
Peers, Pieter
Pellacini, Fabio
Peytavie, Adrien
Pilleboue, Adrien
Pouli, Tania
Ruhl, Kai
Sander, Pedro
Schaefer, Scott
Shirley, Peter
Smith, Kaleigh
Stengel, Michael
Tabellion, Eric
Tatarchuk, Natalya
Theobalt, Christian
Tsingos, Nicolas
Ureña, Carlos
Vanderhaeghe, David
Vergne, Romain
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Walter, Bruce
Wang, Rui
Wang, Yue
Wang, Yang
Westermann, Rüdiger
Wilkie, Alexander
Zhou, Kun
Zinke, Arno
## Author Index

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akenine-Möller Tomas</td>
<td>1385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammann Lucas</td>
<td>1481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bagher Mohammad Mahdi</td>
<td>1509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barla Pascal</td>
<td>1481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bauszat Pablo</td>
<td>1445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosch Carles</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boubekeur Tamy</td>
<td>1399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buchholz Bert</td>
<td>1399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callieri Marco</td>
<td>1491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chen Xiaowu</td>
<td>1425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dachsbacher Carsten</td>
<td>1407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dellepiane Matteo</td>
<td>1491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drettakis George</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dumont Georges</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eisemann Martin</td>
<td>1445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endo Yuki</td>
<td>1435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fajardo Marcos</td>
<td>1519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fukui Yukio</td>
<td>1435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garces Elena</td>
<td>1415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glondu Loeiz</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granier Xavier</td>
<td>1481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guennebaud Gaël</td>
<td>1481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guthe Stefan</td>
<td>1445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gutierrez Diego</td>
<td>1415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanika Johannes</td>
<td>1375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heidrich Wolfgang</td>
<td>1375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hery Christophe</td>
<td>1501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holzschuch Nicolas</td>
<td>1509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hullin Matthias B.</td>
<td>1375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Igarashi Takeo</td>
<td>1465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jarosz Wojciech</td>
<td>1407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jin Xin</td>
<td>1425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalantari Nima Khademi</td>
<td>1529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanamori Yoshihiro</td>
<td>1435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krishnamachari Parashar</td>
<td>1537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kulla Christopher</td>
<td>1519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwon Yunmi</td>
<td>1471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lopez-Moreno Jorge</td>
<td>1415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnor Marcus</td>
<td>1445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manson Josiah</td>
<td>1455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marchal Maud</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattausch Oliver</td>
<td>1465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mehta Soham Uday</td>
<td>1501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meyer Mark</td>
<td>1501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min Kyungha</td>
<td>1471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitani Jun</td>
<td>1435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muguericia Lien</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munkberg Jacob</td>
<td>1385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munoz Adolfo</td>
<td>1415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nguyen Chuong</td>
<td>1391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novák Jan</td>
<td>1407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nowrouzezahr'ai Derek</td>
<td>1407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ou Jiawei</td>
<td>1537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palma Gianpaolo</td>
<td>1491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pellacini Fabio</td>
<td>1537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pereira Thiago</td>
<td>1557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramamoorthi Ravi</td>
<td>1501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reuter Patrick</td>
<td>1481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritschel Patrick</td>
<td>1391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushmeier Holly</td>
<td>1547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rusinkiewicz Szymon</td>
<td>1557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schaefer Scott</td>
<td>1455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scherzer Daniel</td>
<td>1391, 1465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seidel Hans-Peter</td>
<td>1391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sen Pradeep</td>
<td>1529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soler Cyril</td>
<td>1509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toth Robert</td>
<td>1385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wimmer Michael</td>
<td>1465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wu Hongyu</td>
<td>1425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xie Feng</td>
<td>1537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yang Heekyung</td>
<td>1471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhao Qinping</td>
<td>1425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Christopher Kulla and Marcos Fajardo: “Importance Sampling Techniques for Path Tracing in Participating Media”, pp. 1519 – 1528


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Optics

Polynomial Optics: A Construction Kit for Efficient Ray-Tracing of Lens Systems
Matthias B. Hullin, Johannes Hanika, and Wolfgang Heidrich
1375

Per-Vertex Defocus Blur for Stochastic Rasterization
Jacob Munkberg, Robert Toth, and Tomas Akenine-Möller
1385

Global Illumination

Pre-convolved Radiance Caching
Daniel Scherzer, Chuong Nguyen, Tobias Ritschel, and Hans-Peter Seidel
1391

Quantized Point-Based Global Illumination
Bert Buchholz and Tamy Boubekeur
1399

Progressive Virtual Beam Lights
Jan Novák, Derek Nowrouzezahrai, Carsten Dachsbacher, and Wojciech Jarosz
1407

Image Analysis and Editing

Intrinsic Images by Clustering
Elena Garces, Adolfo Munoz, Jorge Lopez-.Moreno, and Diego Gutierrez
1415

Artistic Illumination Transfer for Portraits
Xiaowu Chen, Xin Jin, Qinqing Zhao, and Hongyu Wu
1425

Matting and Compositing for Fresnel Reflection on Wavy Surfaces
Yuki Endo, Yoshihiro Kanamori, Yukio Fukui, and Jun Mitani
1435

Geometry

Geometry Presorting for Implicit Object Space Partitioning
Martin Eisemann, Pablo Bauszat, Stefan Guthe, and Marcus Magnor
1445

Parameterization-Aware MIP-Mapping
Josiah Manson and Scott Schaefer
1455

Tessellation-Independent Smooth Shadow Boundaries
Oliver Mattausch, Daniel Scherzer, Michael Wimmer, and Takeo Igarashi
1465

Non-Photorealistic Rendering

A Stylized Approach for Pencil Drawing from Photographs
Heekyung Yang, Yunmi Kwon, and Kyungha Min
1471

Surface Relief Analysis for Illustrative Shading
Lucas Ammann, Pascal Barla, Gaël Guennebaud, Xavier Granier, and Patrick Reuter
1481

Material Appearance

A Statistical Method for SVBRDF Approximation from Video Sequences in General Lighting Conditions
Gianpaolo Palma, Marco Callieri, Matteo Dellepiane, and Roberto Scopigno
1491

Analytic Tangent Irradiance Environment Maps for Anisotropic Surfaces
Soham Uday Mehta, Ravi Ramamoorthi, Mark Meyer, and Christophe Hery
1501
**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

*Accurate Fitting of Measured Reflectances Using a Shifted Gamma Micro-facet Distribution*  
Mohammad Mahdi Bagher, Cyril Soler, and Nicolas Holzschuch  

1509

**Sampling**

*Importance Sampling Techniques for Path Tracing in Participating Media*  
Christopher Kulla and Marcos Fajardo  

1519

*Fast Generation of Approximate Blue Noise Point Sets*  
Nima Khademi Kalantari and Pradeep Sen  

1529

*ISHair: Importance Sampling for Hair Scattering*  
Jiawei Ou, Feng Xie, Parashar Krishnamachari, and Fabio Pellacini  

1537

**Material Synthesis**

*Example-Based Fractured Appearance*  
Loeiz Glondu, Lien Muguercia, Maud Marchal, Carles Bosch, Holly Rushmeier, Georges Dumont, and George Drettakis  

1547

*Gamut Mapping Spatially Varying Reflectance with an Improved BRDF Similarity Metric*  
Thiago Pereira and Szymon Rusinkiewicz  

1557
Keynote

Big Data and the Pursuit of Visual Realism

Alexei Efros

Abstract
Over the last few years, the Internet has developed into a gargantuan depository of visual data (photos, videos, webcams, etc) captured by people (and machines) all over the globe. A pressing research question is how this visual data could be useful in graphics as a way of “crowd-sourcing” visual realism? In this talk, I will give an overview of some of the recent work (both from our lab and elsewhere) on using large online image collections to transfer visual appearance as a way of synthesizing novel visual content. I will also touch upon the idea of visual data mining and (appropriately for the venue) ask “what makes Paris look like Paris?”.

Short Biography
Alexei “Alyosha” Efros is an associate professor at the Robotics Institute and the Computer Science Department at Carnegie Mellon University, while also maintaining strong ties to the INRIA/ENS team WILLOW in Paris. His research is in the area of computer vision and computer graphics, especially at the intersection of the two. He is particularly interested in using data-driven techniques to tackle problems which are very hard to model parametrically but where large quantities of data are readily available. Alyosha is a recipient of CVPR Best Paper Award (2006), NSF CAREER award (2006), Sloan Fellowship (2008), Guggenheim Fellowship (2008), Okawa Grant (2008), Finmeccanica Career Development Chair (2010), ECCV Best Paper Honorable Mention (2010), and SIGGRAPH Significant New Researcher Award (2010).