

OKCupid Salon // June 24, 2014



Login Instantly!



= good-looking

#### dinercandles:

We are very pleased to report that you are in the top half of OkCupid's **most attractive users**. The scales recently tipped in your favor, and we thought you'd like to know.

How can we say this with confidence? We've tracked click-thrus on your photo and analyzed other people's reactions to you in **QuickMatch** and **Quiver**.

...

Your new elite status comes with one important privilege:

**You will now see more attractive people in your match results.**

This new status won't affect your actual match percentages, which are still based purely on your answers and desired match's answers. But the people we recommend will be more attractive. Also! You'll be *shown* to more attractive people in their match results.

...

Suddenly, the world is your oyster. [Login now](#) and reap the rewards. And, no, we didn't just send this email to everyone on OkCupid. Go ask an ugly friend and see.

Online Dating:  
its Contents and Discontents

;) )

Program:

*Body Piece* (2014)  
*Candle Piece* (2010-2012)

[REDACTED]  
Daniel Fishkin

*Valentine for Perfect Strangers*  
(2007)  
Ben Cooley

Profile pic photo booth (behind the blue curtain)

Social science pheromone laboratory  
(to participate in the experiment,  
please see Julia Pelta Feldman)

To our friends and our enemies, the curious and the spurious, the online daters and the online haters: welcome to our love affair with internet romance. We hope that this will be the first of many salon evenings programmed by artists here at the Room & Board residency.

- rumble\_bee, Room & Board

*Body Piece*

*Performance at 8pm in the kitchen.*

Laptop ensemble:

E. G. Burt / (account not found)  
Julia Pelta Feldman / rumble\_bee  
Shirin Khaki / papercabbage  
Abigail Lloyd / pinetal  
Dina Maccabee / unemusicienne  
Deborah Peña / (account not found)  
Eliza Madelyn Perlmutter /  
Eino\_Madelyn

“I found the seed for this piece in Ben Cooley's *Valentine for Perfect Strangers*. Online dating interests me in its ideal form — as a portal into another dimension, an unmediated zone where strangers can be candid and close. In this piece, performers create their own score by surfing OKCupid and harvesting text, which is then played back by the computer's internal speech engine. The scores were edited collaboratively as an ensemble. I want to let the abstract poetics of OKCupid be heard without humor, and ring out the stark pathos they contain.”

- dinercandles, May 2014

## *Candle Piece*

*Performance at 9pm in the living room.*

“After Nic Collins’ *In Memoriam*, I was inspired to make a circuit which responds to flame. I waited until I found the perfect candles — 5 minute long candles — that provided a concise narrative arc for this circuit. I gave myself several limitations with this one: make the sculpture as small as possible, make it silent in darkness, and don’t do anything besides light the damn candle. I’ve updated this circuit several times over the years; this version now uses triangle waves instead of square waves.”

*This performance of Candle Piece is dedicated to our dear friend Matt O’Connell (1987-2014), a brilliant mind and equally sparkling spirit. Matt’s academic studies focused on issues of cross-cultural interaction and architecture in Seljuq-era Anatolia and Iran, though he was also a sophisticated theorist of net art and a talented online dater. He spent last week, his last week, here with us. We miss him so much.*

### *Matt’s self-summary:*

“When I wake up in the morning, I remember my dreams. Man of few words until I start going but then have trouble stopping. Try to remain humble about how great life has been. Not shy by any means, but generally a quiet one in public.”

## **R o o m & B o a r d**

is an experimental\* artists’ residency located here at my apartment in Williamsburg. My high school sweetheart, Daniel Fishkin, is the first artist in residence for June 2014.

\*This is an apology, not a boast.