



FREE
PUBLIC LECTURE



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

The Fine Arts Network
and
School of Art History, Cinema, Classics and Archaeology

invites you to a public lecture, followed by member's drinks

David Lomas

Senior Lecturer in Art History, University of Manchester, Associate Director of the
AHRB Research Centre for the Studies of Surrealism and its Legacies

Remedy or Poison?
Medicine and Technology in
Diego Rivera's
History of Cardiology Murals (1943-44)
on

Wednesday 17 August 2005, 6.30 PM
Elisabeth Murdoch Theatre, Old Pathology Bldg

Hopes and fears about modern science and technology were prevalent in twentieth century culture and society. Surfacing explicitly in the political and philosophical discourse, they are refracted also in visual culture. Modern science and technology, which drive economic and social development, can be viewed as a panacea for social ills. On the other hand, there is the familiar dilemma: can the technology we created be controlled, or is it destined to master and control us? These issues assumed a distinctive form in Mexico after the Revolution where poverty and backwardness pointed to the urgent need to modernise, which inevitably meant entering into a Faustian pact with the industrialised West, while at the same time there was a desire to assert an independent nationhood through the reclamation of a pre-European Aztec past. This paper will take Diego Rivera's History of Cardiology murals as the basis for a discussion of the representation of technology and modernity in his work.

Drinks following the lecture are available to FAN members only; \$5 non members deductible from membership subscription. Please email a.james3@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au if you would like to join the drinks. Membership of FAN is \$50, (\$40 students with photocopy of student card) and includes a copy of the 2005 issue of Melbourne Art Journal, as well as numerous other benefits.