

Here is a detailed timeline of the main events covered in the sources, followed by a cast of characters with brief bios:

Detailed Timeline of Cyberthon Events (1987-1996)

Late 1980s (c. 1987 onwards): Emergence of Melbourne's Techno, Tekno, and Rave Cultures:

- Melbourne's electronic music scene begins to develop, with a DIY ethos and a rejection of commercialism.

c. 1987-1990: St Kilda Share-house Gatherings:

- Jeff Jaffers and Ollie Olsen host weekly informal gatherings at their Marine Parade share-house in St Kilda.
- These gatherings focus on discussions around emergent technologies like modems, computers, chaos theory, cyberpunk, virtual reality, and electronic music.
- Regular attendees include Adem Jaffers, Gus Till, Geoffrey Hales, Troy Innocent, Adam Brown, Des Amos, James Widdowson, Damien Morton, Jim Boldiston, and Andrew Till.
- The group attends a lecture by Timothy Leary at Swinburne University.

c. 1987: RMITV Station ID Creation and the "Peacock" Incident:

- Attilio Gangemi creates an animated station ID for RMITV resembling the NBC peacock, using Deluxe Paint on an Amiga 500.
- c. 1988: The Federal Police raid the RMITV archives searching for a hacked recording labeled "PEACOCK" (a phone conversation between Andrew Peacock and Jeff Kennett).
- The original RMITV station ID tape is accidentally discarded during this incident, leaving RMITV without an ID.

1990: Adem Jaffers Creates New RMITV Station ID:

- Liam O'Hara invites Adem Jaffers to create a new animated station ID for RMITV's upcoming seven-day test transmission.
- Adem animates the ID using Deluxe Paint and Imagine 3D on an Amiga 500, with fractals rendered on multiple Amigas and a soundtrack by Ollie Olsen.

Mid-1991: Conception and Production of "Cyberdelia" Documentary:

- Liam O'Hara invites Adem Jaffers to create a short video package representing Melbourne's emerging Cyber and Techno subcultures.
- Adem collaborates with Troy Innocent, Dale Nason, Susan King, and Milena Romanin under the initial co-op name "Tekno Mandala Productions."
- The project evolves from a montage to a potential live broadcast, then settles on a "magazine" style documentary directed by Steve Spangaro and assisted by Mike Collins.
- The co-op is renamed "Cyberdelia Production."

- "Cyberdelia" features interviews with Gus Till, Ollie Olsen, Jeff Jaffers, Troy Innocent, Dale Nason, Natalie Jerimijenko, Adem Jaffers, Stelarc, and Captain ROM.
- Justin Kibel creates on-screen computer directories for the documentary using an Amiga.

Late 1991: Broadcast of "Cyberdelia" and Emergence of Cyberthon:

- A technical issue (a hole punched in the control track of one of the edit tapes) necessitates a live playback of the two "Cyberdelia" tapes.
- Adem Jaffers, Mike Collins, and Milena Romanin remix the "Cyberdelia" segments live, extending the broadcast beyond its original length – this is retrospectively titled "Cyberdelia [REMIX]".
- They continue broadcasting random RMITV program tapes, creating an impromptu video mashup now titled "Cyberdelia [RMITV-MIXUP]".
- **December 1991: Cyberthon-I: For the Mind, Body and Soul:** Steve Middleton invites Adem Jaffers to organize a longer event in the style of the "Cyberdelia" remix for the next RMITV test transmission.
- Adem proposes a 24-hour marathon, which becomes a 12-hour live broadcast from the RMITV studio.
- The first event under the name "Cyberthon" takes place.
- Features collaborations and performances by Cyber Dada (Troy Innocent, Dale Nason, Elena Poppa), Steve Middleton & Attilio Gangemi, Nuero (Adem Jaffers) with Jason Mac & Terence Ho (Blast Off Sound Systems) and Baby Lemonade, Jeff Jaffers & Kimberley Hughes with Ollie Olsen (DJ set), and Darren Porter & Paul Wain (Acid Death Bed).
- Baby Lemonade makes their debut live TV performance, and Acid Death Bed plays their last gig.
- Susan King is captured on candid camera tweaking the Fairlight video processor.
- Captain ROM manages the audio during Ollie Olsen's set.
- Deb Agar and Gary Gallagher (TVU) visit the studio and invite Adem to consider a Cyberthon event at their warehouse.

1992: Cyberthon-II: The Virtual Transmission:

- Takes place during TVU's 7-day test broadcast at their warehouse in Footscray.
- Planned as a three-day continuous event.
- Features a larger number of artists and stricter programming constraints.
- Highlights include an "Ambi-Jam" by Gus Till, Ollie Olsen, Geoffrey Hayles, and Simon Polinski with live video mixing by Jeff Jaffers and Attilio Gangemi.
- Stelarc performs with his "Third Arm" setup, collaborating with Adem Jaffers (Tekno Mandala).

- Contributions from The Bureau of Inverse Technology (BIT), Kate Armstrong, Cyber Dada's ICON-BODY, hip-hop dance collective "Just to Fresh," and Tanya Hoddinott & Simone Millman (live sculpture).
- Sound engineering by Des Amos.
- Craig Horsham's subversive commercial edits and Zenep Jaffers' "Found Objects" installation are part of the event but not fully mastered.
- The Amiga Users Group showcases Amiga demos.
- A controversial segment with Rudeboy's video featuring Baby Lemonade includes pornographic scenes, prompting Adem Jaffers to pixelate the imagery live.
- A one-hour compilation of the 48-hour event is created.

Late 1992: Cyberthon-III: The Underground Connection:

- Another event during a TVU test transmission at their warehouse.
- Expands the programming to feature ten local bands and ten local DJs (with some international guests).
- Receives funding from Joe Polumbo's Central Station Records.
- 3RRR radio hosts Kate Bathgate and Liz Miller conduct live interviews with Richie Rich, Hydi John, Claude Young Jr., and others.
- Performances by Claude Young Jr., Coral and Stripe (Poets of the Machine), Andrew Till (DJ debut), Soulscraper, Whip, Gstaad, Magnetic Head Circuit, Baby Lemonade, This Digital Ocean, Vertigo Hypo, and DJs Wesley McDonald, Geeza, George Vagas, Mishfingers, Russel Hancorne, Rudeboy, and Techno-Terrorist.
- Adem Jaffers coins the term "Visual Jockey."
- A TVU fundraiser party called "eXcess" is held at the warehouse prior to Cyberthon III and broadcast live.
- Another one-hour compilation is created and bootleg copies are sold to fund TVU and future Cyberthon events.

Mid-1994: Cyberthon-IV: EPIC Omnicast:

- Initiated after Adem Jaffers returns to Melbourne from Sydney.
- Part of the MIMA Experimenta Festival.
- Acronym EPIC stands for (E)xperimenta Festival (P)o, (I)nventing the Image (RMITV art show), (C)yberthon IV: psymmetry in psyburbia.
- Achieves a global live stream via AARNET's M-bone through a connection from the RMIT Computer Science Lab to RMITV, facilitated by Richard Muirden.
- A second lower-resolution stream is set up by Gary Gallagher using CU-SeeMe, along with a website featuring artist profiles and a BBS for audience interaction.

- 3RRR radio station supports EPIC with a reverse-simulcast setup, where RMITV rebroadcasts 3RRR's audio alongside visuals mixed at RMITV.
- Features simultaneous jamming by all original Cyberthon VJ artists: Steve Middleton & Attilio Gangemi (DSTM), Troy Innocent & Dale Nason (Cyber Dada), and Adem Jaffers (Tekno Mandala).
- Marks the first use of a Macintosh computer live-to-air during a Cyberthon broadcast (for Troy Innocent's interactive playback).
- Cyber Dada performs "Swirltime Corp." during the opening 20 minutes.

Post-EPIC 1994:

- Melbourne Consortium Television (MCT-31) begins full-time transmission after years of lobbying by public TV advocates.
- MCT-31 grants a temporary full-time broadcast license.
- This milestone presents both opportunities (more airtime) and challenges (censorship, copyright, time limits) for Cyberthon.

1995: Cyberthon V: Spectrum:

- Evolves into an eight-part episodic TV series broadcast on MCT-31 at the RMITV studio.
- Structured as episodes due to limited continuous airtime on MCT-31.
- Launches a dedicated website for weekly updates (possibly the first Australian TV series with its own website).
- Holds weekly open-source production meetings at RMIT to democratize access for community members.
- Operates as a "Micro-Public-TV 'access' show" within the "Macro-Public-TV access channel" of MCT-31.
- Kim Montgomery (MCT-31 Programming Manager) grants significant creative latitude.
- Features diverse segments including "Flashbacks" (archival footage), "Phuture" (comic reviews by Chrissie Reeves), "Rave Safe" (drug safety with Michael Arnold & Melissa Dent), "abcTVxyz" (video art by Dale Nason & Kim Bounds), surfing/snowboarding music videos, spoken word by Tom Cia, "Street Rave" documentary snippets by Emmy Boudry, experimental performances, environmental messages from Greenpeace, and "RRRealtime" (live multi-format DJ sets by Andrew Till & Adem Jaffers with guests).
- Introduces a 3D animated mascot named "Spectrum, the Light Warrior" designed by Adem Jaffers.
- Each episode is color and astrologically coded.
- Episode 8 is an experimental interactive TV pilot featuring a retrofitted arcade game connected to an Amiga at the RMITV studio, allowing cafe patrons to influence the broadcast.

- Digital artworks for the interactive episode are created by Ian Haig, Dale Nason, Steve Middleton, Troy Innocent, Attilio Gangemi, Julian Wong, Misha Hollenbach, Derek Shiel, Martine Carompt, Stuart McCormick, and Adem Jaffers.
- Sponsors include Custard Shop, Renegade Cyberstore, Galaxy Emporium, Wrong Shop, Smokedreams, Technofear Laser Net, Silent Disco, Metro and Chasers Nightclub's, Psy-Harmonics, Wicked, and MDS Records.

1995-96: Cyberthon VI: VAT (Proposed Project with Telstra):

- John Villani (Telstra) witnesses the interactive pilot of "Cyberthon V" and invites the crew to meet at Telstra HQ.
- Telstra is preparing to launch BigPond and has a substantial budget for video-on-demand development.
- Villani seeks collaboration with the Cyberthon crew, offering access to unreleased hardware and software.
- The initial project is to transform Telstra's "The Edge" exhibit into an exciting public space.
- Adem Jaffers assembles a creative core team including Dale Nason, Steve Middleton, Attilio Gangemi, Robin Cook, Sioux Dollman, Phil Woodman, Tom Thumb, and Frank Peppard.
- The concept involves a crashed UFO craft within the Telstra atrium, featuring interactive broadcast terminals allowing users to select and upload media for global live streaming.
- After six months of research and design, a demo video is presented to Telstra executives in early 1996, met with enthusiasm.
- **March 11, 1996:** John Howard is elected as Prime Minister, leading to the decision to partially privatize Telstra.
- All future funding for the Cyberthon/Telstra project is frozen, and the collaboration ends abruptly.

2013 onwards:

- Adem Jaffers begins the process of preparing and digitizing the Cyberthon master tapes for the ACMI archives, a lengthy process with support from SKA-TV and ACMI.
- Susan King's documentation from the 1990-95 productions is crucial for the archival process.
- ACMI begins gradually releasing the digitized Cyberthon archive via its website and YouTube channel.
- A Facebook page for "Cyberthon: The Reconnaissance Unit 1990-95" is created to share documents, flyers, and memories.

Cast of Characters and Brief Bios:

- **Adem Jaffers (aka Tekno Mandala, Nuero):** A central creative force behind Cyberthon, embedded in Melbourne's 90s rave scene. Initiated and curated the Cyberthon events,

responsible for much of the conceptual development, organization, and VJing (as Tekno Mandala). Also created the new RMITV station ID and co-founded "Cyberdelia Production."

- **Steve Middleton:** RMIT School of Communications lecturer and a producer for RMITV's "Under Melbourne Tonight." Considered the "grandfather of Public-TV" by Adem Jaffers. Provided crucial support and access to RMITV facilities for Cyberdelia and Cyberthon. Also a VJ (DSTM) and collaborated on live multimedia events.
- **Attilio Gangemi:** RMITV's Amiga tech-guru. Created the original RMITV station ID ("Peacock"). Collaborated with Steve Middleton on live multimedia events and was a key technical producer and VJ (DSTM) for Cyberthon.
- **Liam O'Hara:** Producer of RMITV's "Under Melbourne Tonight." Invited Adem Jaffers to create the new RMITV station ID and the initial "Cyberdelia" video package.
- **Ollie Olsen:** Electronic music artist (Max-Q, Third Eye). Hosted early tech gatherings with Jeff Jaffers. Provided the soundtrack for Adem Jaffers' RMITV station ID and was involved in Cyberthon performances and DJ sets.
- **Jeff Jaffers:** Film director (Future Films) and Adem's brother. Co-hosted early tech gatherings with Ollie Olsen. Involved in Cyberthon as a visual artist, creating visuals for Ollie Olsen's DJ set and live video mixing.
- **Troy Innocent (Cyber Dada):** Multimedia artist and member of Cyber Dada. Collaborated on Cyberdelia and was a key performer and VJ for Cyberthon, often with interactive elements.
- **Dale Nason (Cyber Dada):** Designer and multimedia artist, member of Cyber Dada. Collaborated on Cyberdelia and was a key performer and VJ for Cyberthon, involved in flyer design and the interactive episode of Spectrum.
- **Susan King (aka Samcraft001, Samcraft2000):** Artist and editor. Part of the initial "Cyberdelia Production" co-op. Documented much of the Cyberdelia and Cyberthon productions, which proved invaluable for the ACMI archive. Editor of the "Hypostatic" zine.
- **Milena Romanin:** Filmmaker who was part of the initial "Cyberdelia Production" co-op and DJed during the live remix of "Cyberdelia."
- **Steve Spangaro:** Independent video maker who directed the "Cyberdelia" documentary.
- **Mike Collins:** Assisted Steve Spangaro in directing, shooting, and editing "Cyberdelia" and was involved in the live remix broadcast.
- **Gus Till:** Electronic music artist (Third Eye). Involved in the early St Kilda gatherings and performed in Cyberthon events, including the "Ambi-Jam."
- **Geoffrey Hayles (Rip Van Hippy):** Percussionist who collaborated on the "Ambi-Jam" during Cyberthon II.
- **Simon Polinski:** Bassist who collaborated on the "Ambi-Jam" during Cyberthon II.

- **Stelarc:** Renowned performance artist who featured in the "Cyberdelia" documentary and performed with his "Third Arm" during Cyberthon II.
- **Natalie Jerimijenko (BIT - Bureau of Inverse Technology):** Artist who contributed to the "Cyberdelia" documentary and Cyberthon II.
- **Captain ROM:** A figure from the 60s counterculture who appeared in the "Cyberdelia" documentary and was present at Cyberthon I.
- **Deb Agar and Gary Gallagher (Television Unlimited aka TVU):** Key figures in early experimental broadcasts who invited Adem Jaffers to host Cyberthon events at their warehouse. Gary also set up the streaming and website for Cyberthon IV and the website for Cyberthon V.
- **Des Amos:** Audio technician who was crucial for the sound engineering of the Cyberthon events, earning the nickname "No Stress Des."
- **Joe Polumbo:** Owner of Central Station Records who generously funded Cyberthon III.
- **Kate Bathgate (Tranzmission, 3RRR) and Liz Miller (Spirit Level, 3RRR):** Radio hosts who supported Cyberthon III by conducting live interviews.
- **Richie Rich (Hardware) and Hydi John (Every Picture Tells a Story):** Early rave promoters interviewed during Cyberthon III.
- **Claude Young Jr. (2120):** Detroit DJ who performed at Cyberthon III.
- **Andrew Till (The Visitor):** DJ who made his Cyberthon debut at Cyberthon III and became a regular fixture, also co-founded Psy-Harmonics record label.
- **Melanie Carr (ARTVAARK DESIGN):** Graphic designer who created poster artwork for Cyberthon IV and V, as well as the Cyberthon IV crew lanyard.
- **James Widdowson (Imagec):** Collaborated with Melanie Carr on the poster artwork for Cyberthon IV.
- **Richard Muirden:** HDR student who facilitated the global streaming of Cyberthon IV via AARNET's M-bone.
- **Bruce Berryman:** Station Manager of 3RRR who supported Cyberthon IV.
- **Kim Montgomery:** Programming Manager at MCT-31 who supported Cyberthon V ("Spectrum") with significant creative latitude.
- **Chrissie Reeves:** Contributed the "Phuture" comic book review segment to Cyberthon V.
- **Michael Arnold and Melissa Dent:** Hosted the "Rave Safe" segment on Cyberthon V.
- **Kim Bounds:** Collaborated with Dale Nason on the "abcTVxyz" video art segment for Cyberthon V.
- **Chris Coe (Digital Primate) and Andy Taylor:** Created surfing and snowboarding music videos for Cyberthon V.
- **Tom Cia:** Contributed spoken word segments to Cyberthon V.

- **Emmy Boudry:** Created "Street Rave" documentary snippets for Cyberthon V.
- **Eugen-NRG (Paul Gafney):** Performed "Space Between the Gaps" on Cyberthon V and was involved in Cyber Dada's ICON-BODY during Cyberthon II.
- **John Villani:** Head of the Strategic Development Group at Telstra who initiated the collaboration for Cyberthon VI: VAT.
- **Robin Whittle:** Consultant for Telstra (known for 303 Devil Fish modification).
- **Robin Cook (Mutoid Waste Company), Sioux Dollman, Phil Woodman (Voodoo), Tom Thumb, and Frank Peppard:** Members of the creative core team assembled for the proposed Cyberthon VI: VAT project with Telstra.
- **Candice Cranmer:** Time-based Media Conservator at ACMI involved in the preservation of the Cyberthon archive.
- **Nick Richardson:** Head of Collections & Preservation at ACMI.
- **Ben Abbott:** Digital Preservation Technician at ACMI.
- **Peter Lane:** At SKA-TV, coordinated their archive collection project and facilitated access to tapes and facilities for the Cyberthon archiving process.
- **Steve Spangaro:** Also directed the Cyberdelia documentary.

NotebookLM can be inaccurate; please double check its responses.