Sky as artistic medium
focus of first conference

By Michael Shimam

This weekend, artists, scientists, futurists, and sky and space officials met at MIT "to explore the future role of culture in space and to develop plans and thoughts about the human use of space" in the first of four international Sky Art Conferences.

The conference, which ends today, featured exhibitions, lectures, and panel discussions focusing on the sky as an artistic medium and "sky events" including inflatable sculpture, kite flying, and an excerpt from a sky opera by Paul Earls.

Harold E. Edgerton '27, Institute Professor Emeritus and a pioneer in ultra-high-speed and underwater photography, is Chairman of the Conference. Otto Piene, Professor of Environmental Art and Director of the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at MIT, is the Conference Director.

Piene, himself a noted sky artist, first coined the term "Sky Art" about ten years ago and came up with the idea of a Sky Art Conference five years ago.

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