



Artist Bjorn Schulke with his creation *Drone 2* at the Guinness Storehouse in Dublin. The installation is part of *Sentient Cog*, an exhibition exploring the relationship between electronic, mechanical and emotional energy. Photograph: David Sleanor

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.....In *Sentient Cog* at 5th@Guinness Storehouse, Director Paul Murnaghan sets out to explore "the relationship between electronic, mechanical and human emotion" through the work of five contemporary artists.

There is always an element of paranoia and apprehension in our dealings with technology, and Björn Schülke sets out to address it with his *Drone #2*. A drone is usually a pilotless surveillance aircraft. Schülke's is more a satellite-like construction, a big, spidery form suspended from the ceiling. It incorporates "solar cells, heat sensors, propellers, videochips and a TFT monitor", and it is a beautiful object.

Beautiful, but a bit spooky, because its heat sensors respond to the human presence and it begins to behave in a way that suggests it's observing us. Although it looks fragile and elegant, it unmistakably dominates the space. Yet the aesthetic qualities of *Drone #2* probably win out over political. There is a distinct feeling that Schülke loves the technology, loves the forms, the sensitivities, the possibilities.