



PhD POSITION

SPOON, ENSTA-Paris & Robotics by Design Lab

As part of the **Robotics by Design Lab** (RbD Lab), we are launching a multidisciplinary research program “**AI, Robots & Humans? Ecologies of living together**”, which will host 4 PhDs involving 5 industrial partners, 3 French academic laboratories and renowned international researchers (Italy and Japan). The RbD Lab ambition is to be an in-situ experimental platform that challenges the place of robotics and artificial intelligence in the daily contexts of partners on short, medium, and longer term scenarios.

In this context, we are looking for a PhD candidate that will work in an industrial setup (CIFRE thesis), in collaboration with:

- **SPOON AI**, company expert in interactive artificial character, which will welcome the PhD candidate and take part in his/her supervision [<http://www.spoon.ai/>]
- **The Laboratory of Autonomous Systems and Robotics** at **ENSTA-Paris**, member of the Institut Polytechnique de Paris (Palaiseau campus), which will direct and supervise the research on social robotics [<http://u2is.ensta-paris.fr/index.php?lang=fr>]
- **Strate Ecole de Design** (Sèvres campus), which will co-direct the research and will guarantee an user-centered approach thanks to the multidisciplinary community of the RbD Lab [<https://www.strate.education/>].

The PhD topic focuses on two aspects. First, on the creation of a set of **specifications and insights of existing SPOON products and their uses** as well as a **systemic analysis of contexts rich in social interactions** (e.g. an educational place - a school, a public place - a museum, a place of production - a company). This research, focusing on the esthetics as well as on the use of AI, will conclude with a study of the **mechanisms of personalization, natural interaction, and interest recurrence with an artificial intelligence character in order to maintain a long-term relationship with users**. In a second time the PhD candidate will use the set of specifications and insights to enrich the system developed by SPOON, the **CDK (Creature Development Kit)** for a better personalisation and adaptation to different contexts. **In-situ experiments with the public** (content creators and end users) will be conducted in order to qualify and quantify the impact of the developed solutions.

The candidate should have an **interdisciplinary vision and be able to combine software development, design, and UX**. He / She should also be interested in NUI (Natural User Interfaces), be highly interested in building tools and be ready to embrace a systemic and multidisciplinary approach. Rigorous and atypical profiles are welcome!

Send CV and motivations to **Ugo Cupcic** (ugo@spoon.ai), **Aymeric Masurelle** (aymeric@spoon.ai), **Adriana Tapus** (adriana.tapus@ieee.org) and **Ioana Ocnarescu** (I.ocnarescu@strate.design). **Deadline Feb 15, 2020.**

robotics
by design