

# Advanced Synthetic Characters, and One (E) From the “Dark Side”

Selmer Bringsjord  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI)  
Troy NY, USA  
[brings@rpi.edu](mailto:brings@rpi.edu)

## **Abstract**

We describe our general approach to building what we call advanced synthetic characters (or *bona fide* virtual persons), within the paradigm of logic-based AI. To focus our general approach, we provide a glimpse of our attempt to bring to life one particular virtual person from the “dark side” — the character known simply as E (for, as you may have guessed, evil). Building E entails, among other things, that we formulate an underlying definition of evil through philosophical analysis, and that we manage to engineer as well an appropriate presentation of E. At the presentation level, we use an approach based in manipulating facial musculature.