

## **CREATIVE COMMONS WELCOMES JOI ITO TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*San Francisco- and Tokyo-based venture capitalist, technologist, and policy expert joins leadership of the Silicon Valley nonprofit*

**Palo Alto, USA – June 16, 2003** – Creative Commons, a nonprofit corporation dedicated to expanding the world of reusable content online, announced today that Joichi Ito has joined its Board of Directors. Ito is a venture capitalist, technologist, and internationally popular weblogger and commentator based in California and Japan.

“We are thrilled to have Joi Ito join the team,” said Lawrence Lessig, chairman of Creative Commons and professor of law at Stanford University. “His unique breadth of experience in technology, business, and policy – and his well-earned reputation as an innovator on an international level – make him a perfect new colleague for our growing organization.”

“Protecting the commons is essential for enabling emerging technologies and businesses in networked consumer electronics and the Internet,” said Ito. “It is critical for Japan and the rest of the world to understand and embrace Creative Commons’ principles and tools. I am honored to join this world-class organization to help make it happen.”

Ito joins a Board of Directors that includes Lessig; fellow cyberlaw experts James Boyle, Michael Carroll, and Molly Shaffer Van Houweling; public domain web publisher Eric Eldred; filmmaker Davis Guggenheim; MIT computer science professor Hal Abelson; and lawyer-turned-documentary filmmaker-turned-cyberlawyer Eric Saltzman.

### **More about Joichi Ito**

Joichi Ito is the founder and CEO of Neoteny, <<http://www.neoteny.com>>, a venture capital firm focused on personal communications and enabling technologies. He has created numerous Internet companies including PSINet Japan, Digital Garage and Infoseek Japan. In 1997 *Time* ranked him as a member of the CyberElite. In 2000 he was ranked among the “50 Stars of Asia” by *Business Week* and commended by the Japanese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications for supporting the advancement of IT. In 2001 the World Economic Forum chose him as one of the 100 “Global Leaders of Tomorrow” for 2002.

More information at <<http://joi.ito.com>>.



*<http://creativecommons.org>*

## **Press Release**

### **More about Creative Commons**

A nonprofit corporation, Creative Commons promotes the creative re-use of intellectual works – whether owned or public domain. It is sustained by the generous support of The Center for the Public Domain and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Creative Commons is based at Stanford Law School, where it shares staff, space, and inspiration with the school's Center for Internet and Society.

More information at [<http://creativecommons.org>](http://creativecommons.org).

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