

Press release:



CYNETART 2014 – 18th International festival for computer based art and transdisciplinary media projects

The 18th CYNETART festival explores the interconnection between humans, technology, and nature. From 13.-19 November 2014 a unique programme in the field of technology-based arts will be presented at Festspielhaus Hellerau in Dresden, Germany. The international festival opens on Thursday, 13th of November with an official Award Ceremony presented within the framework of this year's CYNETART Competition.

More than 530 artists from over 43 countries applied to this year's open call for the CYNETART Competition, the most important international media arts competition after the Ars Electronica Awards, that is produced by Trans-Media-Akademie Hellerau e.V. since 1997. Works by a selection of artists who took part in the competition will be on display in this year's festival exhibition. The partition of »CY | NET | ART« in the exhibition refers to the co-existence of different species and suggests multiple possibilities of interconnectivity, for example between technology and animals, machines and plants, as well as humans and holographs.

The connected human being is the focus of CYNETART 2014. The interaction with our own holographic avatar reflects our perception of ourselves, our own self image. Our demand for establishing contact between one another and with other species, conveyed in both a purely energetic way as well as through different mediums employed, is ongoing. In the sense of cybernetics, connections are made between disciplines, species, and data, then networked and put into relation to one another. The following artworks will be presented within this framework: Marije Baalman and Marco Donnarumma »Nigredo«, humane after people »Molding the Signifier«, Saša Spacal, Mirjan Švagelj, Anil Podgornik »My-Connect«, Chiara Esposito »Sometimes a plant dreams of flying«, Robert Verch and Eva Olivin »Es gibt viel zu tun - Hau'n wir ab«, Kuai Shen »Playing with ants & other insects«, Martin Howse »Sketches towards an Earth Computer«, Katharina Groß »The invisible thread«, alien productions »metamusic«, Jo Siamon Salich »HOLOstage«, Lucie Freynhagen »Computer Based Art, (2014)«, Ernst Markus Stein »DIY Church Radio«, and Moritz Simon Geist »MR-808 interactive«.

An important component of CYNETART festival 2014 is dedicated to supporting international-level collaboration between artists and scientists who explore the field of full dome environments as a platform for creative innovation within the framework of the E/M/D/L – European Mobile Dome Lab for Artistic Research project. Taking cues from developments in Montreal, Athens, and Plymouth, the Festspielhaus Hellerau in Dresden will be the fifth station of the E/M/D/L project, showcased during the CYNETART festival in November. It will open up a space dedicated to the exchange of ideas, knowledge, methodologies, strategies, as well as artistic content and to the exploration of practical solutions for participants from the Fine Arts sector and creative industries. More than 20 media artists from Europe and Canada will take part in the workshop in Dresden, in order to create new productions for the full dome environment via practical artistic exploration. It will be the first public presentation of artistic results of the E/M/D/L project in Europe.

Furthermore, the project's European dimension as well as the creative role and direction of Trans-Media-Akademie Hellerau reveals itself through the presentation of several prototypes such as „HOLOstage“ by the Dresden based artist Jo Siamon Salich. Salich collaborated with associated artists and engineers within the framework of another EU cooperation project, METABODY, over the duration of two months, in order to create an installation for communication. Constructed as an experimental set-up facilitating the possibility of an intimate and reactive interaction with holographs, HOLOstage is an example of the ongoing international research and practice fostered within of the Trans-Media-Akademie Hellerau. This year's festival also hosts a performance of »THÆTA« by StratoFyzika, and the latest tendencies from Berlin through live performances by OAKE and Moon Wheel, presented in collaboration with Berlin-based CTM Festival. Festivalgoers are also invited to dive into electronic sound worlds during one night of the microscope session series.

Detailed information on the programme is available on the CYNETART-Website: cynetart.de.

Presale tickets are available at reservix.de and the visitor's centre of HELLERAU – European Centre of the Arts Dresden.

Laureates of the CYNETART Competition 2014 will be announced at the Award Ceremony. While names will be sent to your editorial staff in advance, we kindly request that you withhold publication until the date specified within this send-out. The CYNETART 2014 press conference takes place on the 11th of November at 11 am. We will send you an invitation at the beginning of November.

Interviews available upon request.

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CYNETART festival is organized by Trans-Media-Akademie Hellerau e.V. in cooperation with HELLERAU – Centre for the Arts Dresden and European networking projects:

E.C.A.S. – Networking Tomorrow's Art For An Unknown Future,
METABODY – Media Embodiment Tékhne and Bridges of Diversity und
E/M/D/L – European Mobile Dome Lab for Artistic Research

Partners: Altes Wettbüro Dresden, ARTE Creative – Magazin, Labor und Netzwerk für zeitgenössische Kultur, Bon Voyage Dresden, C. Rockefeller Center for the contemporary Arts, CTM Festival, Danco-Technik, Dresdner Zentrum der Wissenschaft und Kunst, EJECT Systems, GebäudeEnsemble Deutsche Werkstätten Hellerau, Medienkulturzentrum Dresden, Motorenhalle – Projektzentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst, Ostsächsische Sparkasse Dresden, pingundpong* Mission Sehkultur, Wildsmile Studios Dresden

Supporters: Programm KULTUR (2007-2013) der Europäischen Kommission, Kulturstiftung des Freistaates Sachsen, Amt für Kultur- und Denkmalschutz der Landeshauptstadt Dresden, Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst, Vertretung der Regierung Québec Berlin, NPN – NATIONALES PERFORMANCE NETZ

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