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HYBRID

living in paradox

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ARS ELECTRONICA 2005

Festival für Kunst, Technologie und Gesellschaft

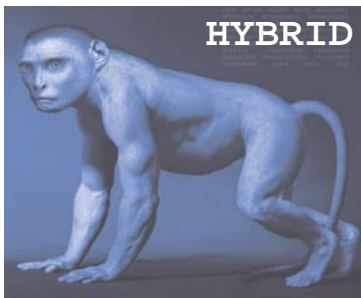
LINZ, Do 1. - Di 6. September

 ARS ELECTRONICA

 BRUCKNER
HAUS

 OK Centrum für Gegenwartskunst
Oberösterreich

 ORF



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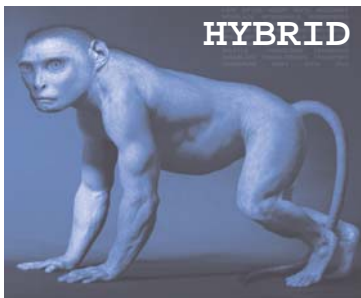
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**Additional information about the Ars Electronica Festival:
and in the Ars Electronica Press Lounge:**

<http://www.aec.at/hybrid>
<http://www.aec.at/press>



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1 Overview

Hybrid - living in paradox

The rapid breakdown of boundaries and ongoing fusions in art, technology and society will occupy the focal point of the 2005 Ars Electronica Festival. An extensive lineup of events, conferences, symposia, exhibitions and performances will open up insights into the state of the art of international media culture.

Science, research, media, politics, art, cultural identity and the definition of physicality-traditionally separate domains are blending together to engender new products, alliances and forms of expression. The consequences of this trend are "mixed", hybrid solutions like nanotechnology, bionic prostheses, culture jams, hybrid motors, podcasting and blogging.

With "Hybrid - living in paradox", Ars Electronica is dedicated to the implosive tendencies that have been triggered by digital technologies and are now changing our world. Cultures are being superimposed upon one another and fused together, barriers are being broken down-national ones as well as those of a material, technological and psychological nature.

In the words of Ars Electronica Artistic Director Gerfried Stocker: *"Ultimately, digital media art is itself a hybrid, the upshot of crossing art and technology. It encompasses the entire spectrum of expressive forms and calls for an extraordinary crossover of knowledge and expertise."*

New Events, New Venues

The new **Animation Festival** will screen over 100 animated films and thereby illustrate the current state of visual design. The spacious assembly shop of the Austrian Federal Railway's Technical Services in Linz provides an extraordinary backdrop for "**Suspended Engines**", the finale of the Festival's first day and the international, multicultural kickoff of Ars Electronica week.

The role of Linz as a center of global media culture will be powerfully underscored with the opening of the **Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Culture and Media Science** in conjunction with Ars Electronica 2005. The LBI is a cooperation of the Ludwig Boltzmann Society, Ars Electronica Center, Linz' University of Art and Lentos Museum of Art. Another major innovation is **Hotspot Linz**, a municipal initiative that is establishing a new standard for the electronic linkup of an urban community. Also new: **The Gallery of the Province of Upper Austria** is now associated with the Ars Electronica Festival.

Hybrid Cultures and Paradox Machines...

... determine the form and content of this year's exhibitions. "**Hybrid Creatures and Paradox Machines**" showcases artistic takes on robotics, bionics and bio-engineering, artistically constructed apparatuses and poetically useless machines. 180 tons of sand turn Linz's Main Square into a wildlife preserve for artist **Theo Jansen's** bizarre "beach beasts," hybrid life forms generated at the nexus of computer-aided engineering and biological principles.

The overlaying of identities and cultures in the context of globalization occupies the focal point of several exhibitions. **"Campus"** features works from three institutions of higher education in media studies: the Srishti School in Bangalore, Istanbul's Bilgi University and the Interface Culture program at Linz's University of Art. **"Origin"** by Daniel Lee will be on display at the Linz train station. **"CyberArts"** at the O.K Center for Contemporary Art presents outstanding examples of international media culture. The **Ars Electronica Center - Museum of the Future** is putting an accent on youth in its permanent collection with an exhibit focusing on **"u 19 - freestyle computing"**, the Prix Ars Electronica's category for young people.

Conferences and Symposia...

... offer insights into the latest trends at the interface of art, technology and society. **The Hybrid theme symposium** curated by Derrick de Kerckhove is dedicated to an analysis of causes and consequences of the rapid ongoing advance of hybrid phenomena and deeper interconnections among them.

With their overarching theme expressed in the title **"Commons & Communities"**, a series of speeches will address the proliferation of digital communities within the context of a globalized, knowledge-based society. The 2005 **"Pixelspaces"** takes up the subject of emotion and data processing. Technical and legal aspects of free media's access to information will comprise the centerpiece of the **Radio FRO Conference**. Media activism in Italy, "Digital Divide" politics in India and the subject of openness in connection with free software, free access and open cultures will provide food for thought at this year's **electrolobby Kitchen**.

This year, the Johannes Kepler University of Linz will be collaborating on the organization of the first **"Man and Computer"** conference, which will be looking at interactive systems in connection with art, development and science.

Derrick de Kerckhove will deliver a keynote address on Marshall McLuhan. In a newly formatted series of speeches by featured artists, **Theo Jansen** and **Ulf Langheinrich** will offer insights into their work.

Hybrid Concerts and Performances

"Listening between the Lines" will combine elements of orchestral music, digital sound synthesis, live electronics and remix into a concert evening on a grand scale. Music by György Ligeti, Pierre Boulez and Philipp Glass will be performed jointly by Linz's Bruckner Orchestra under Dennis Russell Davies together with young creators of electronic music.

Musicians in India and in Austria will collaborate live on a musical performance featuring videos and a light show on Linz's Main Square organized by the **Srishti School** in Bangalore. In **"Drift - live version"** at the Posthof, Ulf Langheinrich blends visualization and sound into a hypnotic sensory experience. This year, **Linz's Visualized Klangwolke** will be staged by Lawine Torrèn, artist Hubert Lepka's crew famous for their fabulous spectacles. The O.K Night at the O.K Center for Contemporary Art presents **"Electronic Theatre"**, award-winning works of animation from the 2005 Prix Ars Electronica together with digital music and visual performances. Mercan Dede's **"gezgin"** at the Brucknerhaus promises to be an exhilarating amalgamation of traditional Near Eastern music and digital sounds. **"Hybrid Transmissions"** will conclude the Festival on a high note; admission is free of charge.

Patrons and Sponsors

The Ars Electronica Festival and the Prix Ars Electronica are produced by the Ars Electronica Center in cooperation with the Austrian Broadcasting Company's Upper Austria Regional Studio, the Brucknerhaus Linz and the O.K Center for Contemporary Art.



Centrum für Gegenwartskunst
Oberösterreich

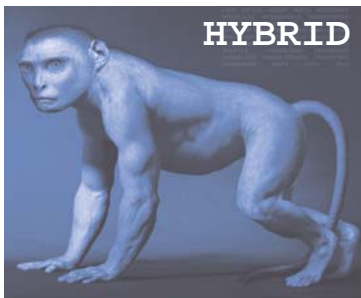


The following Linz institutions have contributed to Ars Electronica: the University of Art, the Lentos Museum of Art, Architecture Forum Upper Austria and the Posthof and Landesgalerie Linz.

Ars Electronica and Prix Ars Electronica are supported by the City of Linz, the Province of Upper Austria and the Office of the Chancellor of the Republic of Austria / Art Section.

Lead sponsors are Telekom Austria and voestalpine.

Additional support has been received from Kulturkontakt Austria, Casino Linz, Pöstlingbergschlöbl, Sony DADC, Linz AG and Spring.



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2 Detailed Information

Detailed Information Overview

2.1. New Events, New Venues

A new animation festival, an extraordinary opening night event and initiatives that sharpen Linz's image as center of digital media culture-Ars Electronica is making things happen!

2.2. Hybrid Cultures and Paradox Machines

Poetically useless apparatuses, art at the zone of impact where Darwin meets digitization, identities in the maelstrom of globalized culture-exhibitions under the heading of "Hybrid - living in paradox."

2.3. Conferences and Symposia

The breakdown of borders, fusions and crossovers, new economic and political alliances, interdisciplinary collaboration in and between art and science: hybridization is the signature phenomenon of our times.

2.4. Hybrid Concerts and Performances

Hybrid experiences of sound and light, of technology and nature, of intercultural, intercontinental exchange.



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2.1. New Events, New Venues

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A new animation festival, an extraordinary opening night event, and initiatives that sharpen Linz's image as center of digital media culture - Ars Electronica is making things happen!

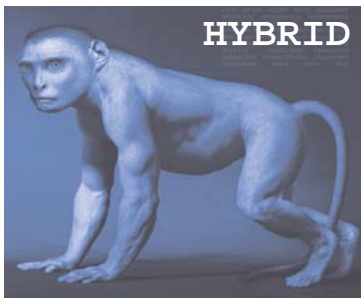
Computer animation lets millions of viewers experience with their own eyes the blending of real and virtual worlds. Leading-edge technological developments and an amazing variety of new currents and approaches characterize this discipline. In big-budget blockbusters as well as works by up-and-coming indie-scene artists, the dynamism evident in the field of animation is breathtaking. Ars Electronica is giving this development the consideration it is due by presenting an **Animation Festival** with a lineup of over 100 outstanding films featuring computer animation. For the first time at Ars Electronica, the 2005 Festival will present a diversified sampling of motion pictures that illustrate the state of the art in visual design and current trends in cinematic content, film technology and the movie industry.

The Austrian Federal Railway's spacious assembly shop in Linz provides an extraordinary backdrop for the conclusion of the first day of the festival and the international, multicultural kickoff of Ars Electronica week with an event entitled "**Emotional Traffic & Suspended Engines**". This event will get things started in style: lots of performances, live acts, good music and free admission.

Linz's role as the center of global media culture will be confirmed in emphatic fashion during the 2005 Ars Electronica Festival with the opening of the new **Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Culture and Media Science** a cooperation of the Ludwig Boltzmann Society, Ars Electronica Center, Linz' University of Art and Lentos Museum of Art. The institute's mission will be to process the comprehensive collection of digital media art in the Ars Electronica Archive and to provide access to this material. In light of the profusion of storage media on hand, this is work that calls for the development of new methods and strategies of documentation, description and preservation. "**Hotspot Linz**" is another project that illustrates how the city is blazing new paths in the new media domain. As many as 200 so-called Hotspots providing free, wireless Internet access will be set up around town by this municipal initiative. Another feature is a Web portal making available a variety of services and establishing a network linking up the entire city.

The Johannes Kepler University of Linz is co-organizer of the first "**Man and Computer**" conference that will be dedicated to interactive systems in the context of the dialog among art, development and science.

Derrick de Kerckhove's keynote address will be about Marshall McLuhan, and artists **Theo Jansen** and **Ulf Langheinrich** will discuss the specifics of their respective modes of production and the theoretical background of their creative work.



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2.2. Hybrid Cultures and Paradox Machines

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Poetically useless apparatuses, art at the zone of impact where Darwin meets digitization, identities in the maelstrom of globalized culture-exhibitions under the heading of "Hybrid - living in paradox."

"Hybrid Creatures and Paradox Machines" showcases artistic takes on robotics, bionics and bio-engineering, artistically constructed apparatuses and poetically useless machines at Architecture Forum Upper Austria, the Brucknerhaus and Linz's Main Train Station.

180 tons of sand turn Linz's Main Square into a wildlife preserve of artist **Theo Jansen's** bizarre "beach beasts," hybrid life forms generated at the nexus of computer-aided engineering and biological principles. The origin of these species is a computer program on evolution and biological selection that Jansen developed 17 years ago and went on to apply in the real world. He uses plastic tubing costing about 10 cents a meter, cable ties, nylon filament and adhesive tape to construct his fragile giants. With propulsion supplied by air, their locomotion is by means of multiple sets of legs; they live on the beach and evolve from generation to generation.

The Gallery of the Province of Upper Austria is a new Festival partner this year. This venue will host Barbara Siegel's **"derelicted ATMOSPHERES"**, a morbidly charming world of things past implemented with leading-edge technologies.

The overlaying of identities and manifold cultural accretion in the context of globalization will be elaborated on in the "Campus" exhibitions at the Linz University of Art. The featured works by students at the **Srishti School** in Bangalore, India, the **Department of Visual Communication Design at Bilgi University in Istanbul** and the **Interface Cultures** program founded in 2004 at the Linz University of Art invite viewers to undertake a conceptual journey along an itinerary provided by young media artists from other regions and cultural contexts.

This year's Festival logo is based on **"Origin"**, a series of images by artist Daniel Lee. Lee invests an average of eight to 12 months of intensive labor in each one of his works. Every image is exactly planned, thoroughly checked and executed with great attention to detail. In going about this, the artist utilizes a wide range of digital technologies. **"Origin"** thematizes Darwin's theory of evolution, the development of human beings from other species and the interconnections among different forms of life. The entire series will be on display at the Linz train station.

With 2,975 submissions by entrants from 71 countries, this year's Prix Ars Electronica displayed strongest growth in the Computer Animation and Interactive Art categories; thus, the Prix Ars Electronica has become a barometer of trends in an increasingly diversified world of media art. **"CyberArts 2005"** at the O.K Center for Contemporary Art will showcase prizewinning works from this year's Prix Ars Electronica. **The Museum of the Future** is devoting a major exhibit to the Prix Ars Electronica's "u 19 - freestyle computing" category for young people.



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2.3. Conferences and Symposia

2.3. Conferences and Symposia

The breakdown of borders, fusions and crossovers, new economic and political alliances, interdisciplinary collaboration in and between art and science: hybridization is the signature phenomenon of our times.

The 2005 Ars Electronica Festival will focus on the rapid and widespread development of hybrid phenomena and the new technologies that constitute the essential driving force behind them.

The **Hybrid theme symposium** at Linz's Brucknerhaus is dedicated to an analysis of the causes and consequences of and the deeper interconnections within this trend. This year's curator is Derrick de Kerckhove, head of the Marshall McLuhan Program in Culture & Technology at the University of Toronto.

"New drivers of hybridization have emerged that make the hybrid condition always more evident. With globalization comes implosion, all cultures and time zones piling up upon each other. Another driver is digitization, inviting an infinity of recombinations. When imploding, things either integrate or break", explains Derrick de Kerckhove, one of the driving forces behind the concept of this year's symposium.

The heading **"Commons & Communities"** subsumes a series of addresses dealing with digital communities—their origins, their significance for public opinion formation and their contribution to communications culture. Among the co-producers of this programmatic lecture series are the **World Culture Forum Alliance** and **Ö1 matrix**.

The theme of the Ars Electronica Futurelab's **"Pixelspaces"** conference is emotion and data processing.

Technical and legal aspects of access to information for Free Media and alternative licensing procedures will be the focus of attention at this year's Radio **FRO** conference.

Emotion and data processing is the topic of **"Pixelspaces"**, a conclave of experts organized by the Ars Electronica Futurelab. **"Man and Computer"** conference participants will reflect on design methods utilizing interactive media.

At the **Prix Forums**, Prix Ars Electronica prizewinners will elaborate on their working techniques and concepts.

Media activism in Italy, "Digital Divide" politics in India and the subject of openness in connection with free software, free access and open cultures will provide food for thought at this year's **electrolobby Kitchen**.



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2.4. Hybrid Concerts and Performances

2.4. Hybrid Concerts and Performances

Hybrid experiences of sound and light, of technology and nature, of intercultural, intercontinental exchange.

Five hours of music and high-definition projections in the Lentos, the Brucknerhaus and the riverside Danube Park between them-a very special concert evening is in store for festivalgoers attending "**Listening between the Lines**". Dennis Russell Davies and the Bruckner Orchestra are setting new standards by premiering a piece in an ensemble production with young practitioners of modern electronic music. Plus, this will be the first time that all prizewinners in the Digital Music category are taking part in a concert of this sort. In the chronology of the collaboration between Ars Electronica and the Bruckner Orchestra, this joint undertaking-a stark contrast to the previous practice of segregating electronic music and juxtaposing it to other genres-represents an important step in the direction of a new mode of production.

An evening completely dedicated to the artists themselves-the grand opening ceremony of **Ars Electronica 2005** segues into the presentation of the Golden Nicas to this year's Prix Ars Electronica prizewinners.

In an impressive extravaganza of music, video and light organized by the **Srishti School** of Bangalore, India, Linz's Main Square will be turned into a temporary stage for a live performance that delivers a high-contrast fusion of the qualities of traditional Indian performance art with digital technologies.

This year's **Visualized Klangwolke** will be staged by Lawine Torrèn, artist Hubert Lepka's crew famous for their fabulous spectacles.

The highlight of **O.K Night** will be "Electronic Theatre," a sampling of recent computer-animated films, digital music and visual performances at the O.K Center for Contemporary Art's Mediadeck.

Mercan Dede's "**gezgin**" at the Brucknerhaus promises to be an exhilarating amalgamation of traditional Near Eastern music and digital sounds. Mercan Dede is perhaps the most extraordinary talent to emerge from Istanbul's rapidly growing art scene. As a musician and music producer, his work combines contemporary styles and digital sounds with Near Eastern melodies from the Sufi tradition.

Admission is free to the final evening's event-"**hybrid transmissions**" (quJÖchÖ) will feature good music and high-spirited revelry to bring down the curtain on the festival week and send everybody home feeling just fine, thank you!

Ars Electronica 2005

Veranstalter / Organization



Kooperationspartner / Cooperation Partners

Kunstuniversität Linz
Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz
Posthof Linz
Architekturforum Oberösterreich
Landesgalerie Linz

Ars Electronica und Prix Ars Electronica werden unterstützt von / supported by:



Stadt Linz



Land Oberösterreich



Bundeskanzleramt / Kunstsektion



Telekom Austria



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Immer bestens betreut.
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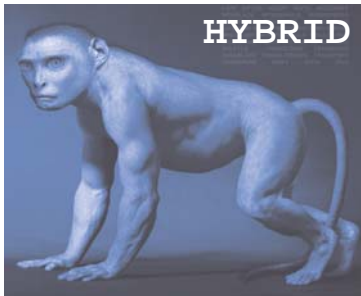


Berufsförderungsinstitut OÖ
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Smart Technologies

Additional Support: 3com, Frank & Partner, Lexmark, Pöstlingberg Schloßl, Nikon, NRG Gestetner, ÖBB, Triple X, Wiener Städtische, VS Fickenscher, Kulturkontakt Austria, Austrian Airlines, M-AUDIO, Lenz Moser



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Ars Electronica Photo Service

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www.aec.at/presskit

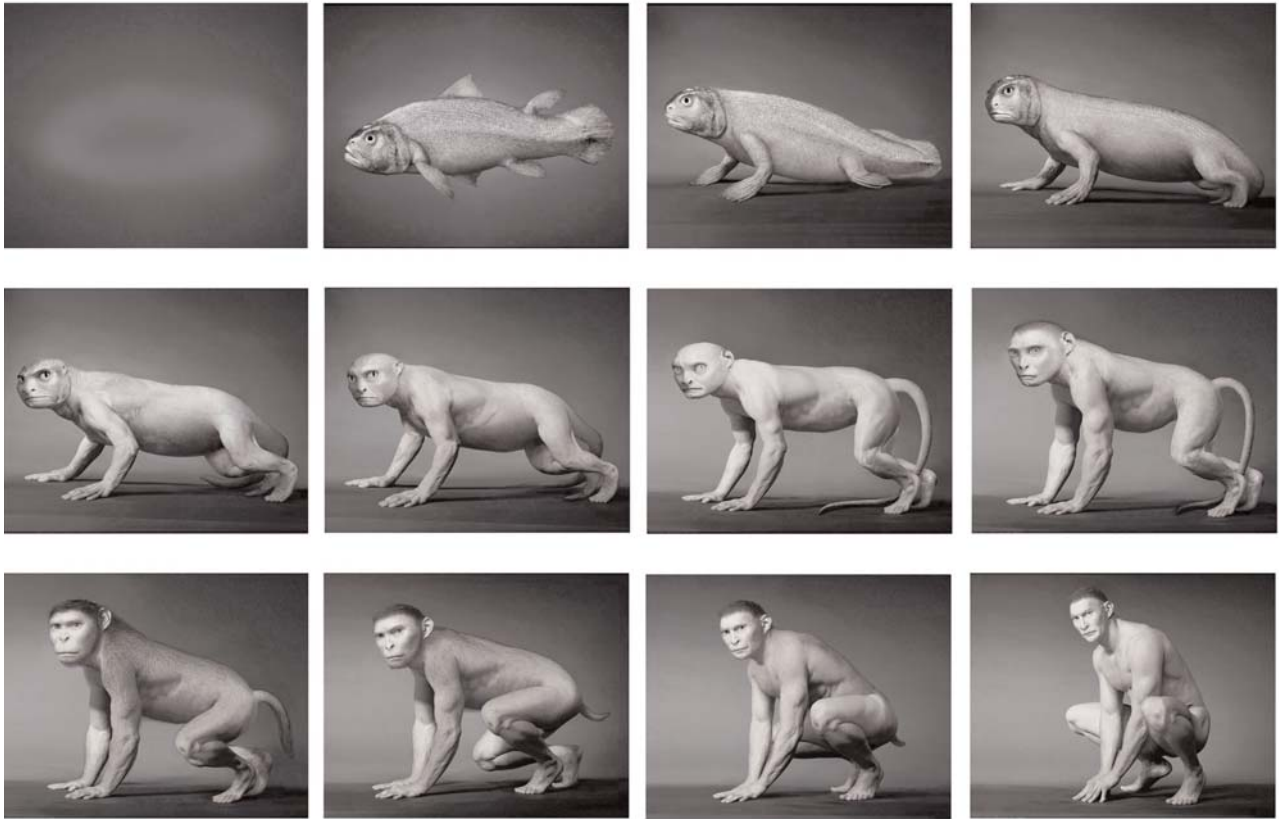
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Origin

Daniel Lee

Photo: Daniel Lee

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Strandbeest

Theo Jansen

Photo: Lourens van der Klis

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City Paradise

Gaëlle Denis / Passion Pictures

Photo: Gaëlle Denis / Passion Pictures

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Kaya

Alceu Baptista

Photo: Alceu Baptista

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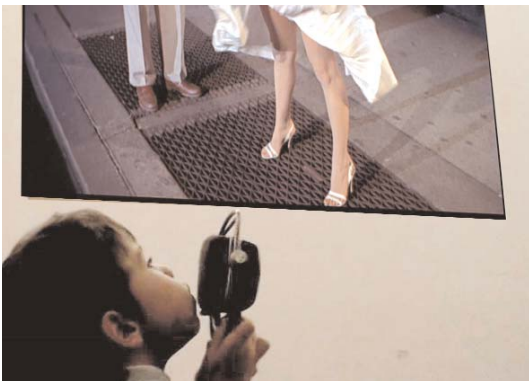


Millionenzimmer Schönbrunn

Ars Electronica Futurelab

Photo: Ars Electronica Futurelab

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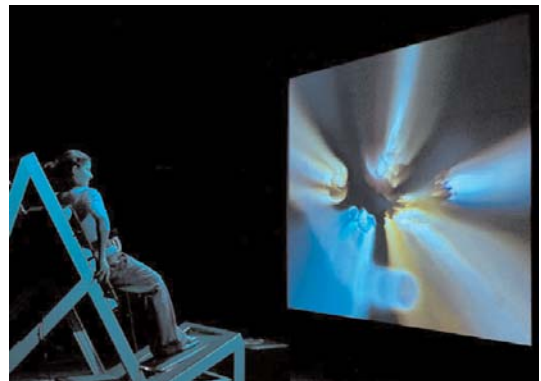


Blow

Taife Smetschka

Photo: Taife Smetschka

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Intimate Transactions

Keith Armstrong - The Transmute Collective

Photo: Seiko Mikami, Sota Ichikawa

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4.1. Accreditation, Interview Service, Ticket Reservations

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Accreditation

Accreditation is fast and easily accomplished online at

www.aec.at/accreditation

Please note that the registration for accreditation has to be handed in until 26. of August at the latest.

Interview Service

Should you be interested in interviewing an artist or a lecturer we can arrange an appointment. You can find details about speakers at the symposium and artists of this years Ars Electronica at www.aec.at/hybrid under "**programm**". If you are interested please contact Veronika Wieser at veronika.wieser@aec.at as soon as possible and let her know who with and when you want to conduct an interview during the festival.

Ticket Reservation

Free entry is possible with a valid press pass at the following events, although additional seat reservations are required.

Ars Electronica Gala

Friday the 2nd of September 2005 at 6.30pm

Brucknerhaus

Listening between the Lines, Part1 ("line1")

Sunday the 4th of September 2005 at 7.30pm-8.15pm

Kunstmuseum Lentos

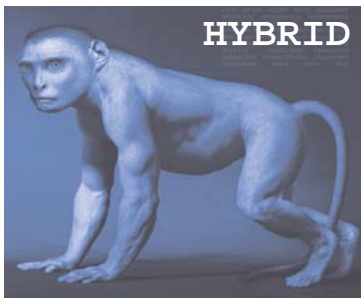
DRIFT - Live Version

Performance 1: Saturday the 3rd of September 2005 at 9pm

Performance 2: Monday the 5th of September 2005 at 9pm

Posthof Linz

Should you be interested in one of these events or performances please contact our press team.



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Dates especially for media representatives

Thursday 1st of September

9am

Ulf Langheinrich: Waveform

Guided tour for the press at the Kunstmuseum Lentos

10am

CyberArts - Exhibition

Press conference at the O.K. Centre for Contemporary Arts

11am

Launch of Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Culture and Media Science

Kunstmuseum Lentos

Friday 2nd of September

9.30am

Ars Electronica 2005 - Hybrid-Living in Paradox

Opening press conference by the Ars Electronica's board of artistic directors

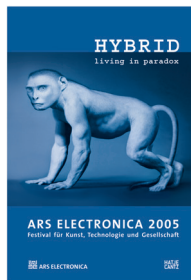
Brucknerhaus - Café Anklang

Tuesday the 6th of September

2pm

Hybrid-Living in Paradox: results

Facts and figures of the Ars Electronica 2005



Hybrid – living in paradox
 Katalog zur Ars Electronica 2005
 Hatje Cantz, Ostfildern-Ruit
 € 28,00
 ISBN 3-7757-1659-9

Der Katalog zum Festival 2005 verbindet in ausgewählten Beiträgen theoretische Reflexionen beteiligter Künstler und Wissenschaftler mit Beschreibungen präsentierter Kunstprojekte und bietet damit erneut einen aktuellen Blick auf das Spannungsfeld von Kunst, Technologie und Gesellschaft.

The 2005 festival catalog combines essays elaborating on the theoretical reflections of participating artists and scientists with descriptions of featured works of art and thus—as always—illuminates what’s emerging right now in the charged field of interaction between art, technology and society.



CyberArts 2005
 International Compendium
 Prix Ars Electronica
 Hatje Cantz, Ostfildern-Ruit
 € 49,90 (inkl. DVD und CD)
 ISBN 3-7757-1657-2

„CyberArts 2005“ dokumentiert die von einem Team internationaler Experten ausgewählten besten Arbeiten der Wettbewerbskategorien „Computer Animation / Visual Effects“, „Digital Musics“, „Interaktive Kunst“, „Net Vision“, „Digital Communities“, des nationalen Jugendwettbewerbs „u19 – freestyle computing“ und des Kunst- und Technologiestipendiums [the next idea] in Text und Bild. Das umfangreiche Buch wird von einer DVD mit Auszügen der besten Computeranimationen und Visual Effects sowie einer CD mit Ausschnitten der Kategorie „Digital Musics“ begleitet.

“CyberArts 2005” compiles text and graphic documentation of the prizewinning works singled out for recognition by juries of international experts in the Computer Animation / Visual Effects, Digital Musics, Interactive Art, Net Vision, Digital Communities categories, the u19 – freestyle computing competition for young Austrian artists as well as the art and technology grant [the next idea]. This comprehensive volume is accompanied by a DVD with excerpts from the best works of Computer Animation / Visual Effects as well as a CD featuring selected cuts from the Digital Musics category.



Press Release - Special Announcement

Vienna, August 18, 2005

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**New Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for
Digital Culture and Media Science in Linz**

Opening of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Culture and Media Science in conjunction with Ars Electronica 2005 - a cooperation of the Ludwig Boltzmann Society, Ars Electronica Center, Linz' University of Art and Lentos Museum of Art.

The new Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Culture and Media Science is being established in Linz to perform innovative research on the development of strategies for the documentation, description and preservation of digital artworks and media art. Specifically, the Institute's mission is to archive and perform scholarly work on the digital artworks that make up the extensive Ars Electronica Archive.

Consolidating scientific, artistic, technological and public mediation activities under the aegis of a single facility is designed to enhance the process of encountering digital art. Linz's Art University, Ars Electronica Center and Lentos Museum of Modern Art and the Ludwig Boltzmann Society-leading institutions in their respective fields-anchor the partner consortium. The project, which has been initially approved to run for seven years, will be collaborating with numerous partner institutions worldwide.

The LBI for Digital Culture and Media Science seeks to tightly integrate scholarly research and its application-oriented use. The upshot of this approach is a tripartite agenda:

- a) scholarly description of digital artworks within the context of art history,
- b) archiving and conserving these works, and facilitating access to them, and
- c) developing computer-based tools to process and utilize the material in a wide range of cultural settings and scholarly pursuits.

The Ars Electronica Archive has been documenting outstanding examples of electronic art and design since 1979. Prominent scientists, artists and computer pioneers including Marvin Minsky, Jean Baudrillard, Nam June Paik, Paul Virilio and John Lasseter have been among the featured guests at this world-renowned festival of art, technology and society over the past 25 years, and have left behind traces of their activities in this archive.

Event:

Presentation of Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Digital Culture and Media Science in conjunction with the "Digital Archives Conference"

Thursday, September 1, 2005

11 AM

Kunstmuseum Lentos (Lentos Museum of Art), Linz