

## **P R E S S R E L E A S E**

# **Groundbreaking for the New Ars Electronica Center**

**Today, March 1, 2007, construction of the new Ars Electronica Center officially gets underway.**

(Linz, March 1, 2007) As presentation venue, educational facility and Ars Electronica's operational headquarters, the Museum of the Future has been a highlight of the Linz cityscape since 1996. Now, 11 years after its dedication, the structure is bursting at the seams. Time for expansion has arrived. An architectural eye-catcher on the outside, the new Ars Electronica Center does an impressive job functionally too: generously proportioned exhibition spaces, modern labs and workshops, and an attractive plaza for outdoor events open up completely new dimensions in the presentation and mediation of art. The new facility's design is the work of Vienna's Treusch architecture. Construction will cost 29.6 million euros. Completion is set for the end of 2008.

### **Construction Site of the Future**

A new, multilevel wing is being erected immediately adjacent to the existing building. The two structures will be wrapped in a backlit glass shell that creates a unitary architectural ensemble. This cityscape highlight will function as a

transparent light sculpture in its own right and the architectural counterpart of the Lentos across the Danube.

The plaza extending parallel to Kirchengasse in the direction of the Parish Church provides the AEC complex with an attractive setting for public events. The eastern end curves upward and features steps/tiered seating; the space directly below this will house the Ars Electronica Futurelab. Spacious exhibition venues will be located beneath the plaza.

The latest info on the construction site can be found here: [www.aec.at/neubau](http://www.aec.at/neubau)

### **“Everything’s Moving” – A Guest Appearance Downtown**

While this new artistic space takes shape at the Urfahr end of the Nibelungen Bridge, the Museum of the Future is relocating to temporary facilities downtown. Until the end of 2008, Graben 15 (on the corner of Dametzstraße) will be the point of departure for amazing journeys of discovery through realms in which fantasy and reality meet. To get a free first look, please attend our gala Open House on May 1. The official opening will take place on Thursday, May 3, 2007, and we’ve got a great lineup of events planned all the way through to Sunday, May 6, 2007.

#### **With queries, please contact:**

Christopher Ruckerbauer  
Pressesprecher Ars Electronica

AEC Ars Electronica Center Linz  
Museums-gesellschaft mbH  
Hauptstraße 2, A - 4040 Linz, Austria

Tel +43.732.7272-38  
Fax +43.732.7272-638

email: [christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at](mailto:christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at)  
URL: <http://www.aec.at/press>