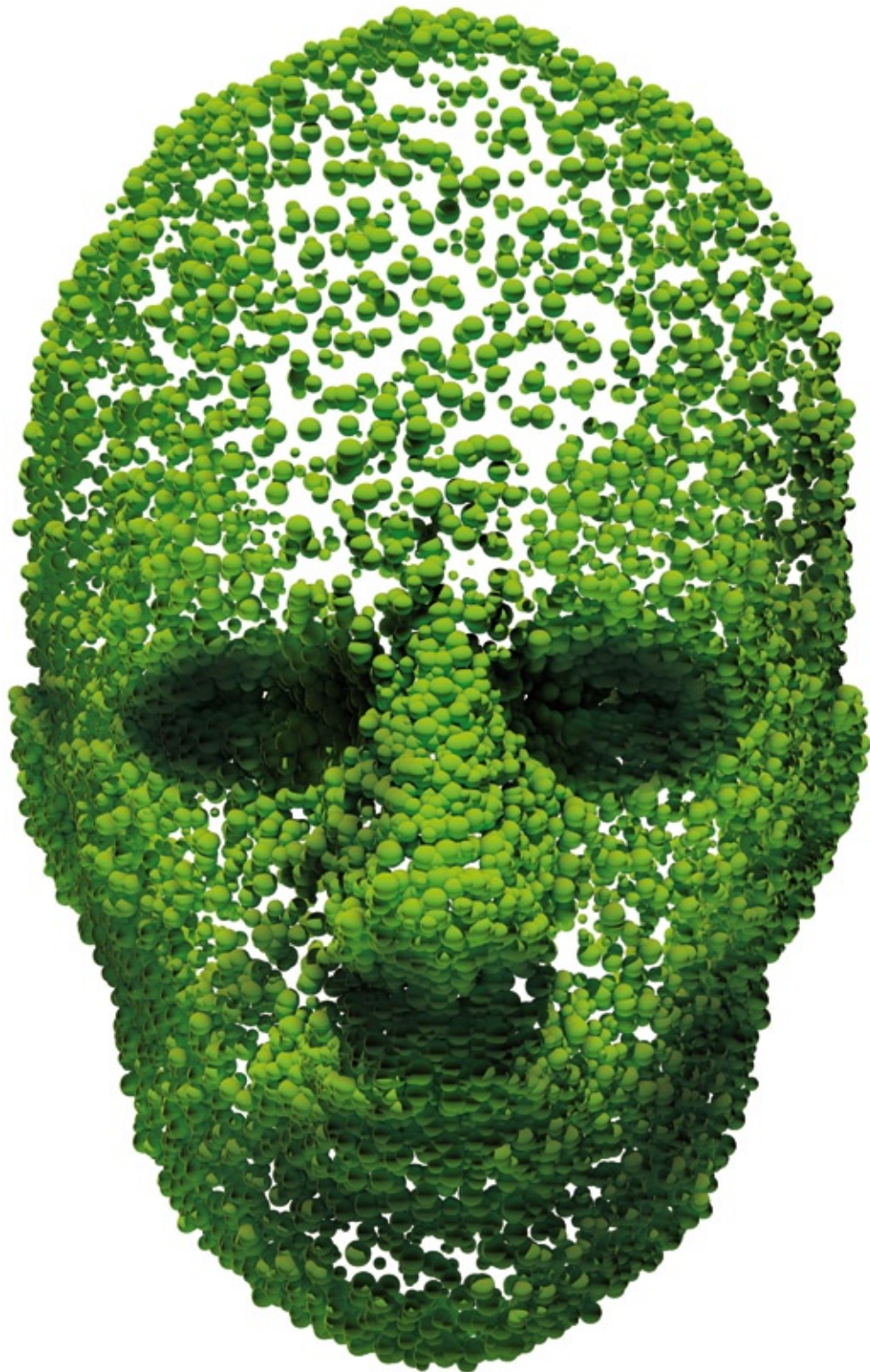


HUMAN NATURE

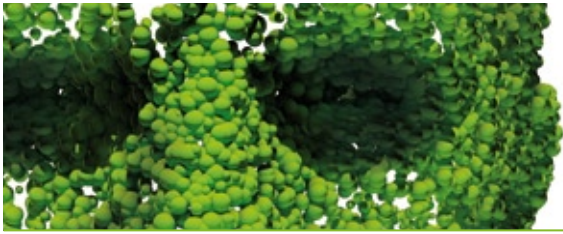


www.aec.at/humannature

ARS ELECTRONICA 2009

Festival for Art, Technology and Society

Linz Thu 3 - Tue 8 September 2009



HUMAN NATURE

ARS ELECTRONICA 2009

Festival for Art, Technology and Society
Linz Thu 3 - Tue 8 September

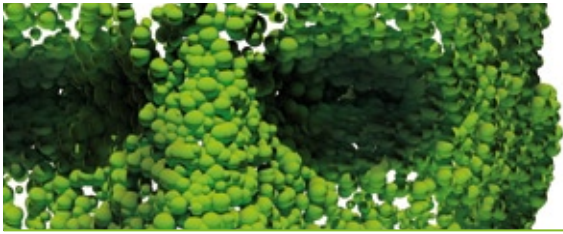
HUMAN NATURE The 2009 Ars Electronica Festival September 3-8

September 3-8, 2009, the Ars Electronica Festival will be dedicated to HUMAN NATURE. Ein Thema, das so alt ist wie die Menschheit – und so aktuell wie nie zuvor. Because at the very outset of the 21st century, it's not only the environment that is changed, it's the fundamentals of life itself—the fundamentals of our own life—that are being subjected to humankind's will to custom-design our world ... The oldest epic in human history—written down about 2,000 B.C.—tells of the attempt to overcome our nature and its transience. 2,000 years after Christ, human beings are still dreaming the same dream. But what the saga tells us Gilgamesh was prevented from achieving now seems to be within our grasp: a new, quasi-divine nature.

This HUMAN NATURE will occupy the focal point at the next Ars Electronica Festival September 3-8, 2009 amidst a mix of speculative futuristic designs and provocative actionism, philosophical debate and analytical scrutiny. Thirty years after its founding, profound human curiosity is still the essential core of this global conclave's approach, and we continue to intrepidly peer far into the future. Our immediate objective: to once again foment a fruitful, fascinating dialog at the interface of art, technology and society. In Ars Electronica's signature fashion, this research will be carried out at an array of locations that go beyond classic conference venues and cultural spaces to pervade the entire cityscape. For the first time, the epicenter of these activities will be the new Ars Electronica Center that debuted on January 2, 2009. After all, this prototype facility is a veritable hands-on showcase of just how scientific findings and methods are changing our picture of the world and our views of humankind. Another hotspot will be Linz's Main Square, the site of the base camp of a virtual global journey entitled "80+1." Following completion of its itinerary that begins on June 17, the expedition party returns to Linz just in time for the festival, where "80+1" will culminate in the globally-networked Ars Electronica Symposium kicking off September 5th.

With queries, please contact

Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



HUMAN NATURE

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The Highlights 09

The complete Ars Electronica 2009 program is online at www.aec.at/humannature and is included in the Festival Program in this press kit. It will also be available from September 3-8 at the Infodesk & Ticket Counter in the Lobby of the Brucknerhaus, Untere Donaulände 7, 4020 Linz.

Events & Performances

Starry, Starry Night – The Opening Event

September 3, 2009, 10 PM to 12 Midnight

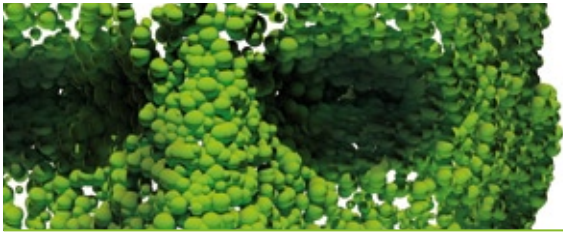
Hauptplatz & Nibelungen Bridge & Ars Electronica Center, Maindeck

Festival Program, page 18

Ars Electronica and the ORF – Austrian Broadcasting Company's Upper Austria Regional Studio are calling upon everyone in Linz to turn out their lights at home on the evening of September 3, 2009 and come down to Hauptplatz, where a bevy of amateur astronomers will be on hand with their telescopes to give stargazers a glimpse of the night sky marred by as little light pollution as possible. "Starry, Starry Night" is Linz's contribution to the International Year of Astronomy proclaimed to mark Galileo Galilei's first use of the telescope to make astronomical observations 400 years ago. His findings empirically confirmed the heliocentric view of the world that had been theoretically predicted by his predecessors! Philosopher Giordano Bruno went even further—he banished the Sun and the Earth to the outer edge of the Milky Way and postulated that ours is only one of a myriad of solar systems in an endless universe. This was a heretical statement that, although it would one day form the basis of our view of the world, in 1600 cost the man who made it his life. But "Starry, Starry Night" also aims to call attention to the growing problem of light pollution. The upshot of this is that the generation, growing up today is in danger of being the first to have never even seen the starry night sky with the naked eye. The use of artificial illumination has increased exponentially; it harms the environment as well as our health, and drains lots of money from the public purse. Starlight travels up to many millions of light years through space before entering Earth's brightly illuminated atmosphere where, in the final few hundred meters of its journey, it is so completely outshone by man-made light sources that it becomes virtually invisible. "Starry, Starry Night" seeks to increase public awareness of this problem. In light of the many important cultural achievements in human history that are attributable to the observation and interpretation of the night sky, the disappearance of the star-filled heavens would be tantamount to the loss of a way of seeing the world for which many human beings have paid dearly to make possible.

With queries, please contact

Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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Façade Festival

September 4-7, 2009

Ars Electronica Center, LED Façade

Festival Program, page 40

The Ars Electronica Center's 5,100-m² glass shell will become a nightly featured attraction in its own right September 3-8, 2009. Artists, artists collectives and educational institutions were invited to use the façade's 40,000 LEDs for artistic experiments. Linz Art University, Upper Austria University of Applied Sciences - Hagenberg Campus, Vienna University of Technology, University of Applied Arts Vienna, the St. Pölten University of Applied Sciences and several artists have developed projects that will be presented during the festival week. Every evening of the Façade Festival, we'll showcase different projects that illustrate the very broad spectrum of approaches to this creative challenge. They're subsumed under three main programmatic headings: Façade Music, Interact! and Visual Experiments.

FM4 SIGNS & SIGNALS

a radio-visual experience

September 4, 2009, 9 PM

Ars Electronica Center, Main Deck & LED Façade

Festival Program, page 41

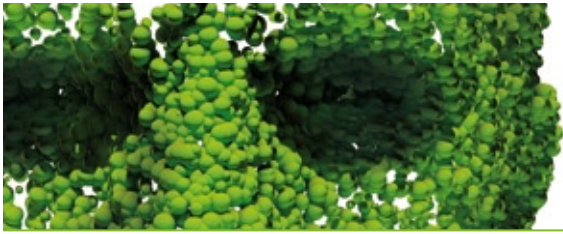
FM4 and freyluft are collaborating on a don't-miss sound & light event: an artistic visualization of radio waves on the pixel-studded outer shell of the new Ars Electronica Center.

The sound collage that will pervade the entire Donaupark is the outcome of artistic collaboration between Matthias 'Functionist' Schönauer (FM4 Unlimited) and Sebastian Schlachter (FM4 La Boum De Luxe). The musicians/producers have created the score for an exclusive live session, and lined up vocalist Mani Obeya (Sofa Surfers) and artist Ulla Rauter (Glissando) to perform it. Schönauer and Schlachter have also invited Patrick Pulsinger and Richard Eigner to contribute their own featured set on keyboards and sound-effects devices.

The light installation on the AEC's LED façade is the work of an artists' duo named freyluft. You can enjoy this spectacle live in Linz as well as via radio and internet as a live video stream at <http://fm4.orf.at>.

With queries, please contact

Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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Prix Ars Electronica Gala

*September 4, 2009, 6:30 PM
Brucknerhaus, Main Hall
Festival Program, page 19*

An evening in which the spotlight stays focused on the artists themselves—the presentation of the Golden Nica statuettes to the Prix Ars Electronica prizewinners is the highpoint of each year's festival.

Visualized Linzer Klangwolke (Cloud of Sound) FLOOD

*September 5, 2009, 3 PM, Hauptplatz (The Prophecy), 9 PM, Donaupark (The Ark)
Festival Program, page 3*

Fabulous creatures designed and brought to life by people from Linz and vicinity traverse the city and transform it into a biotope full of wonders. The 2009 Klangwolke (Cloud of Sound) follows the river all the way back to one of humankind's most ancient narratives: the myth of the Great Flood. During the hours leading up to the climax, the sights and sounds of warning are unmistakable—wondrous creatures stream through the cityscape, and prophets proclaim visions of impending doom. At nightfall, the banks of the Danube will be the setting of a drama between downfall and salvation. With video projections, live music and fireworks, a scenic narrative of survival is played out before the backdrop of the night sky and the big river.

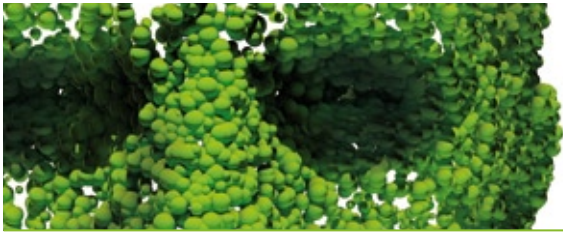
Big Concert Evening

*September 6, 2009, 7:30 PM
Lentos Museum of Art, Brucknerhaus, Donaupark
Festival Program, page 20*

In 2009, we're celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Ars Electronica Festival and taking a retrospective look at a musical past characterized by great diversity: the early days of electronic rock, join-in concerts with home-made instruments, a Steel Symphony and a Steel Opera ... As dissimilar as these acoustic undertakings have been, what they have in common is the urge to discover something new. In this spirit, "Pursuit of the Unheard" is the title of the 2009 big concert evening. The seventh installment of this series features a slightly revised format: for the first time, "Digital Musics in Concert," the performances by this year's prizewinners in the Prix's Digital Musics category, will be part of this evening's lineup—thus, a concert dedicated to the past and the present too. The first part consists of a

With queries, please contact

Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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combination of new technologies and traditional genres and instruments: an “opera” with remote-controlled plastic rabbits, a violinist ensemble and 1-bit music. Next up are visualized orchestral pieces by Arvo Pärt, Alan Hovhaness and Norbert Zehm. The Klangpark will be filled by Bill Fontana’s sound sculptures featuring the chiming of Big Ben, and the sounds of Max Brand’s historical synthesizer. Innovative sound combinations by Christian Fennesz and visualizations by Lillvean will wind up—for the time being—this pursuit of the unheard.

datamatics [ver.2.0] meets UNITXT

*September 7, 2009, 8 PM
Brucknerhaus, Main Hall
Festival Program, page 21*

In his “datamatics” series, Ryoji Ikeda investigates the invisible diversity of the data that pervades our world. “Datamatics” uses pure data as sources for sound and visualization, and enables those who partake of it to reexamine the boundaries of perception. “alva noto” (Carsten Nicolai) plays with the same raw material—in a way that is less abstract but breathtaking nevertheless. “UNITXT” is a reference to units of rhythmic patterns and universal texts (like binary codes). It is dynamically presented with 120bpm, combining highly diverse rhythmic entities and modules with additional text elements. Created in collaboration with French sound artist Anne-James Chaton.

The Featured Artist 09

Hiroshi Ishiguro & Geminoid

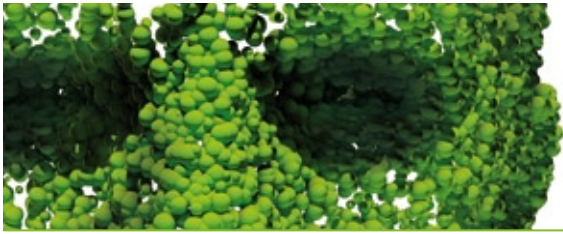
*September 3-13, 2009
Ars Electronica Center, RoboLab
Festival Program, page 24*

How can a person’s unique personality and essential character traits be captured, simulated and imparted to a robot? Scientists now promise to provide the solution in the form of complex artificial beings named geminoids. The name is derived from geminus (Latin: twin, couple) and the suffix “oid.” A geminoid is a robot created as a clone of an actual human being. The human-mechanical duo is linked together by innovative network & sensor technology, so the geminoid not only resembles its human model, it behaves like him too.

Hiroshi Ishiguro, professor at the University of Osaka and guest group leader at

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Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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ATR Intelligent Robotics and Communication Laboratories, served as the model for HI-1, the very first geminoid. Since 2006, HI-1 and other geminoids have been used for purposes of research, which has essentially been following two approaches. Some projects concentrate on the development of a functional remote-control mechanism and the programming of movements that most closely resemble that way a human being naturally moves; others focus on cognitive modeling to investigate typical characteristics of humans—for instance, “human presence.” The combination of the two approaches leads ultimately to the development of robots that strongly resemble a human being and open up novel insights into human nature.

Hiroshi Ishiguro (M') received a D.Eng. in systems engineering from the Osaka University, Japan in 1991. He is currently Professor in the Graduate School of Engineering at Osaka University (2002-). Hiroshi Ishiguro is also Visiting Group Leader (2002-) of the Intelligent Robotics and Communication Laboratories at the Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute, where he previously worked as Visiting Researcher (1999-2002). Ishiguro was previously Research Associate (1992-1994) in the Graduate School of Engineering Science at Osaka University and Associate Professor (1998-2000) in the Department of Social Informatics at Kyoto University. He was also Visiting Scholar (1998-1999) at the University of California, San Diego, USA. Hiroshi Ishiguro was Associate Professor (2000-2001) and Professor (2001-2002) in the Department of Computer and Communication Sciences at Wakayama University. He then moved to Department of Adaptive Machine Systems in Osaka University as a Professor (2002-2009). And he became Professor of Department of Systems Innovation in the Graduate School of Engineering Science at Osaka University. His research interests include distributed sensor systems, interactive robotics, and android science.

Conferences

HUMAN NATURE - The Lectures

September 4 & 6, 2009, 10:30 AM

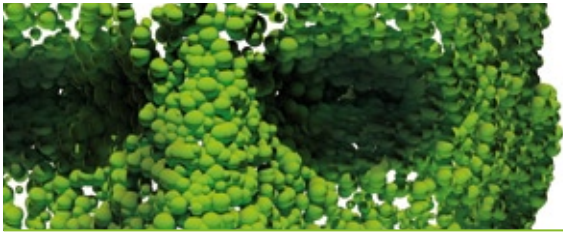
Brucknerhaus, Middle Hall

Festival Program, page 6

Kicking off the Human Nature Lectures on Friday, September 4, 2009 will be **Friedrich Kittler**, one of the most influential and important German media theoreticians and founder of the so-called Berlin School. He'll be followed by 2009 Featured Artist **Hiroshi Ishiguro** of Osaka University. Closing out the morning session will be a round table moderated by **Derrick de Kerckhove**, renowned sociologist and former director of the McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology. Speakers at the afternoon session are **Eduardo Kac** (2009 Golden Nica winner in the Hybrid

With queries, please contact

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Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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Art category) and **Josef Penninger**, scientific director of the Institute of Molecular Biotechnology in Vienna. Then there'll be another round table moderated by curator, author, artist, media theorist and journalist **Jens Hauser**.

On Sunday, September 6, 2009, the HUMAN NATURE Lectures will commence with philosopher/author **Michael Schmidt-Salomon**. He'll be followed by **Maja Petrovic-Steger**, social anthropologist at Cambridge University, and **Derrick de Kerckhove**, all of whom will take part in the round table to follow. The afternoon session speakers are **Bernhard Fink**, evolutionary psychologist in Göttingen, **Shinsuke Shimojo**, director of the Shimojo Psychophysics Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology, and artist **Lawrence Malstaf**. The round table will be moderated by **Andy Cameron**.

CLOUD INTELLIGENCE

September 5, 2009, 10:30 AM to 5:50 PM

Brucknerhaus, Middle Hall

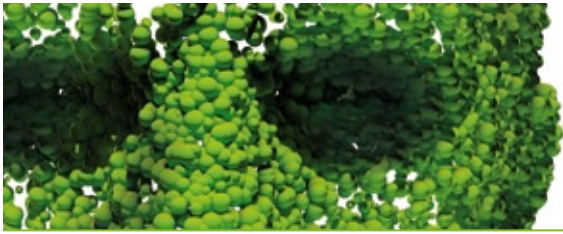
Festival Program, page 8

Inspired by Jules Verne's epic excursion "Around the World in 80 Days," Ars Electronica, voestalpine and Linz09 are utilizing leading-edge technologies to explore fascinating places dispersed across the face of our planet. "80+1 - A Journey around the World" is the title of this undertaking. The stops along the way include the ship-breaking scrap yards of Gadani, Pakistan, the skyscrapers of Dubai, and the bustling markets of Bangladesh. The duration of the journey is 80 days: from June 17 to September 4. On the 81st day, September 5th, the travelers will draw up a new map that shows where our world is headed.

The first part of the symposium is entitled "Cloud Intelligence - Those who enable us and encourage us." Speakers include **David Sasaki** (Introduction to Cloud Computing and Brief Mention of Cloud Intelligence), **Stephen Downes** (Cloud Intelligence - Encouraging collaboration), **Ethan Zuckerman** (Cloud Cartography - Mapping the Flow of Information and Interaction) and **Anders Sandberg** (Distributed Superintelligence). The focus then shifts to "Cloud Activism - What should we do?" The speakers are **Isaac Mao** (Introduction to cloud activism), **Hamid Tehrani** (Review of Iran protests), **Xiao Qiang** (Activism without organization), **Evgeny Morozov** (Activism not Slacktivism), **Kristen Taylor** (The social future of food), **Teddy Ruge** (Diaspora-based Development), **Pablo Flores** (Enabling Cloud Education), **Andrés Monroy-Hernández** (Cloud Programming for Children) and **Juliana Rotich** (Cloud Environmentalism in Africa). Wrapping things up will be a round-table discussion and a speech by **Isaac Mao** (Looking toward the Future).

With queries, please contact

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christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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The symposium is being curated by **Isaac Mao** (CN) and **David Sasaki** (US). Isaac Mao is a software architect, entrepreneur and researcher specializing in social work, business and technology. He is currently the director of or a consultant to a few non-profit programs and several for-profit enterprises in China. David Sasaki is director of Rising Voices, the worldwide "citizen media" contact initiative of Global Voices Online. He's in charge of a portfolio of smaller projects in the Third World that are utilizing citizen media to implement social change. Prior to focusing his efforts on outreach activities, he was Global Voices' regional editor for Latin America—monitoring the Latin American blogosphere, identifying important content, and translating the selected material from Spanish into English. Sasaki made the transition to online journalism after having worked as a freelance Web developer and English teacher in Monterrey, Mexico. He divides his time between domiciles in North and South America, and is a frequent contributor to Rising Voices and Global Voices in addition to maintaining his own weblog.

Prix Forums

September 4-7, 2009

Brucknerhaus, Middle Hall & Ars Electronica Center, Sky Loft & Hauptplatz, Base-camp

Festival Program, page 10

The 23rd edition of the Prix Ars Electronica attracted 3,017 submissions from 68 countries and thus impressively reflects the entire dynamic and multifaceted spectrum of the cyberarts. Seven juries composed of internationally renowned experts convened to select the winners of six Golden Nicas, 12 Awards of Distinction, 1 [the next idea] Grant, 1 Media.Art.Research Award and 77 Honorary Mentions. These honors along with prize money totaling 122,500 Euros will be presented to the winners at the Ars Electronica Gala. At the Prix Forums, the artists will present their works and do audience Q&A.

ARS ELECTRONICA at 30 - History Talks

September 4-7, 2009

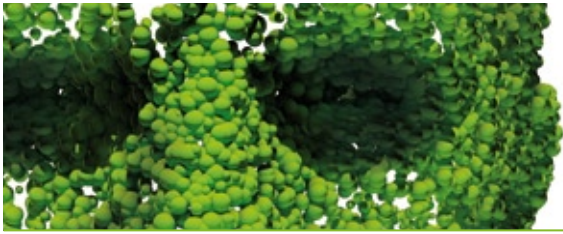
Brucknerhaus, Middle Hall & History Stage

Festival Program, page 12

Jean-François Lyotard's publication of "The Postmodern Condition" launched the discourse on postmodernism in 1979, the same year in which Ars Electronica debuted in Linz. And, indeed, not in the form of a specialized symposium for ivory-tower experts but with an opening event, the Linzer Klangwolke (Cloud of Sound), that attracted 100,000 visitors. This was still in the days before Windows, pre-

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Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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laptop, no cellphones, a world without a WorldWideWeb. Since then, a new digital domain has emerged, one in which we can circumnavigate the Earth in a matter of moments, as is currently being demonstrated by "80+1 - A Journey around the World," a project being produced jointly by Ars Electronica, voestalpine and Linz09. The History Lounge that's being set up in the Lobby of the Brucknerhaus will serve as a setting for installations, artists' talks and performances that will constitute a total-immersion tour through the last 30 years of Ars Electronica.

PIXELSPACES - Do-it-Together

*September 4-7, 2009
Ars Electronica Center
Festival Program, 14*

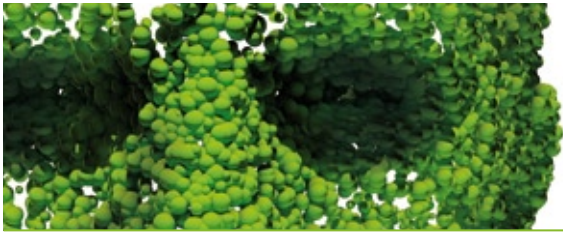
Pixelspaces 2009 is dedicated to the art of new and not-yet-institutionalized transdisciplinary linkups, and spotlights the innovative new poetic forms of expression engendered by them. The focus here—before the backdrop of converging technologies—is on art and science getting things done together!

The new Ars Electronica Center provides a setting for a new conference format: a nomadic symposium staged along the topography of the facility's exhibits and their component installations. An inspection tour through this exhibition opens up various points of access to the discussion of which forms of reciprocal potential arise when art assumes a leading role within the new convergences involving art and information & communication technologies, art and biotechnology, art and nanotechnology, art and neurotechnology. The casting of this nomadic symposium necessarily brings forth hybrid constellations of presenters and presenter teams. The Ars Electronica Futurelab as well as visiting artists, scientists and media technology experts will be convening in various formats to jointly discuss convergences in the participants' respective fields.

The whole conference and each of the individual contributions to it can be considered an experiment that addresses as well as constitutes new convergences. "Do-it-Together" is above all to be seen as a wake-up call for a society that is no longer able to answer its most urgent questions and perform its most pressing tasks within the framework of discrete individual disciplines. In addition to these disciplines, the symposium contributions and exhibition projects are shifting closer together than ever before, a sign that the fields of activity emerging at the nexus of art and science, theory and practice, are blending together into a new functional entity.

With queries, please contact

Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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The Future of Retail

*September 5, 2009, 2-6 PM
Ars Electronica Center, SKY Lounge
Festival Program, page 15*

Ars Electronica and Fabrica, Benetton's center for communications research, cordially invite you to attend a symposium focusing on digital technologies' influences on and interrelationships with the consumer shopping experience.

A stellar lineup of speakers includes top academicians and stars from the fields of business administration and design: author/designer Sabine Seymour, designer Reed Kram, Roberto Saracco (director of the Telecom Italia Future Centre) and Horst Hoertner (director of the Ars Electronica Futurelab). "The Future of Retail" will illustrate new concepts behind and opportunities to use interactive digital technologies to enhance shoppers' fashion retailing experience. This symposium will elaborate on the development of the fashion store concept, focusing on such aspects as the history of fashion retailing, in-store design, branding, visual merchandising, and the emotional and affective components of shopping. "The Future of Retail" is produced by Fabrica in cooperation with Telecom Italia Future Centre, the Ars Electronica Futurelab and the London College of Fashion. Following the symposium Fabrica, the Telecom Italia Future Centre, the Ars Electronica Futurelab and the London College of Fashion plan to carry on their collaboration with a one-year project designed to work out a series of innovative solutions for fashion retailers.

Exhibitions

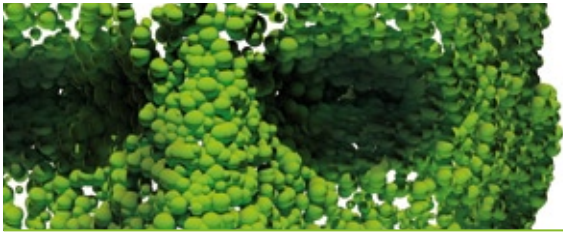
CYBERARTS

*September 3 - October 4, 2009
OK
Festival Program, page 46*

3,017 works from 68 countries were submitted for prize consideration to the 2009 Prix Ars Electronica. The CyberArts show at the OK is once again showcasing a selection of the very best.

With queries, please contact

Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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DEVICE ART

*September 3 - October 4, 2009
Ars Electronica Center, 1st Upper Level*

“Device Art” is a new artform, a synthesis of art, design, technology, science and entertainment. Here, new technologies from everyday life encounter elements of traditional Japanese culture. “Device Art” seeks to understand what it means to live in a world that is increasingly saturated by technology. The project was launched in 2004 by a group of artists, technicians and researchers. The group is headed by Hiroo Iwata; his collaborators are Hideyuki Ando, Masahiko Inami, Machiko Kusahara, Ryota Kuwakubo, Sachiko Kodama, Novmichi Tosa, Kazuhiko Hachiya, Taro Maeda and Hiroaki Yano.

HUMAN NATURE – The Exhibition

*September 3-8, 2009
Brucknerhaus, Lobby & Foyer
Festival Program, page 25*

Paul Crutzen coined the term of the Anthropocene. He referred to an age definitively characterized by humankind’s massive and irreversible influences on our home planet. Population explosion, climate change, the poisoning of the environment and our venturing into outer space have been the most striking symbols of this development so far. But to a much more enormous extent, the achievements of genetic engineering and biotechnology are the truly indicative markers of this transition to a new epoch. Now, we’re not only changing our environment; we’re revising the fundamentals of life itself—even our own human life. The long-established boundaries segregating nature and culture are breaking down, and we are once again confronted by the question of the essence of humanness and the nature of the human being.

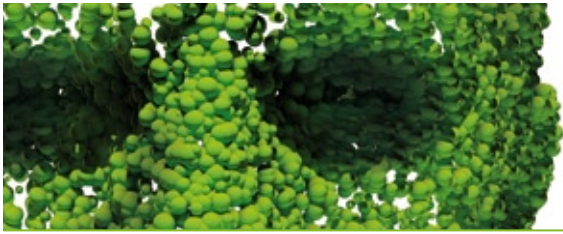
IMPETUS: Works from the MIT Media Lab

*September 3-8, 2009
Linz Art University, Brückenkopfgebäude West
Festival Program, page 30*

The 2009 Campus exhibition showcases the excellent work being done at the MIT Media Lab in Cambridge, Massachusetts—the latest inquiries into technology’s positive and negative consequences for the social fabric. “Impetus” is organized around three sub-themes: community, human nature and materiality.

With queries, please contact

Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



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The Royal Interface Culture Masquerade Ball

September 3 - 8, 2009

Linz Art University, Brückenkopfgebäude Ost

Festival Program, page 32

This year's presentation of the Interface Cultures master and doctoral student projects focuses on do-it-yourself: students not only manage their own projects but also collaboratively organize the exhibition design, the curational direction, the flyers, posters and promotional materials. This year's theme is to juxtapose modern technology with an old-style ball set-up to create a somewhat opulent atmosphere where new and old meet.

80+1 - A JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD

June 17 to September 5, 2009

Hauptplatz, Base Camp

Festival Program, page 34

Inspired by Jules Verne's novel "Around the World in 80 Days," Ars Electronica, voestalpine and Linz09 have embarked on a worldwide expedition. "80+1" is a journey around the world and into the future from June 17 to September 5, 2009. But this doesn't entail any physical travel; this is a virtual excursion via satellite linkup and fiber optic cable. The itinerary culminates on the 81st and last day—September 5th—with a homecoming in Linz during the Ars Electronica Festival. Participants in a globally networked symposium on cloud intelligence will be drawing up a new map that shows where our world is headed.

JAPAN MEDIA ARTS FESTIVAL

September 3-8, 2009

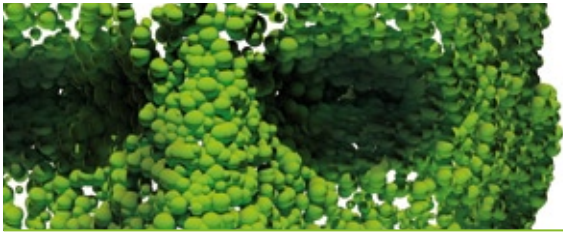
Hauptplatz

Festival Program, page 35

Japan Media Arts Festival has been an annual event in Tokyo since 1997 and awards prizes for creative works in the fields of art, entertainment, animation and manga.

With queries, please contact

Christopher Ruckerbauer
Tel: +43.732.7272-38
christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



HUMAN NATURE

ARS ELECTRONICA 2009

Festival for Art, Technology and Society
Linz Thu 3 - Tue 8 September

MOBILE Ö1 ATELIER

September 3-8, 2009

Hauptplatz

Festival Program, page 35

The “Mobile Ö1 Atelier” set up on Linz’s Hauptplatz will showcase prizewinning works from the Japan Media Arts Festival. Visitors are invited to get active and try these games out for themselves. You’ll see how much contemporary media art and game design influence one another and overlap to such a great extent that it can be called an artform in its own right.

Ars Electronica Animation Festival

September 4-8, 2009, 10 AM -12 Midnight

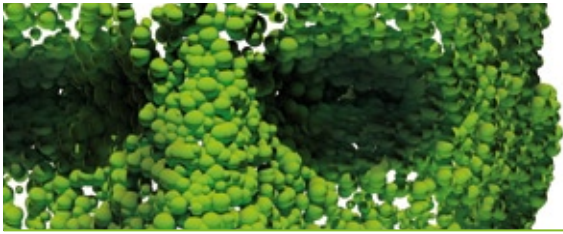
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Festival Program, page 44

More and more of the 21st century’s film stars aren’t flesh-and-blood creatures; the source of their vitality is bits and bytes. The content spectrum of Computer Animations –as reflected by the 500 works from all over the world submitted for prize consideration to Prix Ars Electronica 2009–is virtually unlimited. These efforts range from experimental-abstract productions, sound visualizations, short cuts and special effects all the way to classic narrative filmmaking. The 15 programs that make up the 2009 Ars Electronica Animation Festival’s lineup once again showcase the outstanding work currently being done at artists’ ateliers, universities and film academies as well as in the production studios of the film and advertising industries.

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christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press



HUMAN NATURE

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHRISTINE SCHÖPF (AT) has a Ph.D. in German & Romance languages and literature. She is a radio & TV journalist; 1981-2008, director of cultural/scientific reporting at the ORF - Austrian Broadcasting Company's Upper Austria Regional Studio. In 2009, she was made honorary professor at the Linz Art University. Serving in numerous capacities since 1979, she has played a key role in the development of Ars Electronica: 1987-2003, conception and organization of the Prix Ars Electronica; since 1996, artistic co-director (with Gerfried Stocker) of the Ars Electronica Festival.

GERFRIED STOCKER (AT) was born on January 26, 1964 in Judenburg / Austria. In 1991, he set up the x-space team to carry out interdisciplinary projects. Out of this came numerous installations and performance projects at the nexus of interaction, robotics and telecommunications. Stocker was also responsible for the conception of radio network projects and the organization of worldwide "Horizontal Radio." Since 1995, he has been CEO of the Ars Electronica Center and, since 1996, jointly with Christine Schöpf, artistic director of Ars Electronica.

With queries, please contact

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christopher.ruckerbauer@aec.at
www.aec.at/press

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