

Modern Alchemists and Spaxels as Audience Favorites

85,000 Visits at Ars Electronica 2016

(Linz, September 12, 2016) About 85,000 visits were tallied at the Ars Electronica Festival. "The public response has been overwhelming," said a delighted Gerfried Stocker. "We knew that we really had to outdo ourselves at this second appearance in POSTCITY and I believe we've succeeded with flying colors!"

POSTCITY and World-Record Drones as Top Attractions

POSTCITY's underground was one of this year's settings for media art, which means that the entire facility—from rooftop to cellar—came into play. Davide Quayola's several-meter-tall sculptor robots, Dragan Ilic's "Robo-Action," the huge soap bubbles of Thom Kubli's "Black Hole Horizon" and the Drone Academy in which quadcopter pilots-in-training could hone their skills—amazing stuff was happening on every floor of POSTCITY. The European premiere of "DRONE 100 – Spaxels over Linz" was a blockbuster hit presented in cooperation with Intel. 100,000 spectators—locals as well as folks from all over the world—assembled along the Danube to see the world-record-setting drones perform their aerial artistry. Topping off this spine-tingling display of spectacularly illuminated choreography was music composed especially for the occasion by Sam Auinger.

534 Events over 5 Days, 842 Participating Artists & Scientists from 50 Countries

With a total of 534 events staged over the course of the 5-day run, the 2016 festival's program that was more jam-packed and diverse than ever before. 842 artists, scientists, designers, technologists, engineers, entrepreneurs and social activists presented their works, delivered speeches, led workshop, gave concerts and performed.

382 Partners from all over the World

A prestigious list of 382 associates—including Intel, mobility partner Daimler, Animation Festival sponsor Maxon, and BioAustria—make it possible for Ars Electronica to stage a festival characterized by huge dimensions and superb quality. Plus, various government agencies of the City of Linz and the State of Upper Austria played an important role—without their commitment and cooperation, it would have been impossible to hold the festival in POSTCITY or to stage "DRONE 100 – Spaxels over Linz."

405 Accredited Journalists from 31 Countries

Agence France Press, ARD, ZDF, BBC, Arte, Gizmodo Japan, New Scientist, Delo, cnet, Rolling Stone Deutschland, NHK Europe, Slovenian TV, Croatian TV and Chip.de—a total of 405 media outlet representatives from 31 countries got accredited to the 2016 Ars Electronica Festival and reported from Linz.

The best photos from the 2016 Ars Electronica Festival:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/arselectronica/sets/72157673041205866/>

Days 1 to 6: the Blog features on Ars Electronica 2016:

<http://www.aec.at/radicalatoms/en/blog/>

The RADICAL ATOMS after-movie:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/arselectronica>