

LABORAL EXPLORES THE INTERACTIONS OF ART – SCIENCE – TECHNOLOGY – SOCIETY IN SPAIN'S DIGITAL CULTURE WITH ITS *BANQUETE NODOS Y REDES* EXHIBITION

THE EXHIBITION, WITH KARIN OHLENSCHLÄGER AS CURATOR, BEGINS JUNE 6TH AT THE CENTRO DE ARTE Y CREACIÓN INDUSTRIAL AND INCLUDES A DIVERSE PROGRAMME OF COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES.

CONCEPT: *banquete_nodos y redes [banquet_nodes and networks]* underscores an interdisciplinary dynamic emerging from the kinds of artistic praxis currently being carried out in Spain. Through over thirty projects of digital and interactive art, the show addresses a number of critical reflections and participative experiences that investigate this new common pattern of the network. Photographs, videos, Virtual Reality installations, artificial life robotic performance or participatory *net.art* projects offer a broad overview taking us from neuronal microworlds to the global dynamics of digital connection in contemporary societies. (www.banquete.org)

DATES: 06.06 – 03.11.2008

VENUE: LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial, Gijón

IDEA AND CONCEPT: Karin Ohlenschläger and Luis Rico

CURATOR: Karin Ohlenschläger

ARTISTS: Aetherbits, Antoni Abad, Eugenio Ampudia, Marcel-lí Antúnez, Pablo Armesto, José Manuel Berenguer, Clara Boj & Diego Díaz, Daniel Canogar, Álvaro Castro, Alfredo Colunga, Escoltar, Evru, Joan Fontcuberta, Dora García, Marta de Gonzalo & Publio Pérez Prieto, Hackitectura, Ricardo Iglesias, Influenza, Concha Jerez & José Iges, Kònic Thtr., Laboratorio de Luz, Joan Leandre, Neokinok TV, Marina Núñez, Pedro Ortuño, Raquel Paricio & J. Manuel Moreno, Platoniq, Francisco Ruiz de Infante, Águeda Simó, Technologies To The People

PRODUCED BY: SEACEX, Fundación Telefónica and LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial

IN COLLABORATION WITH: The Government of Spain, the Spanish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Spanish Ministry of Culture

TRAVELLING TO: March-July 2009, ZKM, Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe, Germany.

banquete_nodos y redes begins this June 6th at LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial: a project that explores the concept of a network through the interaction of art, science, technology and society, offering a perspective on digital art that is currently being made in Spain. The

exhibition is produced by LABoral, the Sociedad Estatal para la Acción Cultural Exterior (SEACEX) and the Fundación Telefónica and will continue in the Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial in Gijón until November. It will subsequently travel to ZKM, the Center for Art and Media, in Karlsruhe, Germany.

The exhibition is complemented by a diverse programme of activities organised by LABoral. It includes the première of *Diálogos [Dialogues]*, an initiative to bring the Asturian public into closer contact with the art object by interacting with designers, artists, creators and curators. On this occasion, two hours before the inauguration, Karin Ohlenschläger (curator of *banquete_nodos y redes*) and all the artists present for the occasion will explain the concept and the works on exhibit to those in attendance. In addition, activities will include five workshops directed by participating artists Escoitar, Platoniq, Marta de Gonzalo and Publio Pérez Prieto, Daniel G. Andujar and Evru.

Since the early 1990s, the *banquete_* project has been actively exploring the relationships between biological, social, technological and cultural systems. Its objective is to promote and socialise dialogue between the sciences and humanities while, at the same time, evolving as a conversation and collaboration network between people involved in the arts, sciences, humanities, technology sectors and activism. Over time, this network has built up and consolidated an environment of ACTS interactions (Arte-Ciencia-Tecnología-Sociedad / Art-Science-Technology-Society), that define a meeting point for different centres of research, production and dissemination on the national and international level.

This third edition of *banquete_nodos y redes* focuses upon the concept of a network. As an organisational pattern, networks can be found at all levels of life: from the microscopic to the macroscopic, from the local and global spheres of politics and economics to the social, technological and cultural fields.

The projects comprising this *banquet_nodes and networks* exhibition currently being held at LABoral explore, visualise, or generate these networks of relationships at the frontiers between art, science, technology and society; between physical and virtual spaces; between urban and social networks; between the commons and informational dynamics; between biological and technological connections:

-The emerging connections between physical and virtual spaces, territorial networks, local environments and their interdependence with global dynamics are investigated and visualised in different ways by the following artists or groups: Hackitectura, Escoitar, Influenza, Kònic Thtr, Clara Boj and Diego Díaz, and Pedro Ortuño.

-The relationship between social and urban dynamics; the creation of new participatory methods and tools to serve as catalysts for processes of self-organisation, production, and distribution of experiences and knowledge are proposed by Antoni Abad, Alfredo Colunga, and groups such as Platoniq or Neokinok TV. Marta de Gonzalo and Publio Pérez

Prieto's project is about the ideological, conceptual and functional relationships between education, creativity and life.

-Informational networks are the subject of the works by Aetherbits, Dora García, Concha Jerez and José Iges or Joan Fontcuberta. The question of authorship, originality and veracity is posed by some of their works; others look at new links among current artistic practices and their relation to other citizens, micro-producers and distributors of experience and knowledge online and on-site. The open source network culture is part of the projects undertaken by Joan Leandre, Technologies To The People and Daniel García Andújar.

-Links between biosphere and infosphere, given that the *infosphere* and its networks of codes and languages are not only found in the field of information and telecommunication technology. Our biosphere is also an *infosphere*, and life itself is a network of communication and the transformation of matter, energy and information. In this field, we show projects that significantly broaden the art-life discourse toward the microspheres of cellular nodes and networks, or toward the hybrid macro-environments of the body-machine connection. The works and interactive installations by Eugenio Ampudia, Marcel.Í Antúnez, Pablo Armesto, José Manuel Berenguer, Daniel Canogar, Álvaro Castro, Ricardo Iglesias, Laboratorio de Luz, Marina Núñez or Raquel Parício and José M. Moreno explore new modalities of conception, perception, and interaction between living and technological systems.

Banquete_nodos y redes brings together over 30 projects that address a set of critical reflections and participatory experiences that investigate this new common pattern of the network. Digital photography, videos, virtual reality installations, artificial life robotic performance, or participatory *net.art* projects offer a broad overview, taking us from the networks of interaction of genes or software codes to the global dynamic arising from new relations between people, communities and cultures.

ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

DIÁLOGOS [DIALOGUES WITH THE ARTISTS AND CURATOR]

With the programme DIÁLOGOS, presented for the first time at this exhibition, LABoral wishes to bring the Asturian public into closer contact with the art object by interacting with designers, artists, creators and curators. On this occasion, Karin Ohlenschläger (curator of *banquete_nodos y redes*) and all the artists present for the inauguration will explain the concept and the works on exhibit to those in attendance.

DATE: Friday, June 5, 2008

TIME: 6:00 PM

VENUE: LABcine, Planta 1. LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial

DURATION: 1 hour 30 minutes

WORKSHOPS

26-30.05.2008

Aire, sonido y poder: Tecnologías de control social con sonido [Air, Sound and Power: Social Control Technologies with Sound]

DIRECTED BY: Escoitar

The sound creation collaborative Escoitar directs this workshop developed in the La Calzada district in the city of Gijón in collaboration with Ateneo Obrero. The workshop focuses on the so-called social control technologies that use sound or music to exert power or control as a form of attack or defence (e.g. in the case of acoustic weapons).

OPENING HOURS: 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM

VENUE: Ateneo Obrero de La Calzada and LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial

CAPACITY: maximum 20 participants

REGISTRATION: free of charge, requires advance enrolment via email sent to educacion@laboralcentrodearte.org

05.05.2008

Transmite, distr ibuye, comparte [Transmit, Distribute, Share]

DIRECTED BY: Platoniq

Platoniq's projects attempt to promote free access to culture, sharing media, contents and organisational processes, experimenting with new articulations of theory-action-dissemination. The workshop analysed the methodologies and tools of Platoniq's most recent projects, Open Server, Burn Station and Banco Común de Conocimientos, conceived to facilitate a better understanding of the strategies used as well as to generate working sessions around new roles and challenges of collective cultural production.

OPENING HOURS: 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM

VENUE: LABoral Workshops

CAPACITY: maximum 25 participants

REGISTRATION: free of charge, requires advance enrolment via email sent to educacion@laboralcentrodearte.org

07.06 2008

Ojos que quieren más [Eyes that want more]

DIRECTED BY: Marta de Gonzalo and Publio Pérez Prieto

Artists and lecturers, the directors of the workshop propose the need for a democratic education empowering citizens with an audiovisual literacy of the deconstruction tools that are required for a correct response vis-à-vis the information they receive, differentiating the communicational strategies used and the underlying aims in a critical and subconscious way.

OPENING HOURS: 16:00 to 20:00

VENUE: LABcine

CAPACITY: maximum 20 participants

REGISTRATION: free of charge, requires advance enrolment via email sent to educacion@laboralcentrodearte.org

07.06.2008

DIT. Do it Together. Workshop Series .A theory-practice encounter of Technologies

To The People and Daniel G. Andújar

DIRECTED BY: Daniel G. Andújar

The aim of this workshop is to forge a close dialogue among the participants, allowing a better understanding of the new transformative processes of our reality. The technical and cognitive change represents the emergence of new trades, the acquisition of new knowledge by artists and creators, and requires the implementation of new forms of organisation of the work of cultural creation and production in multidisciplinary teams.

VENUE: In the artist's installation

OPENING HOURS: 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

CAPACITY: maximum 20 participants

REGISTRATION: free of charge, requires advance enrolment via email sent to educacion@laboralcentrodearte.org

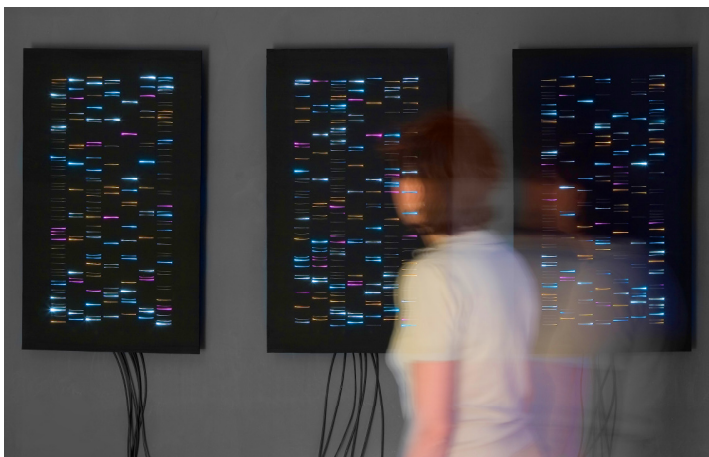
02-03.10.2008

Tecura 4.0

DIRECTED BY: Evru

Tecura 4.0 is a digital painting machine which, more than a simple entertainment artefact, is an external link to attain a conscious connection with a person's creativity. This painting workshop with tools created by Evru is targeted at school students with special needs. Under the slogan "Art for healing: every person has an artist inside himself", with this programme the artist attempts to involve disabled people in a process stimulating and fostering creativity, which encourages the production of personal works using tools and templates.

VENUE: LABoral Workshops

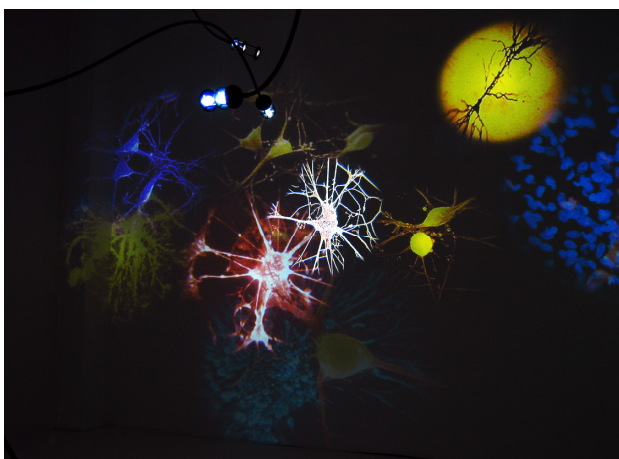


Photograph: Kike Llamas. Copyright: Pablo Armesto

Pablo Armesto

Secuencias [Sequences] (2005/08)

Installation



Daniel Canogar

Canogar, Daniel

Memory Theater (2004)

Installation



Joan Fontcuberta

Fontcuberta, Joan

El hundimiento de Prestige [Prestige Sinking] (2007)

Digital Photograph



Marina Núñez

Núñez, Marina
Untitled (science fiction) (2001/02)
 Installation



Raquel Paricio

Paricio, Raquel and J. Manuel Moreno Aróstegui
POetic Cubes (2007/2008)
 Robotic performance

Opening Hours: Wednesday to Monday from 12:00 to 8:00 PM
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