



ZKM TO OPEN *banquete\_nodos y redes*, AN EXHIBITION PRODUCED BY LABoral, ON THE 14TH OF MARCH

The inclusion of this important exhibition space in the show's itinerary is a sign of recognition supporting the activity of the Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial in Gijón.

The Center for Art and Media (ZKM), one of the most important new technology art centres, located in the German city of Karlsruhe, will hold the inauguration of *banquete\_nodos y redes* [*banquet\_nodes and networks*], an exhibition produced by LABoral, this upcoming March 14<sup>th</sup>. The exhibition was already held at the Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial in Gijón from June 6<sup>th</sup> to November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. The exhibition offers its own perspective on digital art being created today in Spain. The presentation in ZKM of a project conjointly produced by LABoral and La Fundación Telefónica signifies international support and recognition of LABoral's activities. The itinerary was made possible thanks to collaboration with

the Centro y la Sociedad Estatal para la Acción Cultural Exterior (SEACEX).

The inauguration of *Banquete\_nodos y redes* will be held on March 13th, one day prior to its opening to the public. It 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, including *Secuencias 24* by the Asturian artist Pablo Armesto, the show addresses a number of critical reflections and participative experiences that investigate this new common pattern of the network that organises life at all its levels. 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.

Since the early 1990s, the *banquete\_* project has been actively exploring the relationships between biological, social, technological and cultural systems, evolving like a network of conversations and collaborations between artists, scientists, humanists, technicians and activists. Its objective is to promote and socialise dialogue between the sciences and humanities. 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.

The current edition of *banquete\_nodos y redes* is driven by the theoretical and practical need to explore and visualise the emerging dynamics of the Network Society. To achieve this, the exhibition proposes a guiding line of inquiry that connects the neuronal structures investigated by the histologist Santiago Ramón y Cajal with the social communication networks studied by the sociologist Manuel Castells. The notion of network – present simultaneously in nature, society and technologies – questions the model of cultural production that has reigned until now, based in hegemonic centres and unquestionable axes. In contrast, the very dynamic of a network generates horizontal systems of interconnected nodes in which ideas and concepts, like subjects, entities and organisations, serve as catalysing agents for a process of dialogue and social and cultural transformation.

As a cultural institution, the Center for Art and Media (ZKM) in Karlsruhe occupies a unique position in the world. It is a centre that offers answers to the rapid development of information technologies and the ever-changing social structures of our times. Its activities combine production and research, exhibitions and events, coordination and documentation. ZKM devotes a complete selection of resources to the development of interdisciplinary projects and the promotion of international collaborations, such as with the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Museo Medial, the Institute of Visual Media, the Music and Acoustics Institute, as well as with the recently created departments of the Instituto de Medios, Educación y Economía and the Film Institute.

With Peter Weibel as its Director since 1999, ZKM investigates the theory and practice of new media, experiments with its potential by developing projects carried out by the centre itself, presents in an exemplary way the possible uses of this technology and promotes discussion on the structure of the information society. Working closely with the Academia Estatal de Diseño in Karlsruhe and with other institutions, ZKM acts as a scientific, artistic, political and economical forum.

***Banquete\_nodos y redes in ZKM***

Interactions in Spain's current digital culture.

DATES: March 14th to June 28th, 2009

ARTISTS: Antoni Abad / Aetherbits / Eugenio Ampudia / Marcel.Í Antúnez / Pablo Armesto / José Manuel Berenguer / Clara Boj / Diego Díaz / Daniel Canogar / Álvaro Castro / Alfredo Colunga / Escolitar / Evru / Joan Fontcuberta / Dora García / Marta de Gonzalo / Publio Pérez Prieto / Hackitectura / Ricardo Iglesias / Influenza (Rafael Marchetti / Raquel Rennó) / Concha Jerez / José Iges / Kònic Thtr (Rosa Sánchez / Alain Baumann) / Laboratorio de Luz / Joan Leandre / Neokinok TV / Marina Núñez / Pedro Ortuño / Raquel Paricio / J. Manuel Moreno Aróstegui / Platoniq / Francisco Ruiz de Infante / Águeda Simó

IDEA AND CONCEPT: Karin Ohlenschläger and Luis Rico

CURATORIAL: Karin Ohlenschläger

ZKM PROJECT DIRECTOR: Andreas Beitin

ZKM EXHIBITION AREA: 2,000 m<sup>2</sup>

EXHIBITED WORKS: 30

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS: 33

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

INTERNATIONAL ITINERARY: Sociedad Estatal para la Acción Cultural Exterior (SEACEX)

LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial  
Los Prados, 121  
33394 Gijón  
T. +34 985 185 577 / F. +34 985 337 355  
Email: [info@laboralcentrodearte.org](mailto:info@laboralcentrodearte.org)  
[www.laboralcentrodearte.org](http://www.laboralcentrodearte.org)