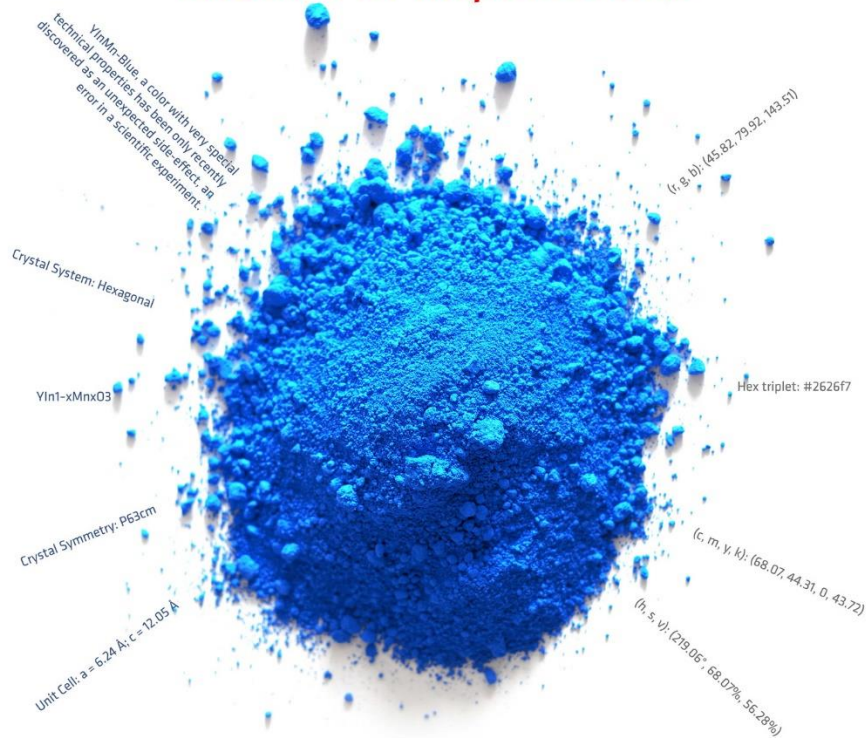


# ERROR

## the Art of Imperfection



# ARS ELECTRONICA

## Festival für Kunst, Technologie und Gesellschaft

### POSTCITY Linz, 6. – 10.9.2018

[ars.electronica.art/error](http://ars.electronica.art/error)

 ARS ELECTRONICA

*Mas Subramanian and his team actually wanted to test the magnetic and electric properties of manganese oxide, but instead stumbled upon a previously unknown pigment with unique qualities. It doesn't bleach out either in water or oil, isn't toxic, and is simple to produce. The image shows YInMn blue composed of the elements yttrium, indium and manganese.*

*And it's precisely this shade of blue that adorns the posters announcing this year's Ars Electronica Festival and its "Error – The Art of Imperfection" theme. Mas Subramanian's chance discovery underscores the fact that errors don't always have to mean failure; often, we learn more from them than we would have if we had succeeded at the first go. Porcelain, Velcro, the microwave, x-rays, teabags and Viagra as well were discovered accidentally because experiments flopped or didn't go according to plan. Celebrated as a marvelous source of innovation and also scorned for the catastrophic accidents they trigger, mistakes, fallacies, deviation—in short, ERRORS—occupy the spotlight at this year's Ars Electronica Festival set for September 6-10, 2018 in Linz.*

# The 2018 Festival Theme

## ERROR – The Art of Imperfection

At what point does an error become a mistake, a fail, and what makes it the celebrated source of unprecedented ideas and inventions?

When is an error an oversight and when is it intentional deception, a fake?

An error is a discrepancy from what we expect, a deviation from the norm ... but what is the norm and who establishes it? An error doesn't have to be a mistake; it can be an opportunity!

But how much tolerance can we summon up for such deviations, and is it enough for the leeway and latitude that are necessary to unleash their inherent productive power which can be harnessed for social and economic innovation? Or will we allow ourselves to be misled by the populist rhetoric of fear and social scoring?

Observing the current situation, one very quickly gets the impression that something has gone terribly wrong with the Digital Revolution and the 21st century. Millions of people feel that they have been defrauded of their sovereignty over their data and their privacy. Deception and fakery have become realities of everyday life, and influence public sentiment and the public opinion formation process. And hovering above it all is a diffuse anxiety of being left behind by the swift dynamics of development. Was the dream of a beautiful digital world an error, and how can we rescue this dream?

This day and age is characterized by a compulsion to achieve perfection and a seemingly unwavering faith in technology. And amidst this drive to optimize, to increase efficiency and raise productivity, and, in even more instances, merely to enjoy the possibilities that digital technologies and social media place at our fingertips, we put ourselves at the mercy of machinery that does its utmost to make lemmings of digital consumption out of us.

Big Data surveillance takes preventative action upon detecting any deviation from our habitual ways. And it is said that in the future, social scoring will do an even better job of optimizing our behavior and attuning it to social norms and standards. The more the technologies deployed for this purpose are perfected and made more efficient, the tighter our situation becomes. Whoever doesn't fit in sticks out and gets cut.

But it is precisely this imperfection that offers the greatest potential for new solutions. Our objective should not be optimization, since this is merely a best-possible approach and adaptation to what we can now think and deem correct. Optimization leaves no leeway for the unanticipated, and thus no latitude to recognize and rectify what actually are undesirable developments or to come up with better ideas with which to set forth on alternate courses.

Effectively dealing with errors, risk tolerance and creativity are perhaps the skills that are most important for our future.

How many errors in the genetic sequences of living creatures did evolution have to make until LUCA (last universal common ancestor) became Homo sapiens 3.5 million years ago? And how many errors did Homo sapiens need to learn from in order to achieve our current state of development? And how

much poorer in terms of experiences and insights would humankind now be if there had always only been “normal” people and the statistical mean ... no other kinds, deviant thinkers, people of different colors, or those with alternative beliefs?

To err is human, it's said. Could that be why we're incessantly striving for perfection and steadfastly believe we can attain it with technology and science, and in spite of the fact that there is nothing that we fear more than being eliminated by a world of machinery that functions perfectly well without us?

How can we rethink our very ambivalent relationship to technology as the driving force for configuring our future, and what errors should we perhaps not repeat in the process?

The call for social intelligence is now being juxtaposed to our enthusiasm for the digital world and artificial intelligence.

We are propagating the courage to welcome imperfection, since isn't that quite possibly what will always set us apart from the machines!

## Program Highlights of Ars Electronica 2018

The 2018 Ars Electronica Festival will envelop downtown Linz in a creative maelstrom September 6-10. The lineup encompasses more than 500 individual events at an array of venues extending from the main train station up to the base of Pöstlingberg. 12 locations will serve as the formal settings or be transformed into temporary spaces for ideas and visions of the future to emerge in free and playful ways. All program offerings are depicted on the festival website that, like Ars Electronica's entire online presence, can be accessed at our new address: [ars.electronica.art](http://ars.electronica.art).

### Symposia, Talks & Discursive Formats

#### Opening Symposium

Thursday September 6, 17:00-18:30 / POSTCITY Lecture Stage

The Opening Symposium is a thought-provoking lead-in to the coming days' conferences. Thomas Macho (AT), Meredith Broussard (US), Andrey Sebrant (RU), Martha Fiennes (UK) & Ulvi Kasimov (UK), Hideaki Ogawa (JP), Kazuko Tanaka (JP), Masaru Kitakaze (JP) and Manuela Naveau (AT) will provide an initial theoretical overview of this year's festival theme. Martin Honzik (AT) moderates the conversation.

#### ERROR – The Art of Imperfection Conference I

Friday September 7, 10:00-17:30 / POSTCITY Conference Hall

The panels at the “ERROR – The Art of Imperfection” conference illuminate this year's festival theme from multiple perspectives. “The Fragile” sees human imperfection as an essential creative and poetic force that has fostered social and technical innovation since time immemorial. In our efforts to overcome this imperfection, we human beings have extended our mental and physical capabilities in countless ways. But despite our many successes, the world we've created remains quite a fragile

construction. “Embracing the Risk: STARTS Talks” follows up on this by focusing on those who are taking action against this fragility and running risks in doing so. They’re the pioneers who are blazing new trails without fear of wrong turns and false steps. “Fakes, Responsibilities and Strategies” is all about intentionally induced deviations from the norm and, especially, technologies with which false information can be propagated globally or can produce videos and stills that can no longer be recognized as forgeries. The final panel, “AI in Art & Science: Strategy for Responsible Innovation,” is about the need for a new social intelligence and ethical responsibility, and the role cooperation between art, technology and science can play in bringing this about. The speakers are Nathan H. Lents (US), Meredith Broussard (US), Anna Echterhölter (DE), Andreas Wolfsteiner (DE), Tim Geurtjens (NL), Giulia Tomasello (IT), Sophie Lamparter (CH), Alexander Mankowsky (DE), Regina Rini (CA), Ernst Hafen (CH), Ariana Dongus (DE), Beth Singler (UK), Derrick de Kerckhove (CA), Chris Salter (CA), Sputniko! (JP), Anna Maria Brunnhofer (AT), Pierre Barreau (FR) and Roberto Viola (IT). The individual panels will be moderated by Barbara von Rechbach (AT), Derrick de Kerckhove (CA) and Mark Coeckelbergh (BE/AT).

## ERROR – The Art of Imperfection Conference II

Sunday September 9, 10:30-17:00 / POSTCITY Conference Hall

Kicking things off is the “Academy of Error,” a celebration of ERROR in which scientists provide insights into how their disciplines deal with mistakes and attempt to take advantage of flops as the source of creative, productive processes. “Academy of Error” will be moderated by Michael Doser (AT/CH); the speakers are Hiroshi Ishii (JP/US), Matthew Fuller (UK), Ulrike Felt (AZ), Jim Gimzewski (UK/US) and Eveline Wandl-Vogt (AT). Next up is “Space ART – Trial and Error in ART&Science,” a mission to seek out what differentiates space travel from art and to discover what they have in common. In the former, errors usually have catastrophic consequences; in the latter, they’re often an integral part of the creative process. Nevertheless, they’re both basically endeavors to explore the unknown and go boldly where no man has gone before. The speakers are Chris Welch (UK), Horst Hörtnner (AT), Eric Dahlstrom (US/NZ), Miha Turšič (SI/NL), Nahum (MX/DE), Xin Liu (CN/US) and Yuri Tanaka (JP/CH); Hiroshi Ishii (JP/US) moderates. Finally, the “Deep Fake or Rendering the Truth – Impact Collaborative Panel” faces the question of how we as a society are to deal with the fact that new technologies increasingly make it possible to produce pictures and videos that can no longer be told apart from reality. Tobias Revell (UK), Eliot Higgins (UK), Lauren Alexander (ZA/NL), Leonhard Lass (AT) and Simone C. Niquille (CH/NL) are the panelists; Arjon Dunnewind (NL) is the moderator.

## Prix Forums

Saturday September 8, 11:30-19:30 / OÖ Kulturquartier Ursulinensaal

The Prix Ars Electronica artists’ talks offer a unique opportunity to get personally acquainted with this year’s prizewinners. Prix Forum I is dedicated to Computer Animation and therefore takes place on Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Expanded Animation conference. Prix Forum II showcases the 2018 honorees in the Interactive Art + category—the LarbitsSisters (BE) took the Golden Nica; Mary Flanagan (US) and Kohei Ogawa (JP) received Awards of Distinction. The moderators are Gerfried Stocker (AT), Emiko Ogawa (JP) and Lubi Thomas (AU). Prix Forum III spotlights Digital Communities. The speakers are Golden Nica laureate Eliot Higgins (UK) as well as Award of Distinction recipients Farah Salka (LB) and Bess Lee (TW) & Chihhao Yu (TW); Sarah Kriesche (AT) moderates. Prix Forum IV turns our attention to one of the Visionary Pioneers of Media

Art: Leonardo/The International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology. Ars Electronica is honoring this global community on the occasion of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Derrick de Kerckhove (CA) and Roger Malina (US) will speak; Gerfried Stocker (AT) will moderate.

### Gallery Spaces Panels I-IV

Thursday September 6, 15:30-17:00 / Friday September 7, 16:00-17:30 / Sunday September 9, 14:00-17:15 / POSTCITY, Gallery Spaces Säulenhalle

This is about media art and the art market. Gallery Spaces point out new possibilities and business models to get positioned in the online marketplace, and digital strategies for museums and established art collections. Participants will also face questions having to do with the long-term conservation of digital works of art. Panel I, "Beyond Patronage: Artists and Experimental Monetization," deals with a fundamental issue: How artists are compensated. It will show how art world protagonists are trying out and utilizing payment & distribution models that are as creative as they are practical. Panel II is entitled ".art – Identification and Self-Identification online. Technology and the true self" and staged in cooperation with DOT ART DOMAINS. Panelists will scrutinize how we present ourselves in the real world and online, and how we want to be perceived in those two realms. Panel III is about "Digital Presentation Strategies and Collections" and thus new presentation technologies and how they're changing the art market. Panel IV takes on the subject of "Preservation of Media Art," the problem of which strategies conservators need to use to do justice to the technical diversity of media art and to be able to preserve it for the future.

### Future Innovators Summit

Thursday September 6, 11:30-13:00 / Friday September 7, 12:30-14:30 / Saturday September 8 18:00-19:00 / Sunday September 9, 16:00-17:30 / POSTCITY

The Future Innovators Summit (FIS), a creative forum initiated by the Ars Electronica Futurelab and Hakuhodo, is celebrating its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. FIS brings together artists, scientists and designers, established players and up-and-coming entrepreneurs, technologists and activists to face questions of great importance to humankind's future. 2018's tripartite theme: Future Humanity, Future Dignity and Future Sharing.

### Expanded Animation – Interfaces in Motion

Friday September 7, 11:00-18:15 and Saturday September 8, 11:00-18:30 / Central Linz

The Ars Electronica Festival has hosted Expanded Animation in cooperation with the Upper Austrian University of Applied Sciences' Hagenberg Campus since 2013. This two-day symposium features theoretical positions and perspectives of the art world, the R&D field and the private sector; the aim is to foster an interdisciplinary discourse. This year's get-together will peer into the future— "Interfaces in Motion" concentrates on animation technology at the interface of human, computer and interaction.

### ZusammenHelfen Conference – Day of Encouragement

Saturday September 8, 10:00-16:00 / POSTCITY Conference Hall

*ZusammenHelfen in Oberösterreich* [Helping Together in Upper Austria] works on the front line to provide aid to refugees. This is third year that the organization is holding a conference at the Ars Electronica Festival bringing together activists, interested parties and refugees themselves. This

year's theme is Day of Encouragement; the focus is on new prospects, current developments, challenges and best-practice projects. One of the featured speakers is Ali Mahlodji, whose autobiography is an account of his journey from refugee to dropout to international entrepreneur on a mission to encourage refugees to live their dreams. NGO staffers and integration experts from throughout Austria will discuss the future of this country's integration policies. Speakers include Erich Fenninger, CEO of the *Volkshilfe Österreich* aid organization, and former MP Ferdinand Maier, currently secretary-general of *Menschen.Würde.Österreich*, an alliance to foster human dignity.

### Symposium: Perspectives on Political Education

Thursday September 6, 10:00-16:45 / POSTCITY Lecture Stage

Is our world coming unhinged? How do youngsters see this? What answers do they have to current issues? And could peer education possibly constitute the key to self-empowerment that opens the door for young people to assuming responsibility, getting actively involved and having a say in social developments—being fresh, courageous and demanding? This symposium attempts to come up with answers by hosting speeches as sources of motivation, workshops to impart ideas and methods, and a Dialog of Disobedience as a wakeup call. Ars Electronica is producing this full-day event in cooperation with the State of Upper Austria's Teachers College and Chamber of Labor.

## Exhibitions

### 2018 CyberArts Exhibition

Thursday September 6, Friday September 7, Sunday September 9 and Monday September 10, 10:00-19:30 / Saturday September 8, 10:00-22:00 / OK Center for Contemporary Art

The CyberArts show is a highlight of every Ars Electronica. This is the 21<sup>st</sup> time that the OK Center for Contemporary Art serves as the setting of a showcase of excellence in the Computer Animation, Digital Communities and Interactive Art + categories, and an impressive presentation of developments in digital art, current discourses and the issues they entail. After the festival, the exhibition will continue to run until September 16<sup>th</sup>.

### 2018 Theme Exhibition: Error in Progress and Error, Fake & Failure

Thursday September 6 to Sunday September 9, 10:00-19:30 / Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00 / POSTCITY

Two extensive shows shed light on this year's festival theme. "Error, Fake & Failure" on the 1<sup>st</sup> Upper Level scrutinizes the phenomenology of error by approaching the subject from a scientific-technological perspective. "Error in Progress" is a wide-ranging encounter with artistic expressions arrayed on POSTCITY's Lower Levels. The works on exhibit are clustered around questions: How we're to deal with our habitat and with ourselves—as a society and as individual human beings.

### STARTS Exhibition

Thursday September 6 to Sunday September 9, 10:00-19:30 / Monday September 10, 10:00- 8:00 / POSTCITY

Science + Technology + ARTS = STARTS. The aim of this European Commission initiative is to optimally interlink technology and artistic practice in ways that benefit innovation in Europe as well as the art world. A part of this initiative is the prestigious STARTS Prize generously endowed with €40,000. The annual competition singles out for recognition projects the nexus of art, technology

and science that have the potential to contribute to economic and social innovation. The 30 best entries are featured in the STARTS Exhibition in POSTCITY.

### Gallery Spaces

Thursday September 6 to Sunday September 9, 10:00-19:30 / Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00 / POSTCITY Gallery Spaces Säulenhalle & Paketspeicher

Mandatory software updates, aging hardware, a lack of understanding of technology—media art confronts galleries and the art market with challenges. Since its successful launch last year, the Gallery Spaces Program has attracted numerous international galleries and collections to the Ars Electronica Festival. This isn't just a matter of exhibiting the work of media artists represented by galleries; above all, this event is meant to address the ways digitization is changing the conditions of artistic creativity & marketing.

### Open Futurelab

Thursday September 6 to Sunday September 9, 10:00-19:30 / Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00 / POSTCITY, Open Futurelab

Ars Electronica Futurelab presents its current projects and partners. One highlight is Swarm Arena, an R&D joint venture with Japanese telecommunications giant NTT to develop autonomous airborne & ground-based vehicles to serve as means of communication. Another is the Spaxels Research Initiative that was recently joined by Rosenbauer, the world's leading provider of firefighting equipment.

### Ars Electronica Campus – Hexagram Exhibitions: TAKING CARE

Thursday September 6, Friday September 7 and Sunday September 9, 11:00-21:00 / Saturday September 8 and Monday September 10, 11:00-19:00 / Linz Art University

Thursday September 6, Friday September 7 and Sunday September 9, 12:00-20:00 / Saturday September 8 and Monday September 10, 12:00-18:00 / Atelierhaus Salzamt

Since 2002, Ars Electronica and Linz Art University have annually invited an art school from a foreign country to make a guest appearance in Linz. These showcases have become a festival mainstay as well as an instrument to analyze divergent approaches to education in artistic-cultural fields. 31 international universities have enrolled in this year's showcase of excellence at Ars Electronica. The largest contribution, "Taking Care," comes from Hexagram, an interdisciplinary research network for media art, design, technology and digital culture based in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Universities from Australia, Asia, the USA and Europe are prominently represented at Campus this year.

### Ars Electronica Campus – Interface Cultures: PLEASE RECHARGE

Thursday September 6 to Sunday September 9, 10:00-19:30 / Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00 / POSTCITY Campus

Linz Art University's Interface Cultures program plays a featured role on Ars Electronica's Campus each year, presenting a cross-section of works by senior-year students. The current show, "Please Recharge," talks about mega-stress and exhaustion in times of digital sensory overload and 24/7 networking in social media.

### Featured Artist 2018: Elisabeth Schimana's (AT) Hidden Alliances

Thursday September 6, 10:00-21:00 / Friday September 7 to Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00 / LENTOS Art Museum

Elisabeth Schimana is an Austrian artist and pioneer of electronic music. An essential part of her oeuvre is artistic/scholarly work on women in electronic music and art, and the results of Elisabeth Schimana's many years of research is displayed in the exhibition "Hidden Alliances." A somewhat alternative history of these genres and times is told by 10 female pioneers who collaboratively wove a fascinating network of relationships. Elisabeth Schimana is this year's Ars Electronica Featured Artist.

## Events, Concerts, Performances

### Opening Night

Thursday September 6 / 19:30-01:00 / POSTCITY Gleishalle

Offbeat performances, rousing DJ sets and inspiring acts staged amidst POSTCITY's extraordinary ambience are the ingredients that go into the Ars Electronica Opening. Welia plays the warm-up set. Next up are Cod.Act with their distorting, wave-shaped installation "πTon." Gabriele Marangoni then plumbs the depths of our perception with "Silent." Chris Ziegler's "Corpus" also encounters limits, though these have to do with visibility. Alexis Langevin-Tétrault's "Interférences" musically transform gestures and interaction. Then it's time for Martin Messier to bring out his transducer microphone to pick up electrical signal fragments beyond our perceptive capacities and convert them into the raw material of "Field." Marco Donnarumma and Margherita Pevere present "Azathot," a performance with an artificial-intelligence prosthesis, and Alexandra Murray-Leslie and Melissa E. Logan of Chicks on Speed perform live on home-brew electro-acoustic objects. Our cavalcade of creativity concludes with Kutin/Kohlberger's audiovisual interplay of the reverberating sound of a tricked-up hurdy-gurdy with the sonic outcomes of 21<sup>st</sup>-century self-learning algorithms, and Dino Spiluttini's drone and ambient sound.

### Ars Electronica Nightline

Friday September 7 / 20:00-04:00 / POSTCITY Gleishalle

The Ars Electronica Nightline stands for contemporary electronic music presented by local and international acts. This year's dramatis personae include the maestro of broken beats and original samples, B.Visible, accompanied by a live band. Also along for this ride is Catnapp, displaying distinctiveness and virtuosity in drawing upon the entire genre spectrum. Things get even more unpredictable with Group A's chaotic stage performance and experimental sounds. Then Iglooghost elevates sonic booms, hissing, and the sounds of pinching and stretching to an artform. The show continues on the Main Stage with visceral soundscapes created with exquisite attention to detail by Visionist, and visuals by filmmaker Pedro Maia. Golin's performance puts the accent on improvisation and strongly focuses on the body.

While all that's going down, the Salon Stage will be offering a parallel program oriented above all on anarchic, high-energy non-conformism. Kicking it off is a performance by Stefan Mittlböck-Jungwirth-Fohringer with visuals by Peter Freudling. Then comes a show by Dvrst, a Viennese duo who have their own take on club culture and experimental art. Mermaid & Seafruit's tracks play out an ode to Bass, Hip-Hop, Hardstyle, Noise and R'n'B garnished with spoken-word passages. Famous DJ Detweiler finishes it off on a high note. For anyone looking to take an occasional break from the action, Andaka will be playing a DJ set right in front of Gleishalle.



## Ars Electronica Gala

Friday September 7, 18:30-21:30 / Brucknerhaus

The big Ars Electronica Gala shines a bright spotlight on this year's winners of the Prix Ars Electronica and the STARTS Prize bestowed by the European Commission, who will receive their Golden Nica statuettes and STARTS trophies on this star-studded night. The 2018 Golden Nicas go to Mathilde Lavenne (FR), the digital community Bellingcat, the LarbitsSisters (BE) and schoolboys Lorenz Gonsa (AT), Martin Hatler (AT), Samuel Stallybrass (AT) and Vincent Thierry (AT). Singled out for STARTS recognition are Giulia Tomasello (IT) and MX3D & Joris Laarman Lab (NL).

## BR41N.IO Hackathon

Saturday September 8, 10:00 to Sunday September 9, 16:00 / POSTCITY First Floor

A brain-computer interface (BCI) is an artificial direct link between the human brain and a computer. Spelling words or moving a cursor was all you could do with such BCIs 20 years ago; today, they assist motor rehabilitation of stroke survivors and the assessment of and communication with coma patients, and enable people with many different types of disabilities to successfully use various devices and appliances. Machine learning, dry electrodes, wireless electrode caps and other new technologies make BCIs increasingly effective and, thus, of interest to a growing number of users. During the festival, g.tec medical engineering (AT) is hosting a BR41N.IO Hackathon in which teams of engineers, programmers, designers and artists have 24 hours time to construct a wearable BCI headpiece that can measure brain activity in real time to permit various kinds of interaction.

## Sonic Saturday

Saturday September 8, 14:00-22:00 / Anton Bruckner Private University

Sonic Saturday is all about digital music. Scheduled events include a symposium, a guided tour through the computer music studio at Anton Bruckner University, performances of compositions that reflect the latest trends in computer music and are set in the university's multi-channel listening space, as well as a *Medium Sonorum* event staged in the university's concert hall, the CMS Sonic Lab featuring a 20.4 loudspeaker system.

## OK Night

Saturday September 8, 20:00-04:00 / OK Center for Contemporary Art & OK Deck

Lots of music, many performances and a healthy dose of partying—on Saturday evening, festivalgoers will be gathering at Upper Austria's Center for Contemporary Art to celebrate OK Night. Screenings of great works of animation will set the tone in the Electronic Theater. Then, Ei Wada and Nicos Orchest-Lab request the honor of your presence at a concert of a rather different sort. Club Night commences at 22:00—DJ Haram (Discwoman/Halcyon Veil, Philadelphia/US), Vincent Neumann (Distillery/Krill Music, Leipzig/DE), Susie starmodular (Zürich/CH) and Antonia XM (Ashida Park, Vienna/AT) will appear on the OK Deck; Sultan x Fabipolar (Linz/AT) heats it up in Solaris.

## The Big Concert Night

Sunday September 9, 18:30-23:30 / POSTCITY Gleishalle

The Big Concert Night is jam-packed with extraordinary entertainment once again this year! The evening begins with a premiere: sound artist Josef Klammer and sound poet Jaap Blonk will blend and juxtapose authentic and synthetic voices in a performance that ties into the festival theme. Then the

Berlioz Project takes the stage—Markus Poschner and the Bruckner Orchester will perform “*Symphonie fantastique*,” the ecstatic work that emerged from Hector Berlioz’s delirious state after the composer had fallen passionately in love with English actress Harriet Smithson. The Gleishalle, POSTCITY’s railroad loading dock, will be the setting of a rapturous performance that also features the SILK Fluegge dance collective, Ursula Neugebauer with “*Tour en l’air*,” a huge KUKA KR 600 industrial robot, Wacker Neuson’s heavy-duty AS50e tamper and Cori Olan’s visuals.

Following a brief intermission, Italian composer/musician Gabriele Marangoni reopens these proceedings with his acoustically enhanced accordion. Gleishalle will literally quake to the vibes of the The Vibrationeers, a band of five electrically-driven, computer-controlled tampers manufactured by Wacker Neuson. Rounding out the lineup are Electric Indigo and Elisabeth Schimana, electronic music pioneer and this year’s Ars Electronica Featured Artist.

### Music Monday

Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00

Passionate fans of Digital Music & Sound Art and newbies intent on taking this genre out for a test drive get together on the last day of the festival. The Music Monday lineup is an array of numerous sound installations at multiple festival venues, talks, presentations, performances and concerts.

### Piano Music Meets Digital Images

Monday September 10, 19:30-21:30 / POSTCITY Gleishalle

The concluding concert of Ars Electronica 2018 is programmatically entitled “Piano Music Meets Digital Images.” Part I is a world premiere—Maki Namekawa’s performance of the piano version of “Mishima” by Philip Glass. In Part II, Maki Namekawa and Dennis Russell Davies will play piano pieces for four hands by Steve Reich (Piano Phase), Maurice Ravel (*Ma mère l’oye*, Mother Goose) and Philip Glass (Stokes). The accompanying visualizations are by Cori Olan.

## Animations & Screenings

### Animation Festival 2018

Thursday September 6, Friday September 7, Sunday September 9 and Monday September 10, 13:00-23:00 / Saturday September 8, 13:00-Midnight / Movimiento, Movie 1

A total of 220 works and projects make up the lineup of this year’s Animation Festival. They were selected from among 1,007 works submitted for prize consideration in the 2018 Prix Ars Electronica’s Computer Animation category. They’re divided into 10 programs, each of which manifests specific strategies and points of view, and, as a whole, provide a representative overview of current trends in digital filmmaking. Many of the works being screened transcend conventional genre boundaries and make use of VR technology. Generally speaking, at the top of many artists’ agenda is the effort to deliver new audiovisual experiences to their audience. There’s also a Young Animations program of works from the Prix’s u19 – CREATE YOUR WORLD category.

## Deep Space 8K

Thursday September 6, Saturday September 8 and Sunday September 9, 10:00-20:00 / Friday September 7, 10:00-23:00 / Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00 / Ars Electronica Center, Deep Space 8K

Equipped with 16x9-meter projection surfaces on the front wall and floor, 8K resolution, laser tracking and 3-D technology, Deep Space 8K fulfills media artists' fondest desires, but the infrastructure simultaneously poses an enormous challenge. Throughout the festival, artists from all over the world will try to take full advantage of this space's potential. The program ranges from impressive media art and ambitious R&D projects all the way to poetic visualizations of AI computational errors.

## u19 – CREATE YOUR WORLD

Thursday September 6 to Sunday September 9, 10:00-19:30 / Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00 / POSTCITY

TRIAL and ERROR and Mistake as Opportunity are the guiding principles of this edition of u19 – CREATE YOUR WORLD. As always, Ars Electronica's festival for young people—and the young-at-heart—is an invitation to try out new stuff. In going about this, there's no right and wrong. The point is being curious, open, courageous and even a bit disobedient at times, and trying new approaches—even if you have to run the risk of occasionally taking a wrong turn. The centerpiece is once again the u19 Exhibit of all prizewinners in the Prix Ars Electronica's u19 category. Highlights include the international Tagtool Community Showcase, and Hebocon, a Sumo wrestling tournament for low-tech robots.

## FESTIVAL SPECIALS 2018

### Get Inspired: Innovation Forum

Thursday September 6, 10:30-20:30 / POSTCITY, Conference Hall & Workshop Space & Lecture Stage

“Get Inspired by Ars Electronica” is the motto of this innovation forum that was developed by Ars Electronica and the Economic Chamber of the State of Upper Austria, and will premiere on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. The program includes talks, workshops and theme tours dealing with various aspects of deviations from norms, the innovation potential of errors, and a constructive culture of dealing with mistakes. The target audience is business people in Upper Austria.

### Challenge: Emergency Error Battle

Saturday September 8, 13:00-19:00 / POSTCITY Ground Floor & Spiral Falls

Technologies change our world. They open up new, unimagined possibilities and nurture scenarios about which we can only speculate today. And that also applies to those who are getting prepared today to be optimally equipped to deal with the emergencies and catastrophes of the future. Here, we're talking about first responders, emergency service providers. While some are developing new concepts and strategies for future missions and, in doing so, entering into unusual alliances, others are focusing on the deployment itself, the interplay of humans and machines. What this means in concrete terms will be demonstrated at this year's Ars Electronica Festival. On Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, teams of firefighters from throughout Upper Austria will engage in a competition that, in addition to the usual tasks in such contests, will confront them with unaccustomed challenges to impart an impression—to them and the spectators—of how fire departments will be using and directing their technical equipment in the not-too-distant future.

## Himatsubushi Trail – The Art of Time-Killing

Thursday September 6 to Sunday September 9, 10:00-9:30 / Monday September 10, 10:00-18:00 / POSTCITY, Rooftop

This is Ars Electronica's first-ever *Himatsubushi*, a Japanese term that can be translated as "playful pastime" or "the art of killing time." *Himatsubushi* can be juxtaposed to striving to maximize efficiency and focusing on achieving a specific objective. The point of this is to regard ourselves as sensual, relaxed, irrational beings who also need to be inefficient and unproductive at times and to let our thoughts just meander and stray. Whereby—doing nothing is often conducive to those very moments that are the sources of brainstorms and fresh ideas that subsequently enable us to get back on the track of productivity and creativity! Festivalgoers are invited to mosey on up to POSTCITY's roof to the *Himatsubushi* Lab, Trail und Lounge. In the Lab, they'll experience prototypes of five international research & design teams. The Trail serves the purpose of diversion and contemplation; it's lined with works of art on the subject of time, productivity and their importance for the people and machines of the future. The Lounge calls upon visitors to spend some quality time relaxing and enjoying the view as if from a mountain peak.

## Social Furniture@Ars Electronica Festival

Inspired by Van Bo Le-Mentzels "HARTZ4 Furniture," Ars Electronica and the ULF-Independent Volunteer Center of the State of Upper Austria have staged a project entitled Social Furniture during the time leading up to the festival. The concept: Providing asylum-seekers—under the supervision of experts—with an opportunity to build simply designed, functional furniture that will first be used at the festival in POSTCITY and subsequently be given to the refugees themselves and/or the SOS human rights organization's facility on Rudolfstraße in Linz. Linz-based Anytime Architects—Jürgen Haller and Christoph Weidinger—provided the blueprints for stools, benches and two models of chairs & tables; Weyland Co. donated all the materials; ULF recruited asylum-seekers for the project and delivered on-site support during the construction process; Ars Electronica contributed tools and a space. It took only three days to create 20 stools, 80 chairs and 28 tables, which will be in use at the festival September 6-10, 2018. But by no means is that the last we'll hear of the Social Furniture project. The material requirements, construction plans and instructions will be made available on ULF's website, [www.ulf.at](http://www.ulf.at).

## WE GUIDE YOU!

Ars Electronica is a stage and meeting place of the media art scene, a theoreticians' forum, a festival for electronic music and performances, a fair showcasing innovations and prototypes, a young people's jamboree, and a platform for a wide variety of communities. In order to make this extensive lineup of diverse offerings accessible to as many different people as possible, we've developed a comprehensive array of guided tours over the last few years. The spectrum includes general SpotlightTours and KidsTours, a wide range of specifically themed ExpertTours, and CommunityTours offered in 13 foreign languages.

[ars.electronica.art](http://ars.electronica.art)