

Linz Kunstuni Campus celebrates the Ars Electronica Festival with a tower, a solar-powered galley and tube amplifiers

From 3 to 8 September, more than eighteen university departments will be active in the Linz city centre – and what's more, the Interface Cultures department fetes its 20th anniversary.

An eighteen-metre tower created by graduates of architecture in Linz's Hauptplatz invites interested visitors to try a change of perspective. Aboard the good ship "Florentine" moored at the Urfahrmarkt dock, patrons eager for new experiences can enjoy a DIY solar-powered galley, fermentation processes and edible bio lab artefacts. From Tuesday, 3 September, to Sunday, 8 September, more than eighteen university departments will present activities coinciding with the festival at the Kunstuni Campus premises, right across from the Ars Electronica Center, on the opposite bank of the Danube.

Here, students and teachers will showcase their unconventional media art the whole day through, all free of charge. Moreover, the Interface Cultures department is celebrating its 20th anniversary with the exhibition "NOUS" at Post City – in fact, the origins of Kunstuni Campus date back to a show presenting artistic projects by students of this department and a guest university. Today, fifteen international institutions are represented here; the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design Budapest is this year's special featured institution, with installations exhibited at the event "FUTURESENSE" at the "splace" Gallery of the University of Arts Linz.

"HOPE. *Who will turn the tide?*", the overarching motto of the Ars Electronica Festival 2024, has inspired students of the University of Arts Linz to dedicate their Kunstuni Campus contribution – titled "Lynkeus Traum" – to the theme of vision. Curator Manuela Naveau, university professor for Critical Data / Interface Cultures, explains, "The concept of the tower in the old main square of Linz wants to challenge entrenched notions and worldviews." In times of multiple crises, she advocates "taking a closer look" because "we do get to see a lot of things, but this also means that what we are shown is strictly controlled. It's prefab vision. Social media, interlinked with artificial intelligence, are a good example because it seems that it isn't we who are seeing the world; rather, technology is doing it for us."

Consequently, exhibitions, installations, performances, screenings and workshops address this vision: for example, the project "The Right to Be Forgotten" by Viktoria Biki focuses on the practices of personal data collection and looks at possibilities of erasing one's online identity. Conversely, "ARTeFACT" by Erika Mondria encourages visitors to explore their own electromagnetic field. The installation "(Very) Neural System" by Martina Pizzigoni engages with the complex dynamics of identity construction in the digital age and creates a dystopian AI doppelganger of the artist for live interaction with interested visitors. And "Technosymbiosis" by Emma Tripaldi is a work that examines the relationship between users and algorithmically controlled social media by visualising this relationship as a symbiotic connection in which technology and plant influence each other.

For the first time, there will be a special Kunstuni Campus Award for which all exhibiting students as well as all projects submitted by partner universities are eligible. The best artworks will be selected by a jury*; the winner will receive Euro 2,000 in prize money.

As Rector Brigitte Hütter comments on Kunstuni Campus @ Ars Electronica Festival 2024, "The University of Arts Linz, whose Interface Cultures department is celebrating its 20th anniversary, is proud to be a fixed item on the Ars Electronica Festival programme. We initiate a dialogue and discussion about diverse perspectives and approaches of artists, scientists and visitors – this year, these interactions will chiefly

focus on themes such as hope in our crisis-ridden times, active design possibilities and participation as well as the need for a particularly sharp look at the world and its current challenges."

Gerfried Stocker, Artistic Director of the Ars Electronica Festival, states, "Initiated in 2002, Kunstuni Campus has established itself as an international platform for universities. In 2024, the platform is hosting 42 institutions that comprise both long-standing partners, like Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, and new participants, such as Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, or the National University of Singapore. However, a special focus is on the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design Budapest, this year's featured institution at our "space" Gallery. Moreover, the institutes of the University of Arts Linz are again contributing a wide-ranging and exciting exhibition, for which we are very grateful! In addition, I am particularly delighted that we can for the first time confer the Art Electronica Campus Award, which comes with Euro 2,000 prize money and aims to generate even greater visibility and recognition for students and their projects."

*The jury is composed of the design experts Kamya Ramachandran (IN) and Marjan Colletti (IT) and media artist Yasuaki Kakehi (JP). The award ceremony will take place on Saturday, 7 September, at 5.30 p.m. at Post City.

Inauguration & programme

The **inauguration of Kunstuni Campus 2024** with Rector Brigitte Hütter will take place on **Tuesday, 3 September**, in the context of the pre-opening walk of the Ars Electronica Festival – **at 7 p.m.**, the inner courtyard of the western bridgehead building will welcome a Who's Who of both the festival and the City of Linz, including **Gerfried Stocker**, Artistic Director of the Ars Electronica Festival, **Romana Staufer-Hutter** representing the Department of Culture of the Federal Province of Upper Austria, City Councillor for Culture **Doris Lang-Mayerhofer** and many others. The event will end at 10 p.m. The exhibitions at **Kunstuni Campus in Hauptplatz 6 and 8 will then be open to the public until Saturday, 7 September, daily from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sunday, 8 September, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.** At the **Sound Campus** in the courtyard of Hauptplatz 6, concerts, performances and DJ sets will be offered every night **from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. until Thursday, 5 September.**

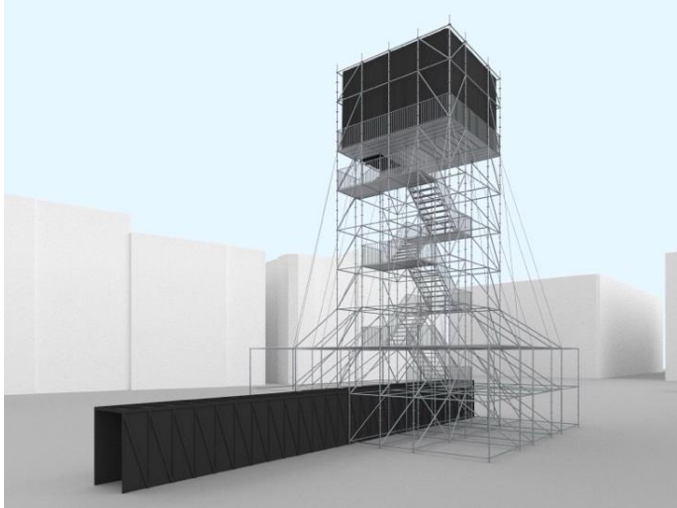
But that's not all – on **Wednesday, 4 September**, a twelve-person formation will give a performance with participation by the University of Arts Linz at the **Mariendom: NoFive** will stage Anton Bruckner's Fifth Symphony and the iconic "Seven Nation Army" riff by The White Stripes with tube amps as part of the Upper Austrian KulturEXPO 2024. And **Interface Cultures** will celebrate its 20th anniversary on **Friday, 6 September, from 2 to 6 p.m.** aboard the **salon ship "Florentine"**, which is **easy to find**, as it is **moored at the Urfahrmarkt dock.**

For more information: <https://ausstellungen.kunstuni-linz.at/lynkeustraum>

And: <https://ars.electronica.art/hope/en/>

The highlights in greater detail

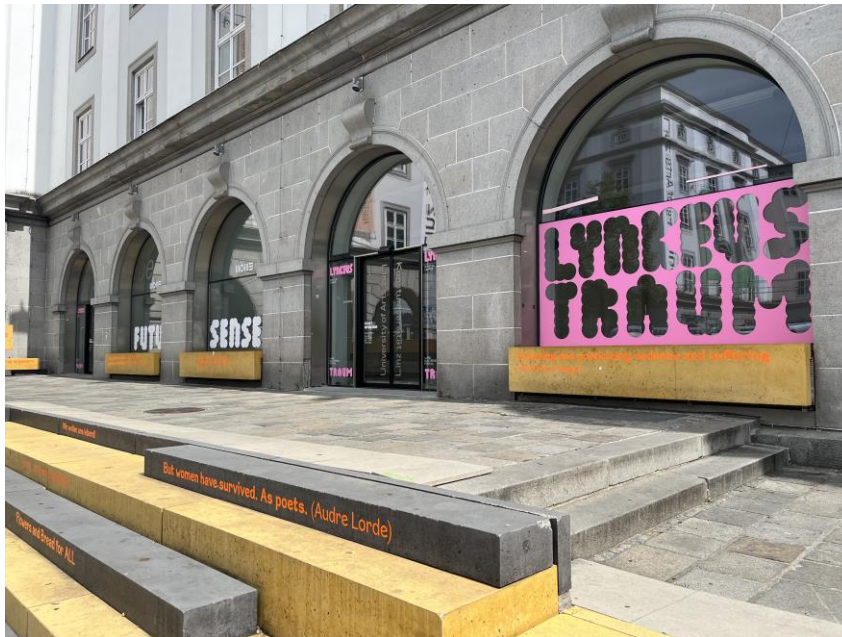
With this eighteen-metre tower built by graduates of architecture in Linz's Hauptplatz, the University of



Arts Linz invites all interested persons to change perspective. After all, this year's Kunstuni Campus is dedicated to the theme of vision in order to attempt an answer to the big question posed by the Ars Electronica Festival: "HOPE. *Who will turn the tide?*" | Illustration: Paul Eis, Maximilian Meindl

Hauptplatz Linz

Wed, 4/9, to Sat, 7/9, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sun, 8/9, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



As this year's special featured institution, the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design Budapest will use the "splace" Gallery of the University of Arts Linz in the city's old main square for the event "FUTURESENSE". Curators Judit Eszter Kárpáti, Ágoston Nagy and Esteban de la Torre will delve into the pressing anomalies and challenges of our time. The animation screening "BEST of MOME Anim" invites visitors to linger in this exhibition space and marvel at recent highlights of animation art. Another eleven installations will offer impressive tactile,

interactive or sonic experiences and communicate with audiences through a variety of media. | Photo: University of Arts Linz



Hauptplatz 6

Wed, 4/9, to Sat, 7/9, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sun, 8/9, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

In the performance "Linear Dialogue", Daniel Walter (guitar) and Sofiiia Zeifert (dance) try to achieve mutual synchronicity through movements and actions. | Photo: Daniel Walter

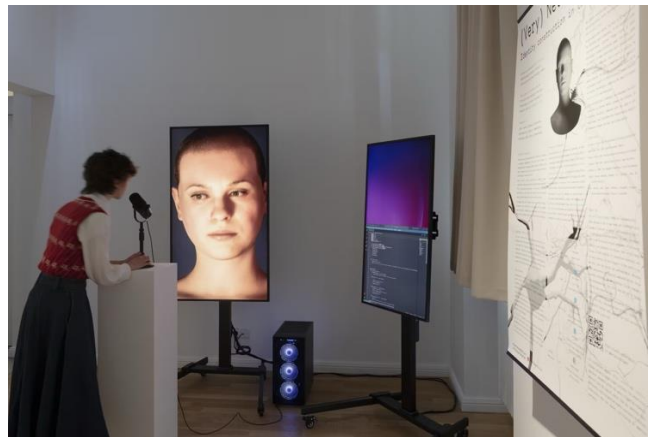
The performance will take place at the premises of the

University of Arts Linz in **Hauptplatz 8**, where over two dozen works of the Time-based and Interactive Media Arts department will be on show; many partner universities will also exhibit artworks here. Like every year, too, the **Deep Space** of the **Ars Electronica Center** will feature outstanding student performances, while the AEC roof level will welcome visitors with an innovative audio installation that offers a novel interpretation of national identity, communication and borders.

Ars Electronica Center / Futurelab roof

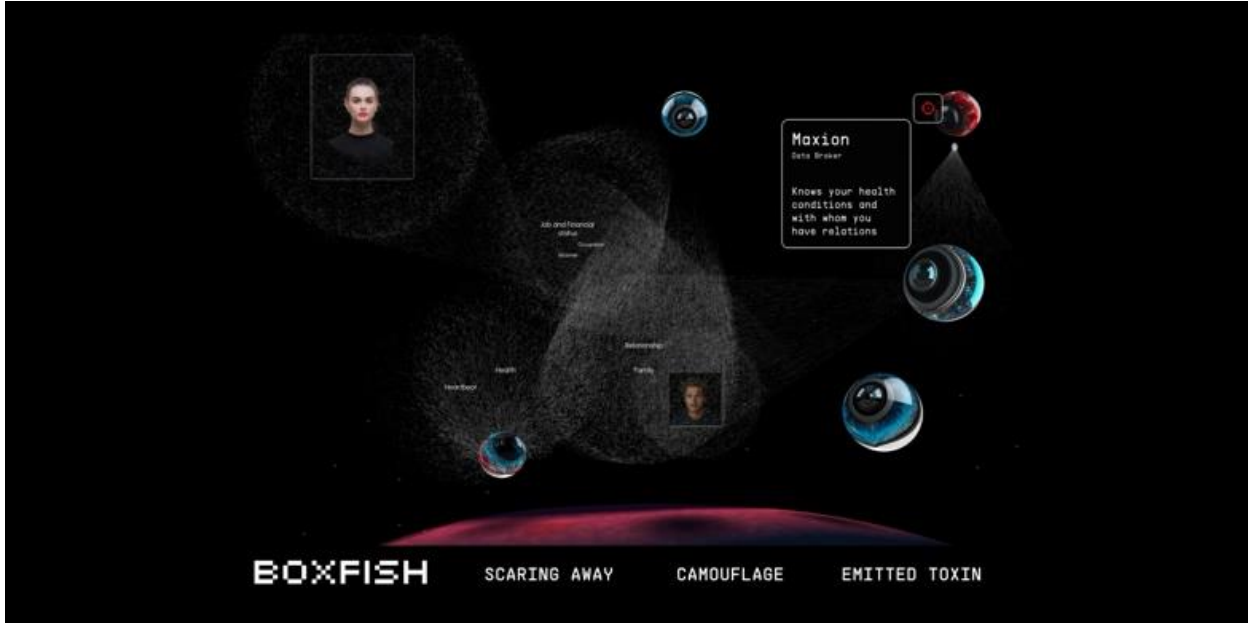
Ars-Electronica-Straße 1, 4040 Linz

Thu, 5/9, to Sat, 7/9, 2 to 5 p.m.



The project "(Very) Neural System" by Martina Pizzigoni addresses the complex dynamics of identity construction in the digital age. The installation is a dystopian AI doppelgänger of the artist for live interaction with interested visitors, thereby allowing them to dive into the blurry world extending between physical reality and virtual existence. | Photos: Martina Pizzigoni, Franz Wamhof

Where: Interface Cultures exhibition "NOUS" at Post City; Bahnhofplatz 12, 4020 Linz



The installation "The Right to Be Forgotten" by Viktoria Biki focuses on the practices of personal data collection and looks at possibilities of erasing one's online identity. It is inspired by defence strategies tried and tested in the animal world. | Illustration: Viktoria Biki

Where: "splace" Gallery; Hauptplatz 6



"ARTeFACT" by Erika Mondria encourages visitors to explore their own electromagnetic field. | Photo: Erika Mondria

Where: University of Arts Linz; Hauptplatz 6, ground floor



"Technosymbiosis" by Emma Tripaldi examines the relationship between users and algorithmically controlled social media by visualising this relationship as a symbiotic connection in which technology and plant influence each other. | Photo: Franz Wamhof

Where: Post City, Interface Cultures exhibition at Kunstuni Campus; Bahnhofplatz 12



On **Wednesday**, 4 September, **11.30 p.m.**, a twelve-person formation will give a performance with participation by the University of Arts Linz at the **Mariendom: NoFive** will stage Anton Bruckner's Fifth Symphony and the iconic "Seven Nation Army" riff by The White Stripes with tube amps as part of the Upper Austrian KulturEXPO 2024 – on the very day that marks the composer's 200th birthday. | Photo: Sombrero Design

Other exhibition venues

At the **WHA Gallery** of the University of Arts Linz, the association **FIFTITU%** will present the exhibition "*entangled homes: A Queer-Feminist Art Festival*". This event, which is concerned with concepts of home, identity and belonging, will showcase a variety of artworks, comics, GIFs and memes. **Iyo Bisseck** will present her creations at the **FIFTITU%** premises.

WHA Gallery, Domgasse 1
Fri, 6/9, to Sun, 8/9, from 1 to 7 p.m.
Inauguration: Thu, 7/9, at 6 p.m.

Other exhibition and performance venues of Kunstuni Campus include the Sonnenstein Loft in collaboration with RedSapata, the crypt of the Ursuline Church, the former vestment embroidery workshop of the Sisters of Mary of Mount Carmel in Seilerstätte, the hello yellow velodrome in co-operation with the Schachermayer company and the annual Sound Campus with performances from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during the festival week.

For more information and details about venues and performance times: <https://ausstellungen.kunstuni-linz.at/lynkeustraum/>