

2016 Ars Electronica Festival

## CyberArts Features Prizewinning Media Art

(Linz, August 11, 2016) From an espionage installation to encoded poetry engraved into tree bark all the way to a do-it-yourself surgical system—this year's CyberArts exhibition showcases 32 works of art singled out for recognition by the Prix Ars Electronica. The show is running September 8-18 at the OK Center for Contemporary Art. Plus, the Prix Forums on Friday and Saturday, September 9 & 10 spotlight the 2016 Golden Nica recipients and provide an insightful look at media art.

### Outstanding Media Art from All over the World

As always, the CyberArts exhibition is a showcase of excellence in media art. The featured artists include Ann-Katrin Krenz (DE), whose robotic milling machines crawl across tree trunks like parasites and carve poems in encoded form into their bark, as well as Christoph Wachter and Mathias Jud (both CH), who've been singled out for recognition for their interactive espionage installation. CyberArts' spectrum is broad indeed—it includes Frank Kolkman's (NL) surgical system for home use, and a robotic installation entitled "Inferno" by Louis-Philippe Demers and Bill Vorn (CA), who derived their inspiration from assorted depictions of hell. The Prix Ars Electronica also annually honors the merits and pioneering achievements of an outstanding personality. Prominent art critic and exhibition curator Jasia Reichardt (GB) secured her place in media art history in 1969 with a show named "Cybernetic Serendipity" that was the first to play up computer-based art. She's the 2016 Visionary Pioneer of Media Art. A Jasia Reichardt archive at CyberArts 2016 provides a look at her 50+-year career of extraordinary curatorial practice, art criticism, and art theory. Festivalgoers can obtain detailed insights in the prizewinners' methods and motivations at discussions with the artists featuring Q&A opportunities. These Prix Forums are set for Friday and Saturday, September 9 & 10 at CENTRAL and the OK Center for Contemporary Art.

### RADICAL ATOMS – and the alchemists of our time

... and what's now emerging on the horizon in the wake of self-driving cars and the Internet of Things. The featured protagonists at the 2016 Ars Electronica Festival are modern-day alchemists. The spotlight's on a new generation of artists, hackers, do-it-yourself 3-D printers, genetic engineers and artificial intelligence researchers who are on the verge of transforming our world. Ars Electronica is showcasing some of the trailblazing breakthroughs that are leading up to this in a one-of-a-kind mix of formats and settings. The prime location of this year's festival lineup will once again be POST CITY, the former Austrian Postal Service logistics facility at Linz's main train station. Additional venues are the Ars Electronica Center, the OK Center for Contemporary Art, CENTRAL cinema, Linz Art University, the LENTOS Art Museum and the new Anton Bruckner University.

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Ars Electronica Festival 2016: <http://www.aec.at/radicalatoms/en/>  
CyberArts Exhibition: <http://www.aec.at/radicalatoms/en/cyberarts-2016/>  
OK Center: <http://www.ok-centrum.at/?q=en>

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