



PRESS RELEASE OPENING TRANSMEDIALE 2012 IN/COMPATIBLE

transmediale Berlin's multidisciplinary digital arts festival clock up 25 years of surveying the role of culture, art and technology. At transmediale 2012, which will take place from 31 January to 5 February at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt with the new Artistic Director Kristoffer Gansing, everything will revolve around the theme *in/compatible*. Incompatibility refers to the condition that arises when things do not work together. In the spirit of ruptures, gaps and creative hacks, the festival for digital art and culture will celebrate its 25th anniversary with an international programme featuring discussion panels, artworks, video screenings, workshops, performances and art interventions. Even the web-site of transmediale surprises with a secret backdoor into a tool that allows anyone to easily remix and republish their own version of the site.

Opening

31.01.2012, 5pm – 23pm

For the opening event of the 25th anniversary edition of transmediale, the festival presents a compelling and compressed insight of what will be on offer during the festival. In the opening ceremony taking place in the Auditorium of the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, the new Artistic Director Kristoffer Gansing will introduce the 2012 festival *in/compatible*, accompanied by Hortensia Völckers (German Cultural Foundation) and Bernd Scherer (Haus der Kulturen der Welt). Somewhere in between, the glitch-artist jon.satrom is featured, with one of his signature performances for Prepared Desktop. And at the end of the ceremony, The Joshua Light Show will dazzle the audience with a special preview of their vintage light-show. Before and after the ceremony visitors are invited to enjoy events around the house, including the opening of the exhibition *Dark Drives. Uneasy Energies in Technological Times* which is devoted to the dark side of our technologised lives. Meanwhile in the Labor Berlin studio, the artistic engineering group Weise7 presents their *in/compatible* Laboratorium, delving deep into the materiality of network culture. With the miscommunication platform R15N, the Telekommunisten Network kick off the new festival initiative reSource for transmedial culture. While Jeremy Bailey takes visitors on a colourful journey into a bright and shiny looking tomorrow with his multimedia performance *The Future of Creativity*. In addition, there are performances and installations from Morten Riis, Robert Sakrowski and Gæoudjiparl among others. A particularly *in/compatible* installation is Ben Woodeson's latest work in his Health & Safety Violation series, an electrified curtain dividing the space of the HKW foyer. As a nod to the 25-year anniversary of the festival, visitors can also experience the re-staging of Videospiegel, the opening video programme of VideoFilmFest in 1988, the first edition of the transmediale.

Further information: [here](#)



Curatorial Statements by the artistic director and the curators: soundcloud.com/transmediale

Programme

You can find the programme overview [here](#)

Exhibition Dark Drives. Uneasy Energies in Technological Times

In response to the *in/compatible* theme of the festival, the transmediale 2012 exhibition curated by Jacob Lillemse focuses on “uneasy energies in technological times”. Through an extensive and diverse group of examples from art and culture, past and present, the exhibition argues that distortions, ambiguities, irritations, ironies, disorder and other such problematic state to the dark sides of our technologised lives.

Featuring Ruth White, UBERMORGEN.COM, Matteo Giordano, Eva and Franco Mattes aka 0100101110101101.ORG, Junko Mattin, Jennifer Chan, Heath Bunting, JODI, Tracy Cornish, Steina and Woody Vasulka, Paidia Institute, Constant Dullaart, VNS Matrix, JK Keller, Art 404, TR Kirstein, William S. Burroughs Antony Balch, Daniel García Andújar / Technologies To The People, Jack CaravanosVibek Raj Maurya, [epidemiC], Sture Johannesson, Jaromil, Nikola Tesla, Ant Farm, Chris Burden, Bjørn Erik Haugen, Peter Luining, Bureau of Inverse Technology (B.I.T.), Jay DahlEdward PeillChristopher Zimmer, Chris Cunningham Aphex Twin, Costanza Candeloro Luca Libertini, Author unknown, Karla Grundick and Mistress Koyo, SPK, jon.satrom and Marcelina Wellmer.

Further information: [here](#)

Press Images: [here](#)

Symposium in/compatible: systems | publics | aesthetics

From 3 to 4 February, the interdisciplinary panels, artist presentations and interventions of the symposium *in/compatible: systems | publics | aesthetics* will examine recent and emerging developments in network culture. The symposium addresses the in/compatible thematic according to three interrelated streams, discussing political, social and cultural incompatibilities from macro, micro and artistic points of view.

Featuring Anonymous, Jacob Appelbaum, Rachel Baker, Tatiana Bazzichelli, Dana Buchzik, Gabriella Coleman, Florian Cramer, Julio d'Escriván, Jodi Dean, Michael Dieter, Wolfgang Ernst, Dragan Espenschied Matthew Fuller, Kristoffer Gansing, Baruch Gottlieb, Orit Halpern, Graham Harman, Tsila Hassine / misstate Ralph Heidenreich, Stefan Heidenreich, Anthony Iles, Susanne Jaschko, jon.satrom, Olia Lialina, Rosa Menkman, Ziv Neeman, Norifumi Ogawa, Camille Paloque-Berges, Georgios Papadopoulos, Jussi Parikka Frank Rieger, Christopher Salter, Liza Tsaliki, Krystian Woznicki and Siegfried Zielinski.

Further information: [here](#)



Video Programme Satellite Stories

The video programme *Satellite Stories*, curated by Marcel Schwierin, raises the question of the compatibility between human beings and the products they create. In honour of our 25th anniversary of transmediale, each of the eight video programmes will begin with a historical work from the early years of the festival. This will allow visitors to reveal thematic continuities and ruptures within the video art of the previous decades. Maha Maamoun and Sarah Rifky from Cairo are invited as guest curators for the Arab Shorts programme.

Featuring video works by Babak Afrassiabi & Nasrin Tabatabai, Basma Al Sharif, Hanspeter Ammann, Volker Anding, Nadav Assor, Vartan Avakian, Jeremy Bailey, Thomas Balzer, Dalibor Baric, Claus Blume, Susan Bowman, Michaela Buescher, Daya Cahen, Peter Callas, Dellbrügge & de Moll, Anthony Discenza, Herbert Distel & Peter Guyer, Sherif El Azma, Haris Epaminonda, eteam (Franziska Lamprecht & Hajoe Moderegger), Harun Farocki, Dennis Feser, René Frölke, Dominic Gagnon, Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys, Reza Haeri, Henna-Riikka Halonen, Heidi-Anett Haugen, Isabelle Hayeur, Astrid Heibach, Tom Holert, Laura Horelli, Iman Issa, Sophie Kahn, George Kuchar, Nina Kurtela, Maha Maamoun, Basim Magdy, Walid Mattar, Jesse McLean, Franziska Megert, Norbert Meissner & Mike Krebs, Bjørn Melhus, Thomas Mohr, Raphael Montañez Ortiz, Neozoon, Till Nowak, Danièle & Jacques Louis Nyst, Rotraut Pape & Andreas Coerper (Raskin), People Like Us, Adnan Popović, Nicolas Provost, Steve Reinke, Sarah Rifky, Roee Rosen, Nicolás Rupcich, Aura Satz, Andreas Schneider, Nikki Schuster, Solmaz Shahbazi, Shelly Silver, Maria Vedder, Katrin Willim (Sandow), Paul Wong, Akram Zaatari, Mohamed Zayan & Eslam Zein and Stefan Zeyen.

Further information: [here](#)

Press Images: [here](#)

The Ghosts in the Machine

The performance programme *The Ghosts in the Machine*, curated by Sandra Naumann, reflects upon the compatibility and incompatibility of old and new, of analogue and digital media. The artists draw on the practices of media archaeology by using digital instruments to explore analogue media. In a series of audio-visual performances, this tactic reveals qualities that are specific to older media, thus luring the 'ghosts out of the machine'. *transmediale 2012* and *CTM.12 – Festival for Adventurous Music and Related Arts* together present *The Joshua Light Show* as a highlight within the performance programme, a vintage psychedelic act that has been reworked into a contemporary meeting between analogue and digital audiovisuals.

Featuring performances by Joshua Light Show, Billy Roisz, dieb13 and Mario de Vega, Flora Könemann, Valerio Tricoli, Wolfgang Spahn and Martin Howse, among others.

Further information: [here](#)

Press Images: [here](#)

reSource for transmedial culture

reSource for transmedial culture is a new initiative of transmediale in collaboration with CTM/DISK, Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien and the Post-Media Lab of the Leuphana University Lüneburg to sponsor an all-year platform for the exchange of methodologies and knowledge. reSource for transmedial culture supports and initiates workshops, discussions and performative lectures engaging (trans-)local hackers, artists and scientists. The programme is developed by Tatiana Bazzichelli and will be distributed into five different sub-themes: reSource methods, reSource activism, reSource networks, reSource markets and reSource sex.

Featuring Alessandra Renzi, Aliya Rakhmetova, Andrew Prior, Anthony Iles, Aymeric Mansoux, Baruch Gottlieb, Carolin Wiedemann, César Baio, Christian Ulrik Andersen, Clemens Apprich, Cornelia Sollfrank, Dagie Brundert, Daniel García Andújar / Technologies To The People, Daphne Dragona, Dmytri Kleiner, Elanor Colleoni, Eva Fischer, Florian Cramer, Francesco Macarone Palmieri aka WARBEAR, Gabriella Coleman, Gabriel Menotti Gonring, Gaia Novati, Geoff Cox, Georg Russegger, Gregor Sedlag, Jacob Appelbaum, Jaromil, Jeff Mann, Joasia Krysa, Johannes P Osterhoff, Jonas Frankki, Jonathan Kemp, Júlia Marí Bernaus, Julianne Pierce, Karla Grundick, Kate Erhardt, Kate Rich, Katrien Jacobs, Lasse Scherffig, Liad Hussein Kantorowicz, Linda Hilfling, Luise Reitstätter, Magda Tyzlik-Carver, Magnus Lawrie, Marie Thompson, Mark Butler, Mattin, Martin Howse, Martin Hug, Mathias Fuchs, Matthias Tarasiewicz, Michal Wlodkowski, Mike Pearce, Morten Breinbjerg, Morten Riis, Nicholas Knouf, Nicola Angrisano, Nina Wenhart, Oliver Baurhenn, Oliver Lerone Schultz, Paolo Podrescu aka Podinski, Prayas Abhinav, Prof. Dr. Natascha Adamowsky, Ricardo Amaral, Robert Jackson, Roberta Buiani, Rosa Menkman, Salvatrice Settis, Sergio Messina, Shintaro Miyazaki, Shu Lea Cheang, Sidney Ogidan, Stéphane Bauer, Steve Lambert, The Telekommunisten Network, Tero Karppi, Thomas Bjørnsten, Victoria Estok, Wolfgang Spahn, Zach Blas, Florian Wüst, Eckart Lottman, Kathy Rae Huffman and Pit Schultz.

Further information: [here](#)

Press Images: [here](#)

Featured Projects

During the 2012 festival a number of special projects relating to the in/compatible thematic as well as the 25 year anniversary are presented at Haus der Kulturen der Welt. These take place outside the framework of the curated exhibition and feature new works especially developed for the festival.

Ben Woodeson – Health & Safety Violation #36 – Bite you on your ass and kiss your socks goodbye

Ben Woodeson's works are deliberately confrontational, aiming at an intense and visceral relationship both with the viewer and the exhibiting institution. Particularly since 2009 when Woodeson began his overtly provocative *Health & Safety Violation* series his works transmitted threatening ripples of consequence. For transmediale in/compatible Woodeson presents a new work from this series. A seemingly innocent sculptural



curtain bisects the foyer space obstructing the visitor's default routes. Avoiding the work requires a conscious detour while also engaging with it requires a willingness to take risk – an "interactive" piece that does not pretend to be harmless.

Gæoudjiparl – MORT AUX VACHES EKSTRA EXTRA - THE GÆOUDJI SYGNOK GIVE AWAY!

Mort Aux Vaches Ekstra Extra is a compositional project that the musical maverick and warrior Gæoudjiparl has launched to radically engage with and solve the "crisis in computer music and media art." The project encompasses several albums, interactive game books, an autonomous school, and now the large-scale installation MORT AUX VACHES EKSTRA EXTRA – THE GÆOUDJI SYGNOK GIVE AWAY!. As part of the installation Gæoudjiparl is giving away all his belongings as he has previously done with vinyls and books. At transmediale 2012 the give-aways follow certain idiosyncratic rules and each will be accompanied by a small ritual lecture at a spot chosen by Gæoudjiparl.

R15N

Experimental telephone service by Dmyrty Kleiner (ca/de), Baruch Gottlieb (ca/de), Jonas Frankki (se/de), Mike Pearce (uk), Jeff Mann (ca/de), and the Telekommunisten Network. R15N is a telephone-based interactive installation available for the transmediale community. R15N is an artwork in the form of an experimental mobile phone service, which attempts to generate local community engagement and communication. After registering with the service on www.r15n.net participants will be randomly joined together in the R15N community, able to spread messages and share information. Every member thus eventually becomes engaged in a real conversation with another, engendering cohesion and complicity. R15N was originally produced in collaboration with the Israeli Center of Digital Art and successfully implemented in the Jessy Cohen Neighborhood

collaborative documenting / archiving of netart.activities

The video installation *<collaborative documenting / archiving of netart.activities>* initiated by constantdullaart.com & curatingyoutube.net together in a cooperation between Robert Sakrowski and Constant Dullaart. It consists of documentation of ephemeral net art pieces that have been shown at past transmediale festivals, and thus ties in closely with the panel discussion *web.video – the new net.art?* in the Theatersaal on 1 February at 15:00. In the *archiving.netart* project, YouTube is used as a kind of digital repository – a collaborative means of safeguarding works of net art. By re-appropriating the existing structure of the video portal, a databank of net art is established, which goes beyond YouTube's own explicitly intended use.

Dominic Gagnon, Pieces and Love All to Hell (2011), video, 60min

"Flag as inappropriate". This unobtrusive button with a flag icon appears underneath every single YouTube



video we watch marking the limits of our freedom in the Internet. Once flagged by anonymous users, after being checked by the also anonymous YouTube team, a video quickly disappears forever. In exactly this process, Dominic Gagnon intervenes. He 'saves' the flagged videos before they are deleted and adds them to a dark and mythological collage of American survivalism. People have their say, who deeply mistrust the government, who warn their fellow citizens, and who arm themselves visibly. An unclear image emerges. While the protagonists are scared of the almighty American government, the viewer is irritated what to find the most threatening in this "hell": the United States of America, the critics armed to the teeth with conspiracy theories, or the anonymous censorship power of the companies which control the web. The protagonists of Pieces and Love All to Hell are mostly female, whereas in Gagnon's earlier work RIP in Pieces America (transmediale.10) they were mainly male.

25 Years of transmediale

transmediale is 25 years old. But how should such an anniversary be marked? Instead of blowing out the candles on a birthday cake, we have decided to make the incompatibilities within the festival visible. Over the course of its history the festival has strived to promote the perspective of contemporary cultural phenomena – in opposition to mainstream and institutionalised limitations. The diverse programmes making up transmediale 2012 therefore reflect the story of a productive incompatibility that has defined the festival. Indeed when transmediale was established 25 years ago as VideoFilmFest, it was in order to provide a platform for media forms and formats marginalised by the established and standardised culture of film festivals and the cultural production of the time. The programme will feature, amongst other things, a representation of rare video programmes from the 1980s and '90s, net art installations, and media-archaeological performance programmes; areas of conflict between old and new media will be thus be exposed, and forms of political (counter-)culture, both of the time and of today, will be discussed.

From the transmediale Archives

Together with partners in a European network, transmediale is currently reprocessing its archive digitally, in order to make it more accessible in future years. The current rebuilding and comprehensive digitalisation of the festival's archive should ensure its contents are made even more accessible to the public. A selection of works will be researched during this trial phase, aiming to give an insight into the continuous development of works in the archive. The selection thus focuses on works from the 2000s, and is devoted thematically to the compatibilities and incompatibilities at the intersections of media-based networks of relations. The format of the selection not only incorporates comprehensive documentation of artistic works, but also dossiers on presented artists in the form of an editorially assembled thematic online publication. The initial results will be presented at the festival and continually updated on the transmediale website. The festival archive selection is guest curated by Thomas Munz.

Further information [here](#)



Press Conference

30.01.2012, 11:00am – 12am

The press conference of transmediale 2012 and CTM.12 will take place from 11am until around noon at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt (Room K1). Kristoffer Gansing and Jan Rohlf will be there to present the festival's highlights and programme.

Press Preview

30.01.2012, 12:15am – 1:15pm

After the press conference we invite you to a press preview of transmediale 2012 at Haus der Kulturen der Welt. You visit the exhibition *Dark Drives: Uneasy Energy in Technological Times* together with the curator Jacob Lillemose and some artists themselves. Sandra Naumann gives an introduction to the performance programme *The Ghosts in the machine* and introduces you to the equipment (1000 kilos weight) and members of the Joshua Light Show. Tatiana Bazzichelli *reSource for transmedial culture* and Marcel Schwierin selected some historical and contemporary video works of the videoprogramme *Satellite Stories*

Press Accreditation transmediale 2012 and CTM.12

Your media pass, a press kit and a free copy of the CTM.12 and transmediale 2012 catalogue can be collected at the press counter at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt during the following Opening Hours. Please note that on our opening night (31 January 2012) you don't need your pass to enter any event, as they are free of charge that evening.

31 January, 5pm – 9pm

1 – 5 February, 10am – 8pm

transmediale 2012

Opening: 31.1.2012 5.00pm

1.2. – 5.2.2012, 10:00am – 11:00pm

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, John-Foster-Dulles-Allee 10, 10557 Berlin

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