



HeK
Haus der elektronischen Künste Basel / House of Electronic Arts Basel
Oslostrasse 10, 4142 Münchenstein / Basel, CH
+41 (0)61 3315840, office@hek.ch

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elektronischen
Künste Basel

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The House of Electronic Arts (HeK) is the swiss competence centre for art forms which address and reflect upon new media and technologies. With its focus on interdisciplinary practices, HeK enables insights for a broad public into art productions of various genres. In presenting an exciting programme of exhibitions, festival formats, performances and concerts, HeK engages with current social issues and technological aesthetic developments. Alongside its function as an event- and exhibition venue, HeK is involved in the methods of collecting and preserving digital arts. In November 2014 HeK will move to a new building and celebrates its big re-opening with the first solo-show of Japanese artist and composer Ryoji Ikeda in Switzerland.

HeK was founded in 2011 and is run independently by a private foundation. It is one of the pioneering cultural institutions on the Dreispitz, a former industrial area on the outskirts of Basel-City in Northwestern Switzerland. HeK aims to promote media competence and reflection on the role of today's media, and to facilitating vanguard perspectives and original forms of expression in contemporary arts.

In October 2014, HeK will move into a new building not far from its old premises. The new base, which will open its doors in November 2014 will offer optimized conditions for the presentation of artworks of all genres, particularly those demonstrating new synergies between art, media and technology. In addition to a 600 m² exhibition space, a 200 m² multifunctional space is available for use as a concert hall, performance space and conference room. The long awaited move to the new building is vital to HeK's continuation of its attractive event, exhibition and educational programs. It will also allow HeK to further develop its programs content and to pursue new goals and priorities. The HeK is focused not on classic event, exhibition and educational formats but on an interdisciplinary program that can foster exploration of the impact of digital technology on cultural production and the shifting interfaces between different artforms. As of 2014, with its first funding support from the Federal Office of Culture (BAK), the scope of HeK's activity not only encompasses new media and digital art presentations but also the challenging, new and on-going tasks of collecting new media and digital art, and confronting the professional and scientific issues involved in its long-term conservation

and/or restoration.

From the 24th of May until the 22nd of June the last exhibition of HeK in the current space at Oslostrasse takes place. Perspectives on Imaginary Futures shows artists envisioning possible scenarios of the future. After that and until November several events will take place in other locations and in collaboration with different regional partners such as Kaserne Basel, Keck Kiosk, Liste Art Fair, Museum Tinguely, Lady Bar and others.

Visualisation of the new building, which will open in November 2014

Presenting the first solo show of artist and composer Ryoji Ikeda in Switzerland the House of Electronic Arts Basel will then open its new premises on the 21st of November 2014. Ikeda is world-wide renowned for his concert performances and immersive, audio-visual installations. On the occasion of an exclusive preview of his upcoming exhibition at HeK, Ikeda will visit Basel already on June 19 2014 for a live performance of his latest work test pattern during Art Basel.

Ikeda focusses on the essential features of sound and image. Both mathematical precision and correlating aesthetics characterise his work. The live-set test pattern is part of a larger series of works, which takes on various forms: installations, performances, and live-settings are used as scenarios in which to translate different types of data (text, sound, photographs, and film) into binary barcode patterns. test pattern combines into complex montages mechanical-technical feasibility and human perception. Thus, the data streams daily surrounding us become physically perceptible and - transformed into image and sound - take on a new dimension.

More about HeK and its program on www.haus-ek.org.

For press inquiries or further information please contact Lukas Zitzer, lukas.zitzer@haus-ek.org, 0041 / (0) 61 331 58 40.

