

June 21, 2015–August 9, 2015

Ryoji Ikeda. *micro* | *macro*

ZKM | Atrium 1 + 2

Opening: Sunday, June 21, 2015, 2 pm

As prelude to the exhibition *Infosphere*, the ZKM | Karlsruhe is presenting the large-scale exhibition *micro* | *macro* by Japanese artist and composer Ryoji Ikeda. The series of works entitled *supersymmetry* and the installation commission by ZKM entitled *the planck universe* will be presented for the first time as a world premiere in the ZKM atriums 1 + 2 on an exhibition area of about 7,000 m². Both works were created during Ikeda's research stay at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN). The installations are synchronized with each other and transform the exhibition into a large audiovisual symphony. The rooms in the ZKM will be part of a monumental "super installation".

supersymmetry consists of 80 screens and forms a corridor in which visitors will be enwrapped by images. Mathematical and physical images appear like a flash of light and blinking, synchronized with sounds as well as the humming and droning of scientific equipment. A second part of the installation on the second floor directly above shows light boxes on which particles move over microscopic, brightly shining areas. The complex entanglements which ensue within this installation are reminiscent of the superposition principle in physics.

the planck universe consists of two overwhelming projections which unfold on an area of over 375 m². The installation explores human perception on the smallest microscopic level as well as the largest level of endless space beyond the observable universe. Pictorial worlds which have been enlarged to our proportions by the Planck scale (10⁻³⁵ m) can be perceived on the large-format floor projection of *the planck universe [micro]*. Scientists use the Planck scale to describe the smallest units of our universe, so-called "strings". So while visitors enter an immersive area in *the planck universe [micro]*, in *the planck universe [macro]* they experience a macro scale of 10²⁶ m, which lies beyond the observable universe, by means of an immense wall projection over three floors with engaging sound.

The works at the ZKM are closely interwoven with architecture and exhibited synchronized with each other. While Ikeda still explicitly deals with the CERN's research work in *supersymmetry*, in *the planck universe* commissioned by ZKM he immerses himself like never before in the physical theory beyond experimental practice. The field of tension and imagination exhibited by *micro* | *macro* unfolds in the realm between theoretical quantum physics, empirical experiments and human perception.

Press release

May 2015

Ryoji Ikeda. *micro* | *macro*

Within the scope of:
"GLOBALE. The new art event in the digital age"

Date

From June 21, 2015

Place

ZKM | Karlsruhe

Press contact

Dominika Szope
Head of Public Relations & Marketing
Tel.: +49 (0)721 / 8100 – 1220

Regina Hock

Assistance for Public Relations & Marketing
Tel.: +49 (0)721 / 8100 – 1821

E-mail: presse@zkm.de

www.zkm.de/presse

ZKM | Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe
Lorenzstraße 19
76135 Karlsruhe

A project within the scope of the 300- Birthday of the City of Karlsruhe



Supported by



ZKM sponsors



ZKM partner



Culinary partner



Media partner



Please note: STROBE EFFECTS ON VIDEO AND HIGH SOUND LEVEL which could possibly trigger epileptic seizures will be used in the exhibition.

Press release

May 2015

Ryoji Ikeda. micro | macro

**Within the scope of:
"GLOBALE. The new art event in the digital age"**

Date

From June 21, 2015

Place

ZKM | Karlsruhe

Press contact

Dominika Szope
Head of Public Relations & Marketing
Tel.: +49 (0)721 / 8100 – 1220

Regina Hock
Assistance for Public Relations & Marketing
Tel.: +49 (0)721 / 8100 – 1821

E-mail: presse@zkm.de
www.zkm.de/presse

ZKM | Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe
Lorenzstraße 19
76135 Karlsruhe

A project within the scope of the 300- Birthday of the City of Karlsruhe



Supported by



ZKM sponsors



ZKM partner



Culinary partner



Media partner



ANNEX

Composer and artist **Ryoji Ikeda** is one of the most important international representatives of media art and experimental electronic music. He creates synesthetic installations of sound, moving images and sculptural elements related to architecture. His audiovisual works are characterized by a profound artistic involvement with human perception and the nature of sound. Ikeda investigates the possibilities of new digital technologies and subjects these to a virtually scientific analysis which underlies his works. He is particularly interested in the limits and fundamental forms of sound – as an analyst, he reveals the physical form as well as the perceptive psychological effects of sound. Ikeda deals with the digital sphere in a similar manner. Like a hacker, he penetrates the world of data and makes its hidden features – its code – visible: data streams and abstract computational processes which envelop the viewer unfold.

The visualization of his sound art is intimately connected with audible phenomena and forms an esthetic entity. Ikeda creates highly estheticized, abstract images which visualize the world of data in its strict minimalism. On the visual level the artist is also concerned with challenging the viewer's perceptual patterns. Ikeda makes invisible phenomena visible and reveals the structures of digital material, which he translates into moving images of sublime beauty. In order to comprehend their nature, he penetrates deeper and deeper into the world of data, in this exhibition as well as in terms of quantum physics. By means of the smallest particles and the largest possible dimensions the artist demonstrates the range as well as the limits of data collections.

Press release

May 2015

Ryoji Ikeda. micro | macro

Within the scope of:
"GLOBALE. The new art event in the digital age"

Date

From June 21, 2015

Place

ZKM | Karlsruhe

Press contact

Dominika Szope
Head of Public Relations & Marketing
Tel.: +49 (0)721 / 8100 – 1220

Regina Hock

Assistance for Public Relations & Marketing
Tel.: +49 (0)721 / 8100 – 1821

E-mail: presse@zkm.de
www.zkm.de/presse

ZKM | Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe
Lorenzstraße 19
76135 Karlsruhe

A project within the scope of the 300- Birthday of
the City of Karlsruhe



Supported by



ZKM sponsors



ZKM partner



Culinary partner



Media partner

