

PRESS RELEASE

Peter Weibel's Final Exhibition**Renaissance 3.0. A Base Camp for New Alliances of Art and Science in the 21st Century***March 25, 2023 – January 7, 2024***Press tour**

Friday, March 24, 2023, 11:00 am (CET)

Please register in advance: Felix Brenner // presse@zkm.de

The ZKM | Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe mourns the death of Peter Weibel, who passed away on March 1, 2023, after a short serious illness. Until the end, he worked intensively on his exhibition project, »Renaissance 3.0.« The exhibition, which will be on display at the ZKM | Karlsruhe starting March 25, 2023, spans a bridge from the Arab and Italian Renaissance to the media art of the twenty-first century, outlining a third Renaissance in art.

Exhibition »Renaissance 3.0. A Base Camp for New Alliances of Art and Science in the 21st Century« (March 25, 2023 – January 7, 2024). Admission to the exhibition is free on the opening weekend.

The scientification of art was already a core tenet of the Renaissance, but its importance has faded over the centuries. Now, in the digital twenty-first century, a shift is taking place. Artists and scientists are increasingly working with the same tools, methods, and programs. This shared »pool of tools« points to the beginning of a third Renaissance. In his latest and final exhibition, Peter Weibel, the late artistic-scientific director of the ZKM | Karlsruhe, spans a bridge from the Arab and Italian Renaissance to this new, third Renaissance.

The exhibition sets up a base camp for new alliances of art and science in the twenty-first century, illustrating the emergence of a new culture of tools. At the center of the exhibition space, an interactive »Wissensfeld« (knowledge base) allows visitors to physically select concepts in space to access the corresponding explanations. The artistic »Wissensfeld« is devised as an experimental collaboration between humans and machines, in which human and machine learning are interacting.

March 2023

Exhibition
Renaissance 3.0
A Base Camp for New Alliances
of Art and Science
in the 21st Century

Opening
March 24, 2023

Duration
March 25, 2023 – January 7, 2024

Location
Atrium 1+2

Symposium
March 25 – March 26, 2023

Location
Media Theater

Press contact
Felix Brenner
Phone: +49 (0) 721 8100 1821

E-mail: presse@zkm.de
www.zkm.de/en/about-the-zkm/press

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Lorenzstraße 19
76135 Karlsruhe

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Peter Weibel, who served as curator and artistic-scientific director of the ZKM | Karlsruhe since 1999, said about the exhibition: »The alliance between technology and science as humanity’s answer to natural evolution is a central topic for me, because the survival of mankind depends upon it. Art in its highest form is not a technique of representation, but an act of insight by both the artists and the recipients. The importance of media art lies in the fact that it extends beyond the mimetic function of the classical arts. Media are interfaces which change the world and its perception.«

With 35 international media art positions, »Renaissance 3.0« provides insights into artistic laboratory situations and artistic-scientific collaborations. In doing so, the exhibition creates a space for a new culture of tools and a multidisciplinary knowledge base for the twenty-first century – from biochemistry to genetic engineering and information design to neuroscience and unconventional computing.

The featured artists draw connections to historical fields of knowledge and work in innovative areas of research. For instance, the sound installation »Khipu« by South American artist Constanza Piña Pardo combines modern systems logic with traditional Incan techniques. The electrotexile computer is a retrospective examination of an extra-European binary mnemosystem which is capable of far more than simply recording information.

In his seven-part cabinet installation »METABOLICA Camp«, Austrian media artist Thomas Feuerstein sets up a complex metabolic system. Contemporary sculptural processes of the twenty-first century have moved far beyond the authorship model of chisels being driven into blocks of marble. Instead, according to the biocybernetic hypothesis and its artistic proof, the artist’s studio is thought of as a molecular factory in which sculptural bioplastics can be shaped using microorganisms and 3D printing.

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BEGEISTERT FÜR MOBILITÄT



Symposium »Renaissance 3.0«

Renowned Scientists and Nobel Laureates at ZKM | Karlsruhe

March 25 and 26, 2023, free admission

To mark the opening of the exhibition, Peter Weibel invited internationally renowned scientists and Nobel laureates for a symposium at the ZKM | Karlsruhe to stake out possible alliances of art and science for the twenty-first century together.

Speakers include quantum physicists, biochemists, medical researchers, and art historians: Gerald Bast, Tilmann Betsch, Horst Bredekamp, Bazon Brock, Stefan Hell (2014 Nobel Prize in Chemistry), Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard (1995 Nobel Prize in Medicine), Adam Riess (2011 Nobel Prize in Physics), Uwe Spetzger and Siegfried Zielinski.

The symposium will be held in German. Wolfram Eilenberger and Michael Hübl will be moderating the event in Peter Weibel's stead. Admission is free. The full program is available at <http://zkm.de/en/renaissance3>.

Also at the ZKM:

»The Next Renaissance« by the EU Platform EIT Culture & Creativity

At the same time as the »Renaissance 3.0« exhibition opening and symposium, the symposium »The Next Renaissance« will be taking place at the ZKM. The European platform of the EIT Culture & Creativity develops perspectives of radical change. Participants will be joining this event from all over Europe. The symposium will also feature a workshop and an interactive presentation by the Catalan Fundació Èpica La Fura dels Baus.

For further information on »The Next Renaissance«, contact Matthias Hauser: matt@msc-bw.com // <https://www.nextrenaissance.eu/>

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