

THE COMEBACK OF VISIONS – BACK TO THE FUTURE
VIRTUAL REALITY ART PIONEERS PRESENTED BY ARTGATE



“FUTURE DAY” on 7th June 2018

A future conference by the Zukunftsinstitut, Frankfurt

In the context of the [Zukunftsinstitut's](#) (‘institute for future studies’) “[Future Day](#)”, ARTGATE Consulting is conceptualising a virtual reality art presentation featuring future visions of international fine art pioneers at Kap Europa, congress house of the Frankfurt fair. As concept developer between commerce and art, ARTGATE offers the participants of the conference an in-depth insight into an emerging technology with world impact with the support of outstanding virtual reality art pioneers. The presentation will sensitise the audience for the future potential of (artistic) VR-visualisation and for the development of new products and services.

The Zukunftsinstitut was founded in 1998 and has had a profound impact on the trend and future studies in Germany. Today the Zukunftsinstitut's team is one of the most influential think tanks in Europe's trend and future studies. Since 2000, the “Future Day” represents an annual must-attend programme to future-oriented decision makers, strategists and innovation leaders. The conference assembles approximately 750 corporate personalities and features speeches and lectures from outstanding international speakers. Reacting to the current dystopic imaginings of society with regard to the future – the fear of artificial intelligence, cyborgs, “love robots”, surveillance technology and gene manipulation, rather than seeing the potential for the betterment of humanity – this year's Future Day thematically focuses on the comeback of visions and strengthens the idea of a need for the finding of new, complex and better visions for the future.

Virtual Reality allows artists to create new visions for the world and allows viewers to become completely immersed in them. However, generating virtual scenarios for living not only come with ideas for our future but also reflect the current state of our current environment and society. By reflecting our present, the artworks sensitises the audience for current problems such as climate change, as well as the potentials and risks of technological development to nature with the help of VR technology. ARTGATE will juxtapose three VR artworks during the Future Day in an assigned presentation cube including the following artists:

With “[Global Seed Vault](#)”, [Magali Daniaux & Cédric Pigot](#) propose the imagination of the Arctic as a gigantic backup, a huge protective reserve for a bio-centric humankind living in environments that are climate-controlled and designed to order. “The fridge world” is a promise of death and eternity. But, at the bottom of the vault you will find the “Extraflower” that preserves the recorded voice of the last human on planet Earth describing the world around him in a kind of ecstasy with “The Beep of the Soul”. Daniaux and Pigot are based in Paris. Their work has been presented at leading international art institutions such as Musée de Jeu de Paume, Palais de Tokyo in Paris, Cosmocosm Moscow and Venice Biennial of Architecture.

[Theo Triantafyllidis' work "Staphyloculus"](#) is an attempt to virtually rebuild the first known outbreak of the "Polywobbly Fervenitis" virus on the site in Joshua Tree, California. The VR experience shows how the artist is getting infected by the virus himself while setting up a complete VR rig under scorching sunlight. We virtually experience ourselves what it is like trying to set up a technical set-up with VR rig under the surveillance of nature, subtly represented by sunlight and a "back-fighting" natural virus. Theo Triantafyllidis is based in Los Angeles and has shown his work in leading museums, including the Hammer Museum in LA and NRW Forum in Dusseldorf. Theo Triantafyllidis is represented by The Breeder, Athens: <http://thebreedersystem.com/>

[Manuel Rossner's "UltraLight Beam"](#) features a virtual gallery side with just two large, chrome, tubal sculptures that are mounted from the floors and ceilings, spanning the breadth of the space and situated amongst garish primary-coloured walls. The artist and subsequent curator of the Float digital gallery presents a multi-way viewing experience to the audience, which also includes the more intimate experience of UltraLight Beam via a customized Google Cardboard Head-Mounted Display unit (HMD). Manuel Rossner is based in Berlin. His works have been presented by the INFRA Festival in Tokyo, the NRW-Forum Düsseldorf as well as at Frankfurter Kunstverein.

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