

PRESS DOSSIER

# PIKSEL15 Get A-life!

Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri teknologi



19 – 22 November 2015 | Bergen, Norway  
Østre, S12, Ungdomshuset 1880, BIKS, Bart, Lund-Tønnesens kjeller

Opening night : 18:00 – 24:00 | 19 November

Molecular biology is a powerful tool that accelerates our understanding of natural phenomena, allowing us to redesign, reinvent and even recreate it. Many ethical and social questions have arisen as a result, but one of the most important is: Who can access this technology?

A growing community of biologists, artists and technophiles are bringing molecular biology to the people, experimenting in kitchens, workshops and DIY laboratories.

Speculative artistic projects in open biohacking, DIY synthetic biology and Artificial Life (A-life) co-exist with institutional laboratory work and have been instrumental in raising critical and political issues within these fields.

Pixel15 brings over 70 artists and key figures in the DIY open bio art community to Bergen this year, making our city a focal point of this important global movement. Join us, Get A-Life!

Full program: <http://15.piksel.no>

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-----> A quick tour of the Píksel15 Festival program

Píksel is an annual festival for artists and developers working with free/open source software, hardware and art in Bergen. The 13th edition of the Píksel Festival Get A-Life! is devoted to show a series of artistic works, performances, workshops and presentations dealing with DIY A-Life (artificial life), DIY electronic and audiovisual artworks and concerts.

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Curators: Gisle Froyland and Maite Cajaraville

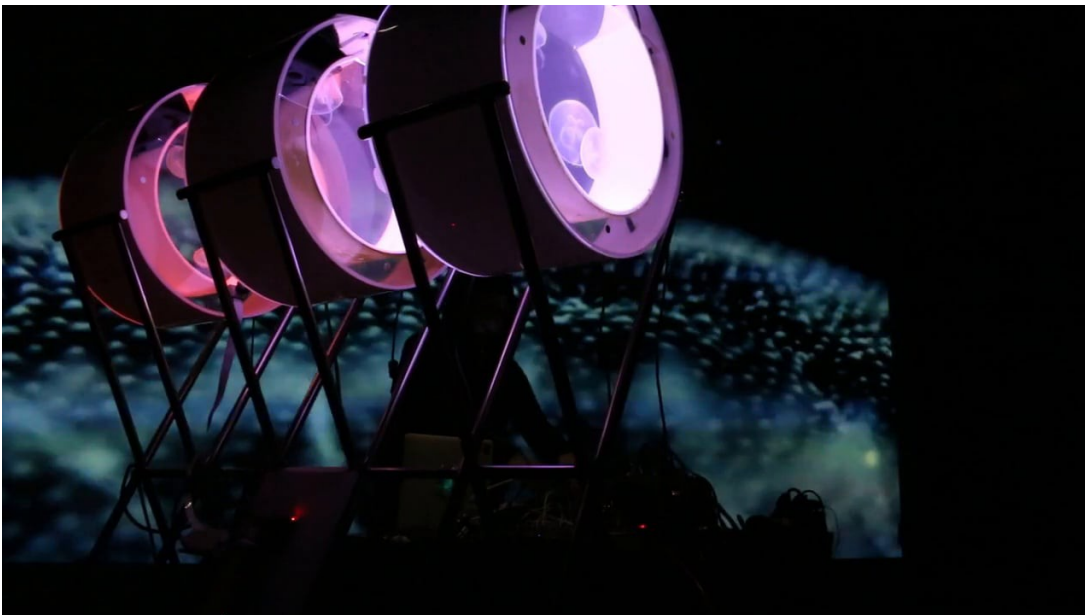
[gisle@piksel.no](mailto:gisle@piksel.no) / [maite@piksel.no](mailto:maite@piksel.no)

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## EXHIBITIONS @ S12, Østre, Bart, Lund-Tønnesens kjeller

<http://15.piksel.no/category/exhibitions/>

Benjamin Gaulon, Gijs Gieskes, Karl Klomp, Tom Verbruggen, Wolfgang Spahn, Malte Steiner, Signal-to-Noise, Oliver Wilshen and Niall Quinn, QUADRATURE, Jan Bernstein, Juliane Götz and Sebastian Neitsch, Erin Sexton, Oscar Martin, Katrin Caspar, Eeva-Liisa Puhakka, Rasa Smite, Raitis Smite, Robertina Šebjanič, Alexandre Castonguay, Marek Sitko, Maxime Damecour, Jenny Pickett, Sabina Ahn, Harald Fetveit, Matteo Pasin, Nick Montfort, Karen Eliot, Pall Thayer, Giuseppe Gavazza, Benjamin Grosser, Mari Ohno, Nick Montfort, Shu Lea Cheang



*Aurelia 1+Hz / proto viva generator* by Robertina Šebjanič tries to solve the artificial life equation, proposing jelly fish as the life force at its centre.

*Bio Vortex* by Ben Freeth creates a hybrid musical instrument with bioluminescent algae, part living, part electromechanical.

*Cocíclo* by Canadian artist Alexandre Castonguay will mark the pollution levels with chalk on Bergen's streets, creating a temporal data map.

The artwork SATELLITEN by Berlin-based group Quadrature will draw the position of the satellites passing by the Bergen sky over old maps of the area.



*Lab for Physical Music* by Harald Fetveit. Experiments began in 2012 in a tiny concrete basement with a 10 kW rig of subs and happy deaf people behind the controllers. If music should be made for deaf people, the best would be if deaf people themselves made it. The audience can shape their own compositions by moving between different spots in the room.



## PERFORMANCES @ ØSTRE

<http://15.piksel.no/category/performances/>

Servando Barreiro, the noiser, h220, Sabina Ahn, Nicolas Maigret, Brendan Howell, Tim Shaw, Sébastien Piquemal, Jean-Francois Blanquet, Stefan Tiefengraber, SCREAMING IT, Dr. Nexus and Greta Christensen, André Damião, Tijs Ham, Wolfgang Spahn, Kasia Justka, Ben Freeth, Roosna & Flak, Rob Canning, Antonios Galanopoulos, Barbara Kukovec, Quimera Rosa.

*Sexus 3 [Part I: Zhora]* by Quimera Rosa. This performance revises the universe of Blade Runner in a post porn version: here, the replicants have left humanity for good... mixing scenes of cyberpunk surrealism with non-conventional sexual practices.



*WM\_EX10 WM\_A28 TCM\_200DV BK26* by Stefan Tiefengraber. A noise performance where sound and video are generated through short circuits the artist produces with his wet fingers on opened devices.

## **DIY A-Life Seminar @ ØSTRE**

<http://15.piksel.no/diyalifeseминаr/>

Nora S. Vaage (NO), Gjino Šutić (CR), Kat F Austen (UK), Cristian Delgado (MX), Christian E. Mong (NO), Ben Freeth (UK), Hege Tapio (NO), Rasa Smite (LV), Robertina Šebjanič (SL), Margrét Elísabet Ólafsdóttir (IC)

In collaboration with the project NORTH Creative Network under the EEA Norway Grants program, Piksel15 will host a “DIY A-Life! Seminar” where experts speakers, researches and artists will discuss open biotechnology, DIY bioart, DIY synthetic molecular biology, Artificial Life (A-life) and bioethics applied to the practice of bioart.

Open call for participants, register by email: [piksel15@piksel.no](mailto:piksel15@piksel.no)

## **DIY A-LIFE WORKSHOPS**

<http://15.piksel.no/category/diyalifeworkshops/>

Pikslo\_deep\_diving / underwater interception of the nordic sea, DIY BioLab: How to mix molecular biology and electronics as new performances, R language, a powerful tool for environmental data analysis, Bio-Vortex (Bio-Illuminating The Vortex).



## **DORKBOT PRESENTATIONS @ ØSTRE**

<http://15.piksel.no/category/presentations>

Ben Freeth, Arve Knudsen, Jose David Cuartas, PNEK Network

## PIKSEL SAVERS @ 1880

<http://15.piksel.no/category/pikselsavers/>

Shu Lea Cheang, Matteo Pasin, Nick Montfort, Karen Eliot, Pall Thayer, Giuseppe Gavazza, Benjamin Grosser, Mari Ohno, Nick Montfort



## PIKSEL KIDZ @ S12 + 1880

<http://15.piksel.no/laboratorio/>

For the youngest, PikelKidZ wants to bring new media art practices to kids and youngsters through three workshops to enjoy the city. Renewable energy, natural and urban environment using mobile apps, solar energy creatures, maps, augmented realities, water sensors, ... SUN! WATER! GO!

Register at PikelKidZ: [tiril@piksel.no](mailto:tiril@piksel.no)



## **WORKSHOPS @ S12, ØSTRE, BIKS + 1880**

<http://15.piksel.no/category/workshops/>

Bergen Invocation: A Sonic Reworking | John Bowers, Tim Shaw; Embedded Art System | Wolfgang Spahn, Malte Steiner; BodyNoise performance workshop | Quimera Rosa; Fields | Sébastien Piquemal, Tim Shaw; Cociclo – workshop | Alexandre Castonguay; Live projection mapping with aziz!LightCrew's Freelineer | Maxime Damecour

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more info and complete festival program: <http://15.piksel.no>

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