

Symposium Virtuosi and RIXC 15th anniversary



Look from exhibition "Virtuosi"; Photo: Paula Vītola

From 14th till 16th of May at RIXC Gallery (11. novembra krastmala 35) will take place a symposium "Virtuoso – multi scene art platform". It reflects three important events of spring 2015 – the closing of exhibition "Virtuoso – multi scene art platform", 15 year anniversary of RIXC and end of international cooperation project "Soft Control". As part of this project slovenian artists Maja Smrekar and Monika Pocrnjić will present their creative workshops in symposium, but next week RIXC artists will go to Maribor, where Rasa Šmite, Raitis Šmits and Mārtiņš Ratniks will exhibit their work "Talk to me" and new artists Rihards Vītols and Paula Vītola will present their newest works.

Symposium "Virtuoso" offers a varied program of lectures and workshops. The main themes – sound art and experiments, alternative food resources, collection forming and archiving, communication technologies and bioart. Artists of the exhibition "Virtuoso – multi scene art platform" will take part in the symposium along with such well-known composers in Latvia as Voldemārs Johansons and Rolands Kronlaks, who will tell about data-sonification in art and about their manipulation in musical compositions.

In her creative workshops (Friday, 15th of May 10.00-16.00) Slovenian artist Monika Pocrnjić will show that any object, that creates some kind of a sound, can be a musical instrument. In the workshop it will be possible to make musical instruments from a wide range of materials. The participants will be introduced with the basics of electronics and soldering, micro-controller Arduino Mini Pro, as well as the making of a keyboard-type interface. On Saturday, 19.30 – 21.00 at RIXC Gallery there will be a performance by the artist and presentation of the workshop results.

Meanwhile in the "YogHurt" workshop by Maja Smrekar (Saturday, 16th of May 15.00-18.00) its participants will have a chance to produce a yoghurt, enriched with genetically modified organisms, that also contains enzymes of the artist's body. As the food-prices keeps growing due to reduction of product amount and increase of population, the artist is looking for new solutions and alternatives for food-production in the future.

The symposium will culminate on Saturday in "Museum Night" with the performance "Damned smock of Rainis" by Trihars audio-visual organism in the RIXC Gallery at 21.00. "Trihars" will propose their own interpretation about the collaboration of Rainis and Aspazija. The performance consists of a chaotic, flowing sound together with a hypnotic projection. Seemingly ordinary things, that the legendary Latvian couple had to deal with, are highlighted in the performance.

Detailed symposium program is available at <http://rixc.org>

Within the symposium RIXC centre for new media culture will celebrate its 15 year anniversary of activity.

RIXC was established on May 2000 on the basis of E-LAB (Centre for electronic arts and media, since 1996). The basic activity of RIXC is connected with initiating the most novel and current topics in digital art and performing innovative experimental projects in contemporary art, science and new technology in Latvia and internationally. RIXC also functions as an artist-collective, that produces its own media artworks, curates exhibitions, organizes the annual "Art+Communication" festival and other digital art and contemporary culture events. RIXC publishes books and publications about media art as well.

Applying for the creative workshops – rixc@rixc.lv; 67228478 (RIXC office), 26546776 (Rasa Šmite). The workshops are for free, no previous acquirements are necessary.

Exhibition "Virtuoso – multi scene art platform" will be open until May 17th, 2015 at RIXC Gallery, address: 11. novembra krastmala 35 (entrance from Minsterejas street). Opening hours: from Tuesday until Sunday, 12pm to 6pm, closed on Mondays. Free entrance.

Organized by Electronic Art Center E-LAB in collaboration with RIXC Center for New Media Culture.

Support: EU program "Culture 2007-2013" as part of project "Soft Control", State Culture Capital Foundation of Latvia, Riga City Council, Art Research Laboratory (MPLab) of Liepaja University,