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Jury Statement

Tapio Mäkelä, Fiona Raby, Yvonne Wilhelm

Last year the jury forewent awarding a prize in the Interactive Art category. In their statement, the jury emphasised the fact that the competition lacked projects of extraordinary quality. Consequently, they initiated a discussion at transmediale.03 about the state of interactive art, provocatively entitled “The crisis of interactive art”. One result of this serious debate on content and quality of interactive artwork was the precise positioning of the interactive genre, disproving the supposed crisis and instead providing an analysis of the challenging conditions under which interactive art is produced.

Interactive art has expanded beyond early recurrences and a hasty search for interfaces, and has gained in concept, succumbing less to the temptations of technology. In this year’s competition over 200 works were submitted to the Interaction category, but only two-thirds were interactive pieces in its original sense. The remaining one-third consisted mainly of installations outside the competition’s categories such as non-interactive spatial sound pieces, light installations, or dance performances. It is worth mentioning that the sound-based works in particular, of which some where exceedingly interesting, make a case for future extensions of the competition or its restructuring. Furthermore, an exclusion of “expert user pieces”, such as interactive stage performances, also warrants future consideration. In their interactive design paradigms, these projects differ strongly from interactive installations developed in an exhibition context.

Award Ceremony:

TM.04 Official Award Ceremony

Auditorium

Tuesday

February 3

20:00 – 22:30

This year’s jury nominated three pieces for the Interaction award and bestowed honourable mentions to another three.

Installation: [Your Kidney Supermarket](#)

[Gupta, Shilpa](#) [in]

> *Nomination/INTERACTION*

> *Nomination/WERKLEITZ AWARD*

In her installation 'Your Kidney Supermarket' and the webproject 'xeno.bio.lab', Indian artist Shilpa Gupta portrays a gloomy image of a future global organ trading system where moral concerns have no place. In this candy-coloured world the organ is becoming a ware whose trade is based on capitalistic principles.

Your Kidney Supermarket is part of Fly Utopia! Market

Screenbased: [GeneralNews](#)

[Plewe, Daniela Alina](#) [de]

> *Honourable Mention/INTERACTION*

General News is a meta-browser that performs real-time substitution of words on websites. The substitutions may be synonymous with, an abstract of, or more specific than the original expression. Using a slider, the user may investigate emerging possibilities of spaces around text.

Screenbased: [Machines will eat itself/superbot.tk](#)

[Alken, Franz](#) [de]

> *Honourable Mention/INTERACTION*

2003

Machines will eat itself is an answer to commercial data-mining. Build a bot, and it will surf to where you send him in order to fill online forms with its worthless data profile.

Installation: [Haptic Opposition](#)

[Schießl, Simon](#) [de/us]

> *Nomination/INTERACTION*

'Haptic Opposition' is centered around a mechanically movable text display driven simultaneously both by human beings and machine control.

Performance: [Radioballett](#)

[Ligna](#) [de]

> *Nomination/INTERACTION - in combination with Wählt die Signale!*

The Radioballett project was also based on a collaboration with a local radio station. Ligna equipped 300 people with small radio receivers and directed a public action on Hamburg railway station over a 49 minute period. The activities people would do, ranging from sitting down, hand movements, expressions became a coreography of simultaneous repetitions.

Instead of reclaiming the streets, Radioballett reclaimed the privatized railway station as a public space. The Radioballett action points out that action without a reason is part and parcel of a public space.

Screenbased: [Home Dictate](#)

Diosi, Ivor [sk]

> *Honourable Mention/INTERACTION*

Home Dictate correlates the art of political speech making to power, influence and persuasion, plays with mass manipulation and most interestingly - personal ego. It takes the game player out of the bedroom universe into the public arena.

Installation: Wählt die Signale! Ein Radiokonzert für 144 Handys**Ligna** [de]

> *Nomination/INTERACTION - in combination with Radioballett*

„Dial the Signals!“ was a temporary installation of a radio station, 144 mobile phones, numerous radios and the listeners of the free radio FSK, being all part of a complex instrument. The radio transmitter, die phones, the radios of the listeners and die spaces of the Hamburger Kunsthalle (as junction and resonator) are the technical elements of an equipment, that developed public-collective aleatory acoustics.

