
Urs Gaudenz

Artistic Work Portfolio (Selection)

In his artistic work, Urs Gaudenz places a strong emphasis on collaboration, integrating ideas, perspectives, and disciplines. With a solid background in design and engineering, along with a track record of producing solid results and possessing good organizational talent, he is highly sought after as a partner for speculative prototyping, art and science projects, as well as design research. He has collaborated with emerging artists in the field of ElectronicArt, BioArt and Biopunk and exhibited work in renowned galleries and exhibitions such as the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, Ars Elektronika in Linz, and the Museum Tinguely in Basel. As the founder of GaudiLabs, a third space for third culture, he operates his own research and production space in Lucerne, Switzerland.



Curriculum: Urs Gaudenz studied Microengineering and International Business. He served on the board of the Swiss Mechatronic Art Society and is a co-founder of the Hackteria International Society and GOSH Gathering for Open Science Hardware. He worked for and consulted with Swiss high-tech companies and lectured in Open Innovation and Innovation Management at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts. He was a member of the Creative Living Lab (CreaLab) future laboratory where he conducted research in plastic lifecycle awareness, organized a conference on 'New Work' at Neubad Lucerne, and published on open knowledge sharing and Co-Creation Communities.

2023 - Are Friends Piezoelectric?

REFRESH festival, Zurich University of the Arts (ZhdK)



In a sticky and speculative quest for intimately human-scale energy imaginaries, this leak of recent and ongoing research performed by Miranda, Urs and friends, explores diverse energetic materials which can relate to bodies, tenderness and care as opposed to extraction and exploitation. Made specifically for REFRESH #5, this installation is a display of their collective practice of kitsch kitchen bioelectrochemistry, which seeks to agitate knowledge hierarchies and shift the hegemonic techno-scientific discourse around energy.

<https://refresh.zhdk.ch/refresh-5/exhibition/are-friends-piezoelectric/>

2020 - Generic Lab Equipment

Futurium, Belin



A set of do it your self (DIY) and open source Lab Equipment for genetic experiments, built from laser cut plywood and widely available and recycled parts found in consumer products such as DVD drives, hard disks and pc fans. The project reflects on the accessibility of modern life science technology to society. A copy of the set was acquired by Futurium for their public laboratory as well as by the producers of the German Netflix Series "Biohackers" to be featured in the movie.

http://www.gaudi.ch/GaudiLabs/?page_id=328

2017 - Laboratories of Earthly Survival

Garage Moscow, Art Experiment



Developed at the intersection of art, science, and technology, a multidisciplinary project at Garage Art Experiment, Urs Gaudenz together with Hackteria, set up and facilitated a speculative hack lab that allowed visitors to experience imaginative perspectives on our environment and sciences by taking part in alternative biological, genetic, and robot-engineering experiments.

<https://garagemca.org/en/exhibition/art-experiment-laboratories-of-earthly-survival>

2015 - GynePunk 3D printed speculum,

Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A), permanent collection for Digital Art & Design



In a collaboration with Paula 'Pin' Lage and Klau Chinche, Urs Gaudenz created the 3D printed speculum as part of the GynePunk laboratory toolkit. GynePunk aims to make accessible Do-It-Yourself (DIY) lab diagnosis tools and examinations. This digital project is an example of speculative and critical design and aims to highlight barriers to access to healthcare for the most marginalised in society, specifically sex workers, migrants and transgender persons.

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1534406/gynepunk-3d-printed-speculum-3d-printed-speculum-klau-chinche/>

2013 - DIY Mobile Gen Lab

New Exhibition at Ars Electronica Center Linz

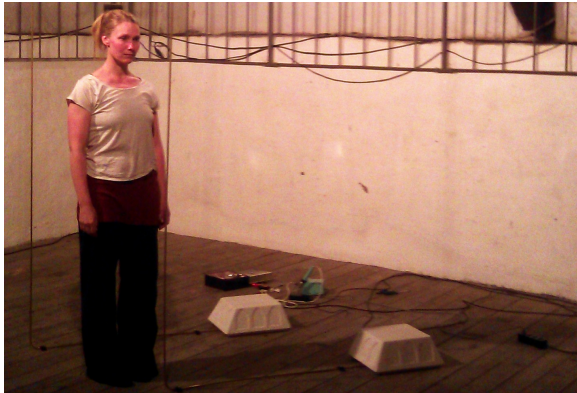


Lab-in-a-Suitcase, a conveniently packaged collection of fully functional lab devices built from recycled electronic materials. The mobile lab built by Urs Gaudenz during a hackaton at Kapelica Gallery (Slovenia), enables people interested in performing biological research to conduct their experiments wherever they are. The suitcase was on display during the Project Genesis: Synthetic Biology – Life from the Lab.

<https://ars.electronica.art/mediaservice/en/2013/07/31/project-genesis-synthetic-biology-life-from-the-lab/>

2012 - Körpertheremin

Museen Werdenberg, Schlossmediale



In collaboration with the sound artist Iris Rennert, Urs Gaudenz developed the Körpertheremin for the Schlossmediale Werdenberg, featuring sound installations and performances. The Body Theremin is an installation where a dancer controls the musical performance through two vertical antennas. The installation is based on a Theremin, an electronic musical instrument controlled by the performer without physical contact. It is used in various fields such as contemporary music, science fiction films, and experimental music.

<https://schlossmediale.ch/schlossmediale/kuenstler/kuenstler-2012>

2010 - Tree Ceremony and Fragment

Museum Tinguely in Basel, Robot Dreams



For a unique robotic sculpture of a meditating Japanese doll by Kirsty Boyle, Urs Gaudenz collaborated with Kirsty to develop the robotic sculpture. The doll is handcrafted in a combination of traditional Japanese craftsmanship and modern robot technology. The work shown at the exhibition Robot Dreams shows how contemporary art is helping us to understand and handle the rapid advances being made in the field of artificial intelligence.