



Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

REPORT

# TransPiksel

## Free culture

## Festivals North-

## South.

### August-September 2016

---

From August to September 2016, Piksel organised TransPiksel in Lima, Medellín and Ciudad de Mexico.

Four days of innovative and technology based audiovisual workshops, exhibitions, concerts and a BioART Lab with international and local artists focused on bio and environmental sciences, and DIY electronics held in each city.

The Foreign Office, PNEK, Office of Contemporary Art Norway (OCA) and Bergen Kommune have been our partners in Norway. Locally, in each country, we have experienced a big diversity of supporters. From artists associations to universities (main holders to invigorate the culture in less developed countries), citizen's science museums, business schools, foundations, artist-run organisations and other non-profit cultural institutions.

TransPiksel events have proved to be an important vehicle to establish a much bigger collaborative network than initially thought. TransPiksel has opened a cultural dialogue between Norway and Central and South America. This pilot project has served to understand how to configure future exchanges paying attention to local susceptibilities and frameworks.

---

#### **Reception strategies.**

On the next paragraphs we would like to explore how the reception of the Norwegian initiative in America has been, and the different strategies our partners there have chosen in order to integrate TransPiksel for their local audiences.



Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

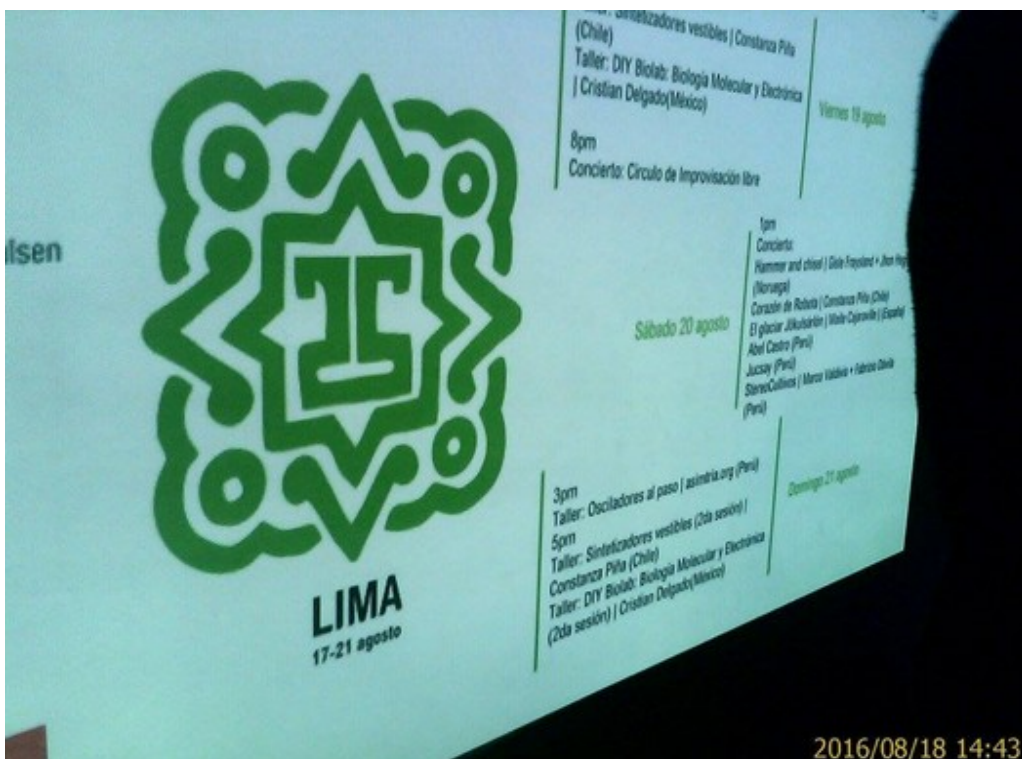
Piksel has organised TransPiksel, a Central and South American tour comprising three countries: Mexico, Perú and Colombia.

The Piksel curatorial team (Maite Cajaraville & Gisle Frøysland) have chosen a representative group of artists and works from Piksel Festival participants in order to present the most innovative artistic research on new and emerging technologies based on openness and free cultural practice.

Throughout the TransPiksel activities, the Piksel team has established direct contact with the Latin American artistic scene and has been able to promote the creation of new works.

Once in Bergen, Piksel16 Zero Level Festival, has shown the resulting art pieces from TransPiksel's American participants this last November. With this two way exchange, Piksel and Transpiksel have closed the 2016 cycle.

## Piksel LIMA.



From 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of August TransPiksel took place in Lima.

Our main partner there is Marco Valdivia, the director of the festival Asimtria.org. Marco is an independent curator working on the development and dissemination of alternative media in contemporary creation: action as expression and alternative possibilities for more inclusive knowledge distribution.



Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

Asimtria.org is a platform born in 2006 in the south of Peru. It works as a field of action for all creation based on technologies, the construction of own content and transmissible experiences, the culture of community, the autonomy and the recognition of the needs and possibilities of the collective effort.

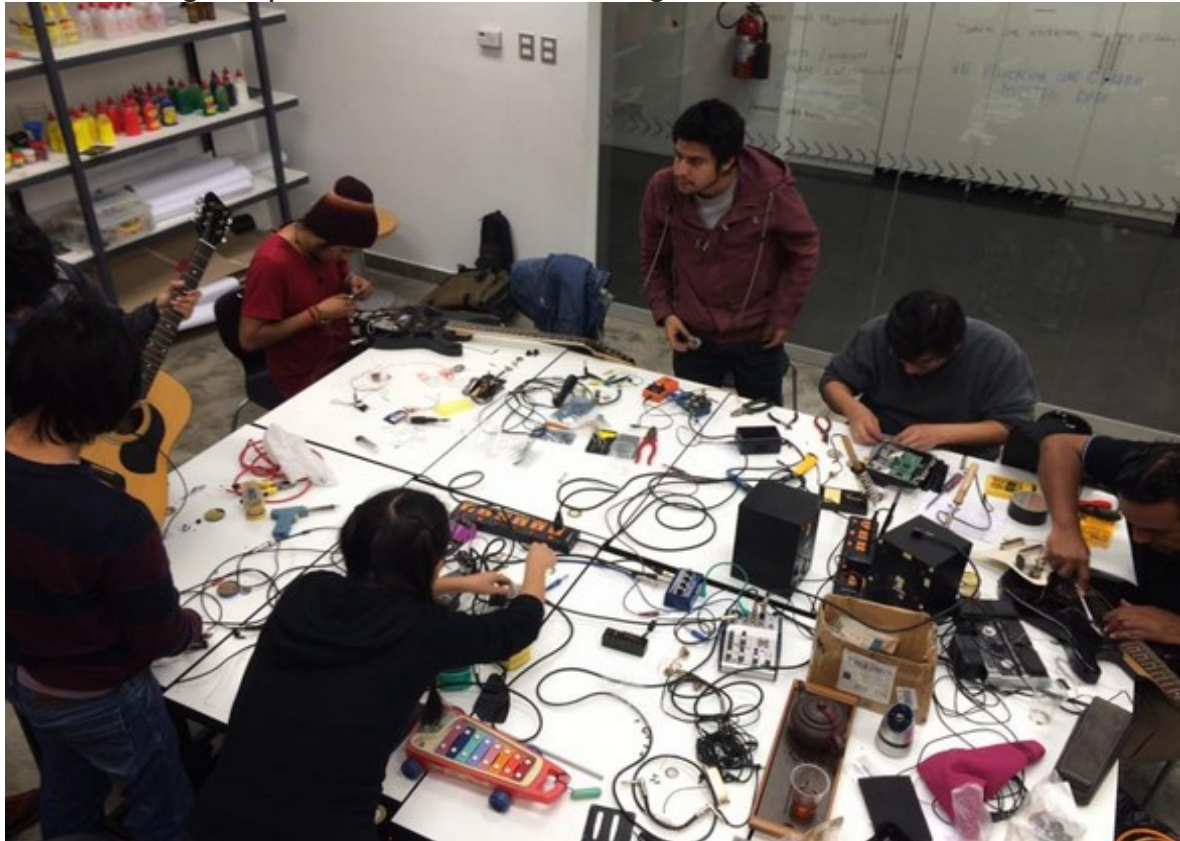
Since we started to work together, Marco proposed us to integrate TransPiksel in different framework activities and locations in order to join efforts with local curators and to expand the free culture message.

To do that, we started at the University Pontificia de Perú (<http://www.pucp.edu.pe/>), one of the best rated universities there with special focus on sound and visual design. TransPiksel was invited by the professor Jose Ignacio Lopez Ramírez-Gastón. Local artists and the Norwegian group were together doing small presentations of the work and about Piksel and TransPiksel festivals, ending up with short concerts.

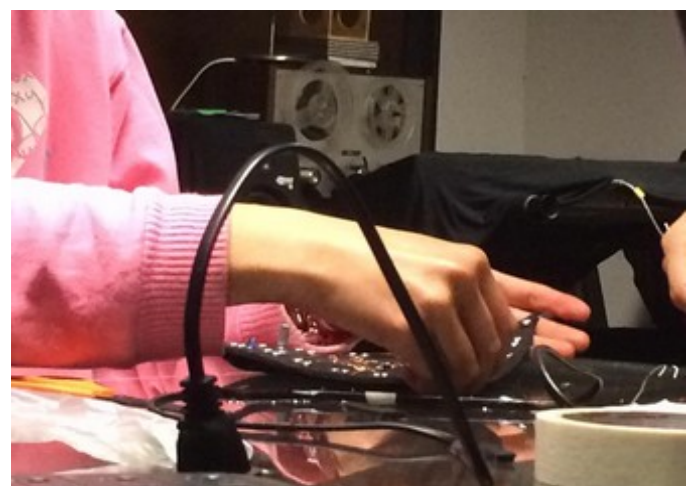
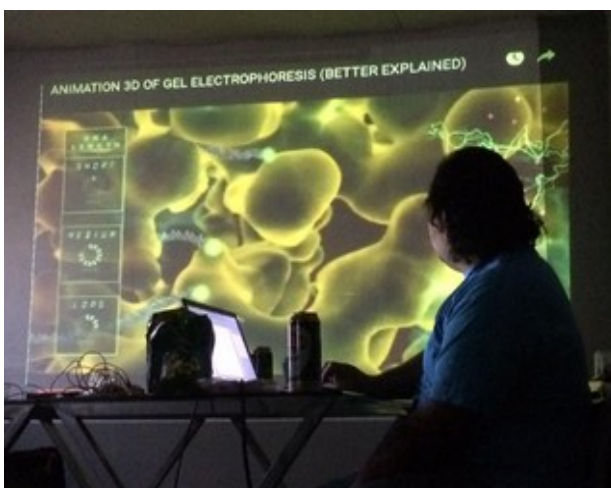




Next day three workshops started at Fundación Telefónica in Lima, owned by Telefónica, the Spanish telecom. Fundación Telefónica supports a reknown program on art and technology in Latin America. A good dissemination work was made by their team, so we got many highly motivated participants. Fundación Telefónica is a good partner for future exchanges.



Another workshops were held in Cuarso, an independent visual agency located at one of the suburban area of LIMA. Constanza Piña and Cristian Delgado hosted their workshops there.





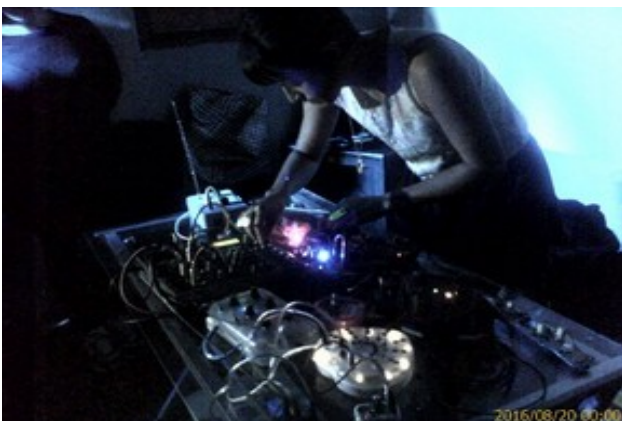
Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

We had the great opportunity to meet Pierre Padilla at Cuarso. Pierre is the Peruvian head from the SyntechBio - BioHacking Network, Peru Coordinator at the Open BioMedical Initiative, Co-Founder and CEO at Greener and Founder and Director at the Biomakers Lab. Pierre was very interested in the TransPiksel program and its open content and free culture, which he actually applies to Biotechnology and Biomedicine. He proposed us to have a talk and an open debate in one of the business school in Lima. Pierre is another very good partner to work with in the next years.



The most performative part of TransPiksel was hosted by 2 different venues. In the first one, TransPiksel was announced as an independent festival and in the second location TransPiksel was part of a bigger event called Festival Deforma.

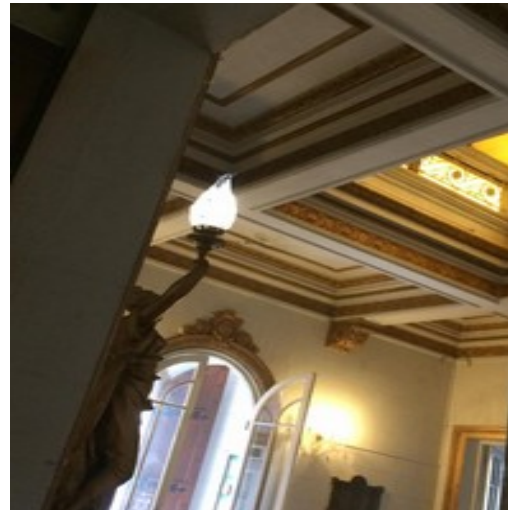






Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no



### **General reflection.**

Lima is a huge city with many cultural key players, all independent, from private supporters (Telefónica, the private University UPCP, Cuarso) to individual art professionals, (Marco Valdivia, Fabrizio Dávila, Nacho López,...). All these players create a good network. It is mandatory to have a good guide in Perú in order to be introduced to all these nodes.

Public funding from national, regional or local government is not really existing.

Related to content, art and free culture and free technologies, TransPiksel captured the interest from culture and science grounds, which is a good news. Day and night we were meeting artists, curators and scientists who run different types of events, festivals, venues and companies. Some examples are the record label Discos Invisibles/ Jose Ignacio Lopez Ramírez-Gastón and Chip Musik Records, the radio program El Tren Eléctrico with Giancarlo Samamé Panesi and Angela Ruesta, the Chachapoyas festival Director Jucsay Saduj and the artists Max Salas, Patricia Saucedo among many others.



Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

About audience, we generated activities for both the general public, mostly students and young people; and decision makers, a more reduced amount of people but with a wider scope to influence the next generations. TransPiksel also served to inspire the local independent curators and to give them an international framework.

Next year, Marco is proposing to host TransPiksel in Cuzco, the second largest city in Perú in order to spread the message to different audiences.

Partners in Perú:

Asimtria.org with Marco Valdivia and Frabrizio Dávila

Universidad Pontificia del Perú

Espacio Fundación Telefónica Lima

Cuarso with Herbert Bazán Aguirre and Eric Ravina

The SyntechBio - BioHacking Network, with Pierre Padilla

Festival Deforma

Discos Invisibles/ Jose Ignacio Lopez Ramirez-Gastón

El Tren Eléctrico with Giancarlo Samamé Panesi and Angela Ruesta

Jucsay Saduj, Festival Chachapoyas

Chip Musik Records

Max Salas, Patricia Saucedo

TransPiksel Medellín

From 26<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> of August TransPiksel took place in Medellín.

Our main partner there is Platohedro. Platohedro is a creative collaborative platform based in Medellín, Colombia. Since 2004, Platohedro has been dedicated to artistic experimentation, permanent research of free culture and the search for common welfare through creative and educational processes open to all.

During these 10 years, it has been involved in social processes, the defence of human rights and the liberation of knowledge, through workshops, public interventions and networking, training girls, boys, young people and adults in audiovisual production, technological appropriation and communication.

Platohedro knits a strong network with Parque Explora and its electronic art department director, Camilo Cantor, also with the sound laboratory at the Museum of Modern Art led by Jorge Barco.

At Parque Explora, Egil Paulsen hosted his workshop "Solar sculptures" getting very nice results.



Camilo Cantor proposed for us to perform in one of the less resourceful suburban areas, at the Centro Cultural de Moravia, in an outside space, next to a pedestrian street. Technical support was supplied from the cultural center.

The experience was great for all of us.





Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

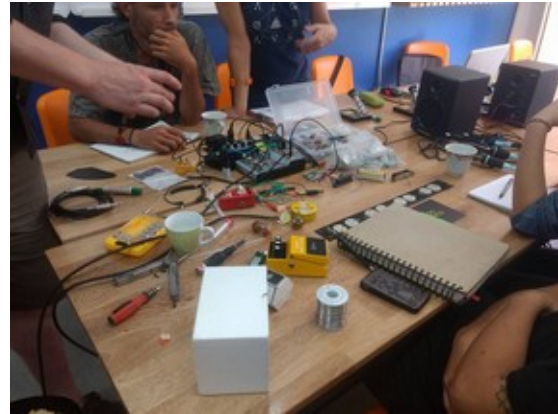


The next days, the CISC, Ideas Laboratory hosted John Hegres workshop. CISC is a new citizen makers laboratory, totally new equipped. Run by social workers and public funded.

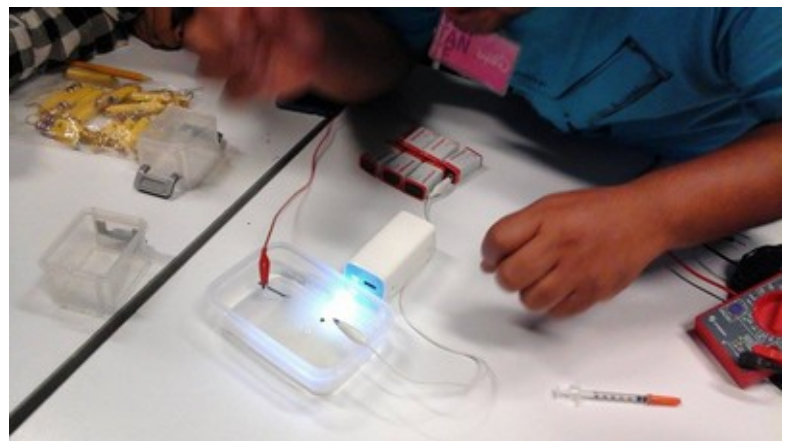


Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no



Cristian Delgado hosted his bio-art laboratory at Parque Explora. A big citizen science museum also in one of the suburban areas of Medellín.





At Platohedro, Constanza Piña held the workshop “Sintetizadores vestibles”, Do-It-Yourself electronic sound circuits which can be attached to clothes and other garments.



### General reflection.

Medellín, due to the political phase the country itself is going through, has a special status. The Colombian government has chosen Medellín to be the “model city” in making the transition into a peaceful society. A transition towards peace based on culture. Therefore, in the last years, Medellín has got big public investments in new cultural spaces, both public and independent.

Because of this, the TransPiksel venues in Medellín were mostly very well equipped public spaces, with new gear and technology. With a big group of people already involved in free culture, and with a high knowledge and understanding on how free technologies lead to free citizens.





Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

We think we need to connect with some other areas in Colombia in order to get to know more about the different sensibilities. That's why, in 2017, we will propose to go to Manizales (CO) where ISEA, the International Symposium for Electronic Arts is going to happen in June.

#### TRANSPIKSEL COLOMBIA

Platohedro, Noi Silva, Luciana Fleischman, Lina Mejia.  
Parque Explora, with Camilo Cantor, Hamilton Mestizo  
Centro de Desarrollo Cultural de Moravia  
Cartografias Sonoras  
Mamm Medellín / Jorge Barco  
Gustavo Adolfo Bustamante  
Arcangelo Constantini and La Jaquer Escool

#### **TransPiksel Ciudad de México.**

From 5<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of September TransPiksel took place in Ciudad de Mexico.

Our main partner there is Bioscénica and ARTE+CIENCIA.

Bioscénica is an trans-disciplinary company that creates, develops and produces proposals that combine arts, science and technology, applied in the scene and the living arts, to the benefit of diverse public throughout the country. Its director, Minerva Hernández is an expert producer and communicator.

Art + Science group belongs to the UNAM (Universidad Autónoma de México) and was founded in 2011 under the direction of María Antonia González Valerio. It has its main headquarters in the Faculty of Philosophy and Litterature.

Its main work is the opening and consolidation of the line of research and creation on arts, sciences and humanities within the University. In the group, humanists, artists and scientists work together to explore inter- and transdisciplinary methods.

They produce theoretical investigation about the relationship between arts, science and technology. Artistic creation. Training of human resources on subjects of humanities, arts and sciences with curricular value in four postgraduate courses: Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, History of Art and Visual Arts. And diffusion organising academic events to make the results of research and creation public.

In Ciudad de Mexico, due to the strong networks that our supporters have, TransPiksel became a festival of really big proportions. Museums, cultural centres, public organisations, university, embassies, artist associations, independent artists, all participated in TransPiksel offering great venues, technical assistance, equipment, shows, etc.



Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

19 workshops, 12 conferences, 14 live events and 1 collective exhibition, activities carried out in the framework of free culture and collaborative and community based processes. In total we presented 47 artists (37 Mexican and 10 foreigners) and / or groups from 8 countries.

All the activities carried out during Transpiksel MX were developed by Arte+Ciencia y Bioscénica with the support of:

- Fundación Telefónica México
- Faculty of Arts and Design. FAD. UNAM
- UNAM Postgraduate Unit
- University Corporation for Internet Development A.C.
- Cultural Center of Spain in Mexico
- Ex Teresa Current Art

TransPiksel MX official performance program opening and reception was hosted by the Norwegian ambassador Merethe Nergaard at the Centro Cultural España.





Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no





Exhibition was held at the Gallery Luis Nishizawa. The opening was very well received by the audience.





Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no







## Workshops



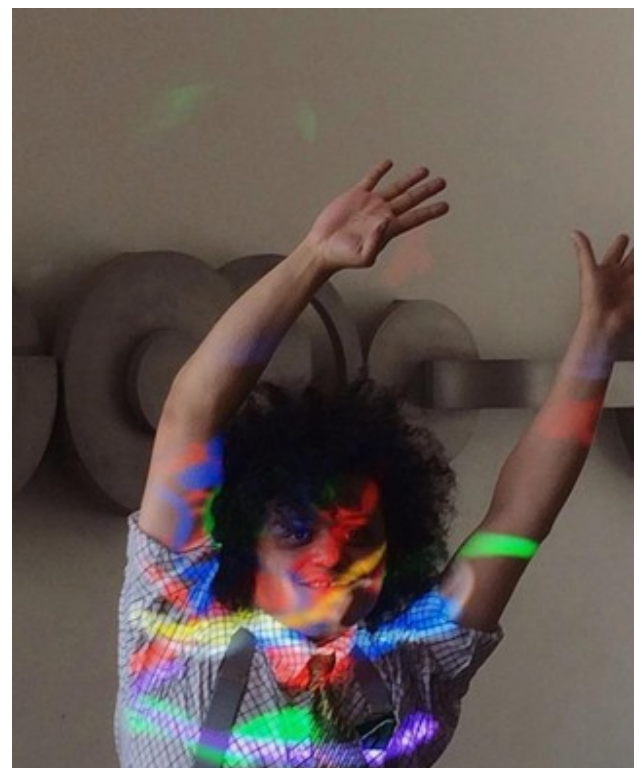




Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no







**Shows and venues**





Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

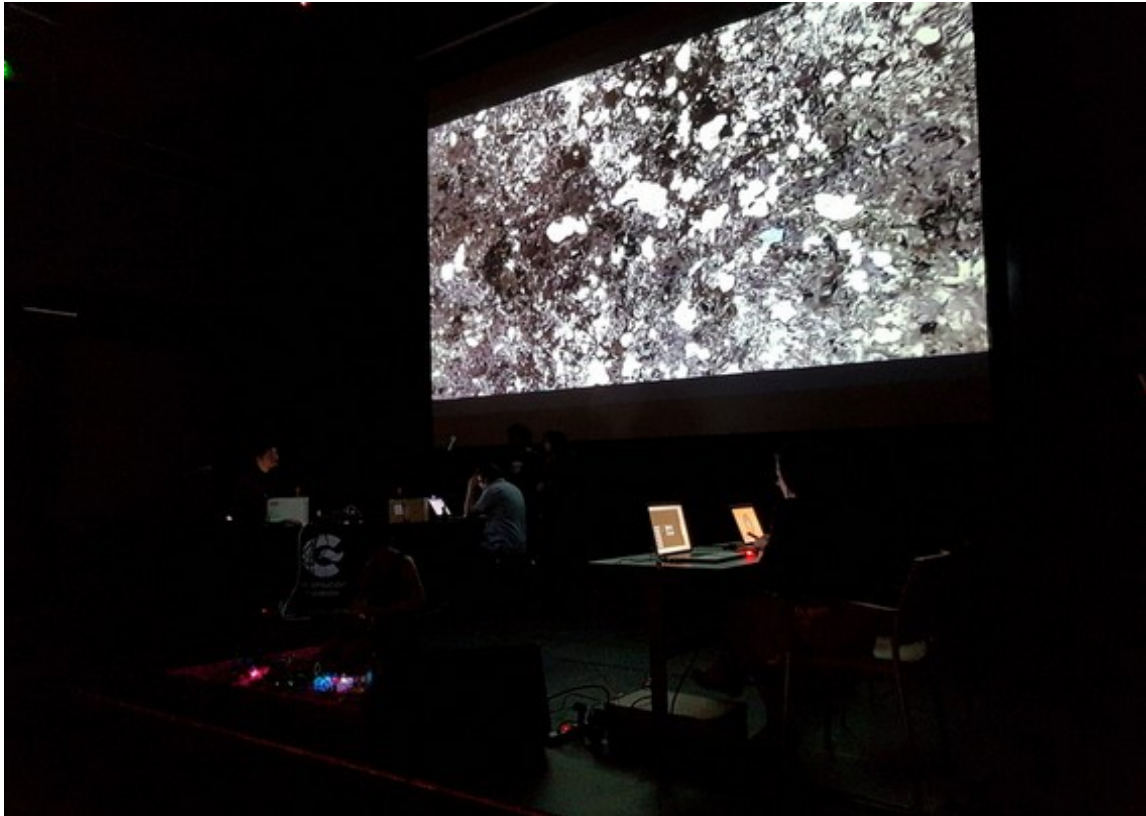
Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no





Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no





Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no







### **General reflections.**

México has a high potential for further collaboration. Our partners there have the knowledge and the cultural partner organizations to generate a big event. The press was following most of activities.

To produce a festival of such dimensions was only possible due to their personal implications. ARTE+CIENCIA and Bioscénica are a large group which made it possible to expand the number of venues and the artistic program.

The TransPiksel festival was the proper framework for real exchange of artistic knowledge, free technologies and free culture, including the participation of artists, scientists, university students, designers and the general public.

Partners & support

#### **Colombia:**

Museum of Modern Art in Medellín,  
Platohedro, independent art and culture association,  
Colaboratorio, Parque Explora, Ministry of Economic Development



---

Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri  
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway  
47 90665018 info@piksel.no www.piksel.no

**Mexico:**

Autonomous University of Mexico, Art+Science Department  
Bioescénica

**Perú:**

Festival Asimtria

**Norway:**

OCA  
Bergen Kommune  
Piksel  
PNEK  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

---

**Curators**

Gisle Frøysland (Norway), Maite Cajaraville (Spain), Marco Valdivia (Perú), Camilo Cantor, Juan Jaramillo and Jorge Barco (Colombia), Maria Antonia González, Minerva Hernández (Mexico).

---