



Festival for elektronisk kunst og fri
teknologi

Strandgaten 223, 5004 Bergen, Norway
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REPORT

TransPiksel Free culture Festivals North-South.

July 2017

From the last days of June to July 2017, Piksel has organised TransPiksel in Manizales, Medellín, Santiago de Chile, Arequipa and Cusco.

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

The Nordisk Kultur fond, the Foreign Office in Norway, PNEK, Office of Contemporary Art (OCA), and Bergen Kommune have been our partners in Norway. Locally, at each country, we have experienced a big diversity of supporters. From Cultural Foundations to Museums, cultural houses, other international organizations, and other non-profit cultural institutions.

TransPiksel events, have proved to be an important vehicle to establish a much bigger collaborative network as initially thought. TransPiksel has opened a cultural dialogue between Nordic countries 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 has been like the reception of the Nordic initiative in America and the different strategies our partners there have chosen in order to integrate TransPiksel at their local audiences.

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

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 got in direct contact with the Latin American artistic scene and has been able to promote the creation of new works.



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Once in Bergen, Piksel17 Festival, is about to shown the resulting art pieces from TransPiksel's American participants this November. With this 2 ways exchange Piksel and Transpiksel will close the 2017 cycle.

TransPiksel COLOMBIA

TransPiksel Medellín

From 11th to 18th of June TransPiksel took place in Manizales.



Our main partner there was La Casa Rodante/The Road House, an artist-run association as the visible head of our agreement. In a “not formal” level we had the support of the ISEA organization through the figure of one of their board's members: Rob Le Frenais, who was spreading all info about our activities within the organisation and also participating in them actively. In a third level of support we also count with the Universidad de Caldas and the Festival de la Imagen, both with a important presence in Manizales. The CONFA foundation, a non-profit organization with a social function, hosted on its auditorium the main concerts TransPiksel night.

At La Casa Rodante we had our headquarters, presentations, workshops, concerts, the video program and the exhibition were celebrated there. All the events were coordinated with ISEA in order not to compete in times with the main event.



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In Manizales, Colombia TransPiksel was coinciding with ISEA, the most outstanding international symposium of electronics art. This was a major communication goal for TransPiksel, as we got the most professional and focused international audience together with the local artists and general public. We became the meeting point “off-ISEA” where informal meetings were produced during the four days.

Due to the celebration of ISEA we invited international and South American artists who were attending the ISEA symposium to participate in our events as performers, so we enriched our program with more than 9 new artists. Some of them belonging to our partner’s organizations from the last year: Platohedro, Juan Jaramillo, Parque Explora, Camilo Cantor, and Jorge Barco from the Museum of Modern Art. This new and unexpected collaboration has brought our network to the next level.

We encouraged the nordic artists to work with the locals, it leads us to very interesting binomials like electronic art and taxidermy or local artists performing for the first time with live coding software.

Workshops:

During the week several workshops were hosted in the main room of La Casa Rodante. To attend the workshop was free, we got students that couldn’t afford the ISEA conference entrance. That reinforced our goal of improve the access to technologies and encourage social development and expand the ideas of free culture among the civil society.

Workshops

Din is noise Noi Sk8 (Colombia)

Live Coding With TidalCycles Alexandra Cárdenas (Colombia)

Construcción de instrumentos con pedales de guitarra, John Hegre (Norway)

Agit P.O.V (Petit Objet de Vélo), Alexandre Castonguay (CA)

Cociclo, Alexander Castonguay (Canadá)



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Exhibition

The exhibition was running the full week, hosting works from international and local artists.

Cociclo, Alexander Castonguay (Canadá)



From DNA to NSA, Maite Cajaraville (Spain) & Gisle Frøysland (Norway)



Climate 1850 – 2016, Alexandre Castonguay (Canada)



This work from Alexander Castonguay about climate change consists in a set of ceramics plates for dinner whose shape is determined by the global warming degrees on earth in the last century. To exhibit this work we made a dinner-performance where the dinner guests had to eat ice cream in the plates as a metaphor of what is happening in the poles. To this dinner we invited the most representatives from South American countries, as the curator of the Transition MX, one of the most famous festivals in Latin American, Robert La Fresnais from ISEA, Jorge Barco from the Museum of Modern Art in Medellín, Juan Jaramillo from Platohedro and Camilo Cantor from Parque Explora.



Video Program

Up and away, Alexander Senko



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The sound of bureaucracy, Delia Cristina Gheorghiu

Music Obfuscator, Benjamin Grosser

Do Americans Dream of Being Electric Sheep?, Gabin Cortez Chance



Three days of concerts were celebrated at La Casa Rodante and the CONFA auditorium with a great attendance, we became the Off-ISEA, the Nordic meeting-point, congregating more than 600 people amid international and local artists, all ages and general public mostly young people interested in electronic and experimental music.



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We had a special event called Algorave where we invited many locals and artists from South America, Algo0ritmos, RGGTRN, NOISK8, Daniela Moreno, Olivia Jack, Jorge Barco and Pedro Soler.



TransPiksel Medellín

Taking the advantage of having many artists and main figures from electronic art in Colombia -due to the ISEA simposium and TransPiksel- the Museum of Modern Art in Medellín, one of the leading actors in the South American art scene, celebrated the Experimental Labs Post-ISEA event. Since Jorge Barco, the main organizer knew TransPiksel was going to happen in Manizales he invited us to participate as speakers at the conference, so TransPiksel and Piksel took part of this event which congregated the most interesting curators and artists from all over the Latin American nodes.

TransPiksel is proud of having this very versatile way of acting. Once in the field, TransPiksel can take many new opportunities that are some how hidden from the distance. In doing so, TransPiksel is showing that it is reliable partner for future collaborations and is becoming part of the network.





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TransPiksel PERÚ

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.

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 contents and transmissible experiences, the culture of community, the autonomy and the recognition of the needs and possibilities of the collective effort.

Marco proposed this year to do TransPiksel in 2 different cities, Arequipa and Cusco, integrating TransPiksel in different frame activities and locations in order to join efforts with local curators and to expand the free culture message.



TransPiksel in Arequipa

In Arequipa we had several venues depending on activities, concerts at the Teatro del Centro Cultural Peruano Norteamericano, workshops at Pucara Bulls, Casa Blanca, Biblioteca del Cultural, which led us to meet a wide angle of audiences, from artists to young students and also kids.



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We got to manage a very powerful program joining the TransPiksel crew from abroad and the Peruvian artists proposed by Marco Valdivia. We also add this year a kids program.





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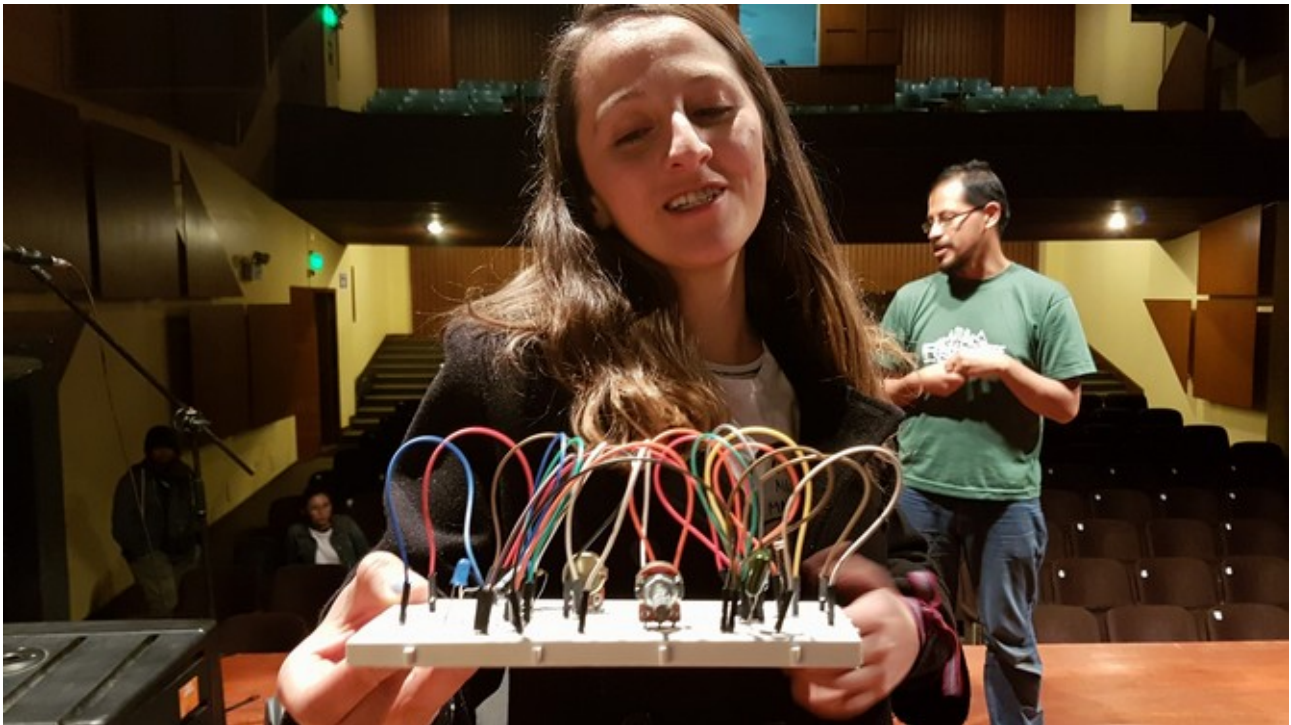
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TransPiksel in Cusco

From 3rd to 7th of July TransPiksel was hosted in Cusco. Some of the artists from



South America travelled with us and we met new ones in Cusco. Our main venue was the Casa de la Cultura for the exhibition, workshops and concerts. The concert venue was located in the chapel being a very amazing place to play.

For the artists and scientists presentation work we had the support of the Alliance Française, they hosted us in their building. We had the honour to be introduced to the public from the director of the organization.



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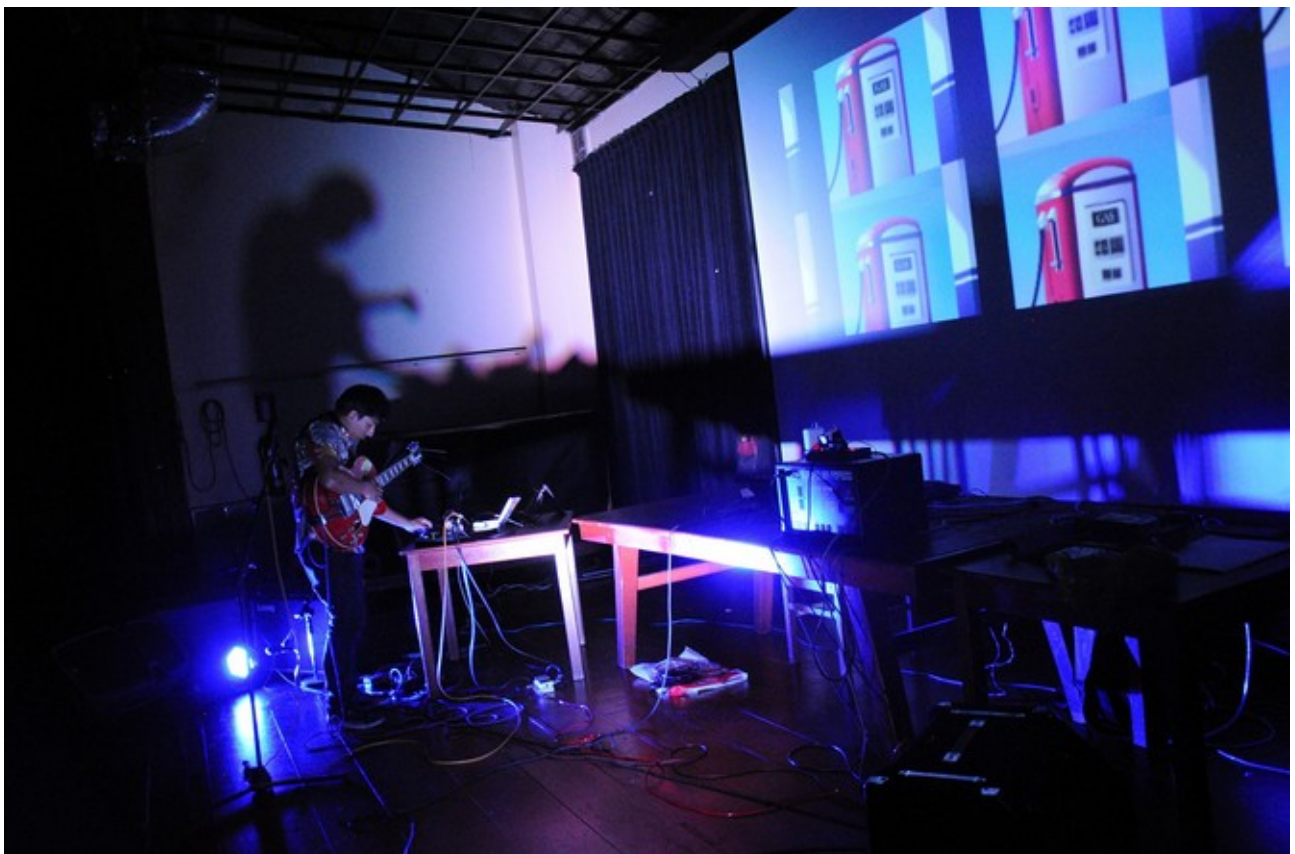
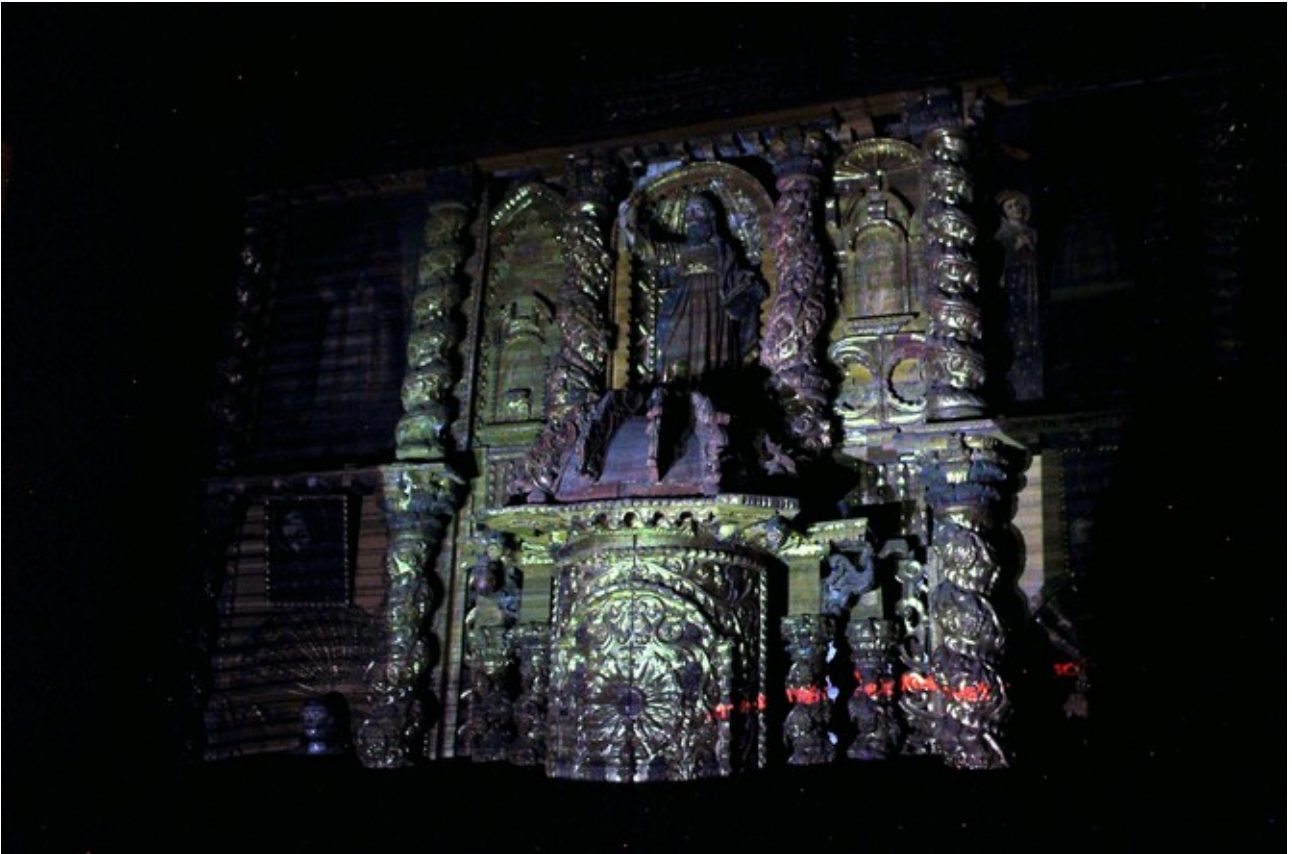
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TransPiksel CHILE **Santiago de Chile**

From 23rd to 27th of June TransPiksel took place in Santiago de Chile at Café con Cables.

Café con Cables is a micro-fair of sound, bringing together exponents of electronic music with a degree of intervention at a visual or musical level. The fair has a working methodology focused on DIY system, which intervenes and looks for new ways to make music. These interventions can be through noise devices, synthesizers, toy hacking, sound boxes or any other type of intervention / sound action.

Casa de Los Diez Cultural Foundation, Alfredo García Burr was created in 2015, by Alfredo García Burr's great-grandchildren. His name was chosen as a tribute to Alfredo García Burr for his titanic and tireless work to conserve the property that was the artistic residence of the Group of Ten and which, today, is the headquarters of the Cultural Foundation.

Their mission is to transmit the legacy of the Group of Ten, integrating their artistic expressions and preserving them, and foster the care of the cultural and historical heritage of the House of Los Diez - Declared Monument National Historic, by the Council of National Monuments in the year 1997-. Likewise, we seek to promote the development of young artists and entrepreneurs linked to the current artistic milieu; being a meeting point between the community, heritage and new arts.

In Santiago de Chile we perform the program as planned. Local artists were invited by the local curators and hosts and we share through the lab and workshops our mutual knowledge. The hosting house La Casa de los Diez integrates many different cultural projects, young people is coming in and out of the space all the time. It is a very lively house. Also there was a clear interest in TransPiksel's proposals. Concerts were full every night.

Unfortunately we don't have many pictures from it. We were recording video mostly.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=UMcqjCvEHLw



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General reflection

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

Transpiksel is becoming a solid partner in South America, related to projects involving art and sustainability, a strong reference in the field of art and new media related to free technologies, DIY electronics and DIY bioart.

TransPiksel transfers the Nordic cultural values, equality and cooperation, provoking an arena where artists from North and South are more equal; In a more measurable cooperation, Piksel is inviting a group of artists from American countries in 2017 at the Piksel Festival in Norway.

To be coinciding with ISEA In Manizales, the most outstanding international symposium of electronics art has been a major communication goal for TransPiksel, as we got the most professional and focused international audience together with the local artists and general public. We became the meeting point "off-ISEA" where informal meetings were produced during the four days.

TransPiksel has bring new projects for the next year. Marco Valdivia in Perú wants to open the kids school to TransPiksel. David Chaupis, member of the Biomakers Lab wants us to participate as mentor on his Cultural Center located in Lima. In Chile Valparaiso has request to be the host for the next year. And in Colombia we have strengthen our relationship with Platohedro and MAMM (Museum of Modern Art of Medellín) which is open to explore new ways of collaboration.