

MEDIALAB SANDBERG INSTITUUT | DECEMBER 2024

NEWSLETTER | # 11

WINTER LETTER

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: GIADA LA GALA (ARTIFICIAL TIMES)

THE NEW PS....SASA AND GEORGE

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT EXHIBITION: SILVIA PREPARING FOR NEVERNEVERLAND

PRACTICUM GENERALE: PHOTOS TO LOOK BACK ON THE YEAR 2024

November 14,
The first snow and hale – view from Medialab, 5th floor B&G building



Giada La Gala

In the political and artistic quest to reappropriate technology and go beyond rationalism, I try to carve an ontology of a world made of alive matter, I excavate the layers of time looking in between.

These elements come with me into playful and speculative performance experiments which challenge anthropocentric views, merging with natural and imaginary ecosystems.



Still of Performance ArtificialTimes@HetHem, May 2024

Thank you Ineke for giving me the space to share a bit about my work, and to Jan Kees and Brian for helping me preparing for the trip!

Within the Artificial Times MFA, I am interested into how technology (and science) shape our social- and mind - scapes. I create installations and performances merging facts with magical elements, natural elements with technological creatures, threading nonlinear narratives. Lots of inspiration comes from the natural forces of nature, from volcanoes to black holes, seen from the macro to the nanoscopic scale, next to science, philosophy and myth.

I want to share about the trip that brought me to explore Sicily to listen to volcanoes (Etna, Maccalube) and on the coincidental path that helped me to retrace the beginning of western modernity (back to Archimedes) guided by archeological cues. I will talk about a field recording trip (November 2024). Field recordings are fertile sources of sound signals with rich spectra full of contaminations. These sounds are vibrations that can tell about the movement of the Earth, memories that can transport back to ancient times, openings to look through the barrier of a linear time. The recordings from the trip are now part of my pallet of materials which will co-enact with me the next performance I am preparing.



Walking on Mount Etna



gives a perspective on geologic scale



recalibrating the position of the human as an agent within the stage of reality.

I used a geophone sensor to record vibrations in the range of infra-sounds, to sense the breath of the mountain.



Reworking its bowels, the Volcano digests extreme fluxes of heated matter.

Magma is a metaphor for the mind, reworking its fluxes of significations merging with the sensuous experience.

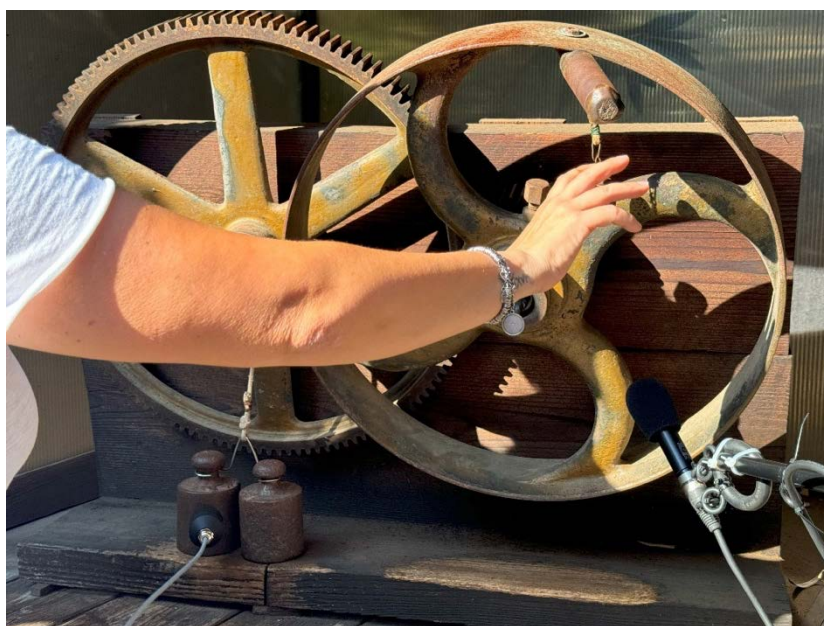


This was also a trip to trace the origins of this culture we are born in. On my way from Etna to Siracusa, I started reading the first chapter of *Technic and Magic* by Federico Campagna. Without knowing the book starts by talking about *Opera dei Pupi*, the traditional art of telling stories with theatrical puppet shows that comes exactly from Siracusa, I was already at the theater.



Opera dei Pupi deals with myth and stories, but other histories are intertwined in the Sicilian territory.

At the entrance of the city, we stopped to visit Tecnoparco Museo di Archimede. A place where real scale machines from Ancient Greek time are reproduced for visitors to interact with them.



Museum guide operates a machine while we listen.

Western modernity is a metaphysical system rooted in rationalism and universalism, prioritizing material progress and individualism over spiritual or collective dimensions, which started with Archimedes in ancient Greece and still now informs the western world with dramatic consequences.



Thank you so much for sharing this with us Giada!!!

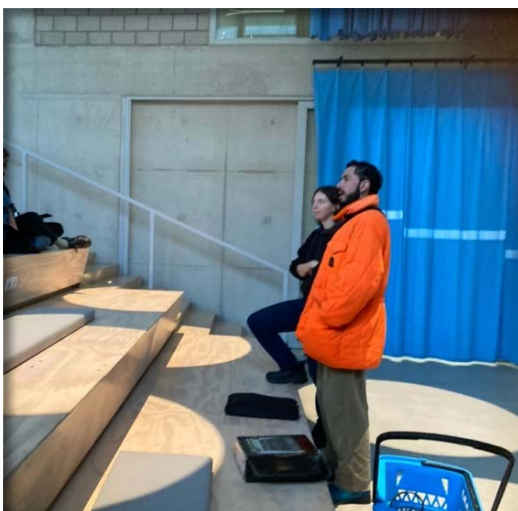
Hey Sandberg community! 😊

We are George Sinclair and Sasa Ghanem-Chaney, and in November 2024 we took over the role of Public Sandberg replacing Aidan Wall and Artun Alaska Arasli who did amazing work as PS for over three years. We are both very excited to join the Sandberg ecosystem and help nurture bonds between students and departments at large. Mostly we are busy with external communication of the school, which includes managing the Sandberg Instituut Instagram account, website, and affiliated websites for Open Day and Graduation Show. Additionally, we produce the entire Open Day and participate in the production of graduation show. Within digital communications, we aim to give visibility to student-led/department-led public presentations, as well as create public documentation archives for said presentations. We are both present physically within the school throughout the week and are very much available to chat with students anytime, should they wish to share ideas/doubts/questions regarding life at Sandberg. Eventually, it is our wish to organize small-scale events and workshops for students and staff to platform their work.



SasaHara Ghanem-Chaney (French-Algerian, 1993) is a writer, artist, performer and facilitator based in Amsterdam since 2017. They work with worldbuilding, interactive installations, performance and somatic practices. Their practice makes use of mythologies as frameworks to document and archive contemporary queer narratives and of spatial installations as supports for collectivization. With a background in public space art management, and cultural

economics they worked in the Parisian and Amsterdam cultural fields as a public programmer, exhibition producer and fundraiser. In 2017 they moved to Amsterdam to become the assistant of the artist Masharu and developed their own practice. Between 2022 and 2024 they studied at the Sandberg Instituut in the program re:master opera, exploring experimental forms for music-driven theater.



George Sinclair (UK, 1991) is a writer, editor, and facilitator working across the fields of arts, culture, and education. They have an interest in alternative models of education and have been organizing workshops and reading groups with plot twist, a literary collective they co-founded in 2018; and is the co-host of bare fruits, a podcast about queer literature. Their writing revolves around themes of failure, gender, and fitness culture. They work as an editor for artists and cultural institutions across the Netherlands. ps@sandberg.nl
sasa.ghanemchaney@sandberg.nl,
george.sinclair@sandberg.nl



FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT



NEVERNEVERLAND EXHIBITION

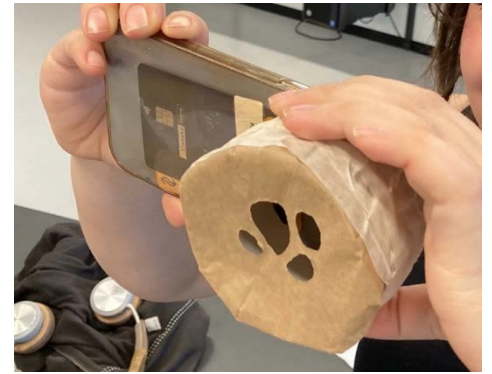
*In the Medialab-basement:
Silvia Zaccaria tests the translucent effect of
light on her work.
Photos: Yaima Carranzana (coordinator of Fine
Arts)*

Silvia: 'What you can see in this picture is a pizza paper print pierced with holes in order to see the light projected in front of the print directly to the wall'.

"Our students of the Fine Art Department are presenting their exhibition "Spinning on top of a hurricane" at NEVERNEVERLAND. Coming together as a group for the first time in times of tension surrounding them, inhabiting some of them, they are presenting works collectively as a proposal to move forward. With each their own way of doing this they strive to create space for reflection that is welcomed in many shapes."

We hope you were able to visit the exhibition at NEVERNEVERLAND on the 12th of December from 18h to 22h. last day is 15th of December.

Thursday 19th-19:30-22:30 INTO THE WORD: Inside a Poet's Artistic World by SYDNEY LOWELL **A reflective talk + Q&A guided by sister Amber Paris Montalvo, Live Poetry / Songs & Music, Jam Session / Exhibition, Open Mic: bring your acoustic instruments!!!

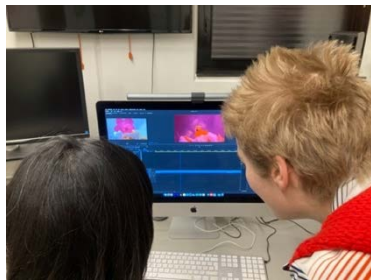


PRACTICUM GENERALE is organised by Niels Albers and Sarah Arnolds.

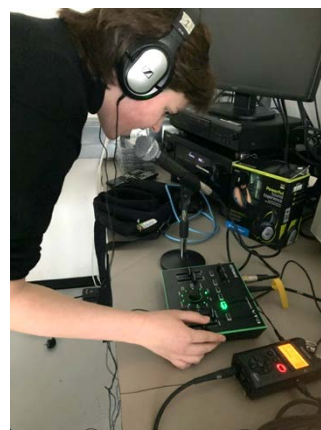
Practicum Generale, our biannual series of short and sweet, hands-on courses that offer a chance to get to know the workshops. Every Wednesday morning, the workshop specialists guide small groups of students, introducing them to new skills, techniques and materials in just a few hours.

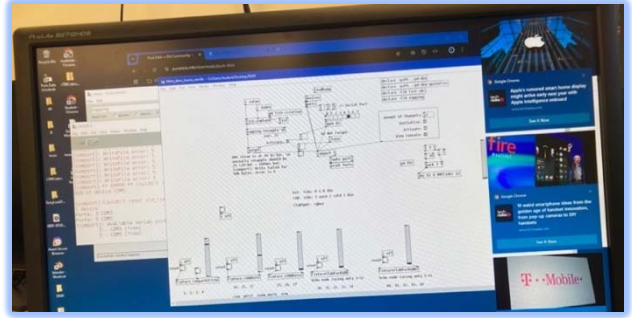


Practicum Generale 2024 @Medialab SI Immerse yourself in new skills, techniques and materials, and get to know the workshops and the specialists that work there.



Experiment with expanding the boundaries of the traditional rectangular video format by making cardboard frames for the camera. Combine your video footage and self-made sound Workshop by Feline Hjermind, Meis Vranken and ineke





Practicum Generale 2024 @Medialab SI

Synaesthesia

101, 'synchronizing sound and light *'

(*using Puredata, MIDI and DMX)
medialab / by jankees van kampen



Practicum Generale 2024 @Medialab SI

Introduction to Analogue Modular Synthesis – Theory & Practice by Brian McKenna.



This workshop covers the basics of electronic audio synthesis – giving a theoretical foundation – and inviting participants to apply these concepts, by hands-on working (playing) with a eurorack modular synthesizer. Additionally, we'll outline some advanced topics in synthesis, such as performance and cybernetics. Those joining the workshop are welcome to bring any synths they may like to explore in this context. Traditionally we conclude with something of a 'jam-session'.



Dear students HAVE A **RESTFUL – PEACEFUL – WARM – WINTER HOLIDAY** HOPE TO SEE YOU BACK at Medialab IN 2025 GREETINGS FROM IVO, JAN KEES, BRIAN AND INEKE.

