Exhibition

04 05 — 30 06

Press release

SUPERIMPOSITION

By Polisonum

04/05/2024
— 30/06/2024
11:00 - 19:00

Cercle Cité
Luxembourg

Free entrance

Opening on: 03.05.2024 at 18:00

SUPERIMPOSITION is an artistic project by Polisonum that investigates the theme of listening and is realised through the encounter of multiple disciplinary fields including sound, data analysis, fashion, and visual arts.

SUPERIMPOSITION explores the concept of earworms - those sonic agents that coercively graft themselves onto the brain until they become parasites and provoke mechanisms of cognitive control. Already known at the end of the 19th century, the phenomena were later defined as brainworms by Oliver Sacks. Sound worms are linked to mass culture such as pop music, advertisements, video games and TV theme songs. They also inhabit airports, bars, shops, gyms and shopping centres, and are characterised by sequences of redundant melodies that are difficult to escape. Recognising these mechanisms is complex, due to a weak, if not absent, general education in listening.

Based on this research, **SUPERIMPOSITION** launched a data analysis of more than 10,000 music tracks featured in the popular international charts from 2000 to 2022. This analysis - which is based on the quantity and repetitiveness of the music – has been automated with a specially developed software. Algorithms and data analysis techniques were used to select the most characteristic lyrics. Their mathematically generated superimposition composes the work **SUPERIMPOSITION** - a composition in which no melody is recognisable. The work is presented through a performative act conceived as a fashion show that recalls ancient rituals, in which the performer and the audience become a single body on stage. The garments made of sound-absorbing fabrics, which look like sculptural dresses, will be presented in a fashion-show-like choreography. The textile materials, identified with the technical-scientific support of the Politecnico di Torino, are capable of refracting and absorbing sound pressure. These armour suits are designed as empirical protections for the ear and the body. The fashion design of the garments has been developed with the MARIOS brand through shared experimentation and a creative contamination that intends to look from the avant-garde supremacist models to the oriental tradition.

The scenic and sound dramaturgy of the performance, which will be presented in the Great Hall of the historic Cercle Cité in Luxembourg, is also the subject of the video work realised through a multi-point direction. The performative act will be followed by an exhibition presenting the video work, as well as some costumes and research elements.

Polisonum (Filippo Lilli, Donato Loforese) is a collective that uses sound as an investigative method and tool to explore processes and metamorphoses related to the present time. They create sound installations and performances in dialogue with visual language. Thanks to their hybrid identity, which brings together multiple disciplines, they build projects that rely on a dense practice of study and analysis with the aim of experiencing active listening and visualisation.
Polisonum has been invited to various institutions and festivals: A Breath of Art (AV), Fondazione Volume (RM), Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen (CH), Palazzo Altemps (RM), Palazzo Pallavicini (BO), Romaeuropa Festival (RM), OTO Sound Museum Zurich (CH) among others.

SUPERIMPOSITION is supported by the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Italian Ministry of Culture under the Italian Council program (2023) and will be presented at *Alte Fabrik (Rapperswil, CH), Ars Electronica (Linz, AT), Careof (Milan, IT), Haus der Kunst (Munich,DE), Iklectik (London, UK), Politecnico di Torino (Turin, IT), OTO SOUND MUSEUM (Zurich, CH).

SUPERIMPOSITION will enter the collection of MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna Bologna.

Organisation	Cercle Cité with the support of the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Italian Ministry of Culture under the Italian Council program (2023), and the Italian Embassy in Luxembourg
Artists	Polisonum
Location	Small room of the *Ratskeller* exhibition space
Co-curators	Francesca Ceccherini and Anastasia Chaguidouline
Data curator	Elisa Bernardoni
Fashion design	MARIOS Collective
Research of material and phono-resistance	Marco Carlo Masoero, Louena Shtrepi, Politecnico di Torino, DENERG
Scientific support	Francesco Nucci, neuroscientist

Exhibition opening

Friday 3rd May at 18:00

Free entrance, without registration.

Photographs will be taken during the opening for Cercle Cité's communication.

Practical information and press contacts

Exhibition	« SUPERIMPOSITION »
Dates	From May 4th until June 30th 2024
Opening hours	Free entrance, everyday from 11:00 to 19:00
Venue	*Ratskeller* exhibition space, entrance via rue du Curé
Free guided tour	**Every Saturday at 15:00** 04.05 (FR) 11.05 (EN) 18.05 (LU/DE) 25.05 (FR) 01.06 (EN) 22.06 (FR) 29.06 (EN) **Curatorial visit with Anastasia Chaguidouline** 15.06 (LU/DE) *Free entrance and without registration*
Press visuals	cerclecite.lu/en/press
More information	cerclecite.lu
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