

Press release

Winners of the net_based awards 2018

The Haus für elektronische Künste Basel (HeK) presents the "net_based - Prize for Net-based Art" for the third time. From the ten nominated works, the five-member jury decided to award the 2018 prize to Olia Lialina.

Winner of the net based award 2018: Olia Lialina, "Self-Portrait" (2018)

With Self-Portrait, Olia Lialina continues her series of "networked" portraits, which explores the relationship between the work and its technological context, highlighting the ever-changing network conditions and our position within this one. After having played with variations in speed of transmission on the web (Summer, 2013) and having questioned the consequences of an abandonment of net neutrality (Best Effort Network, 2015), Olia Lialina invites us with her latest work to think of the web in its various dimensions, beyond its best-known public face. To contemplate this self-portrait, not less than three web browsers are required: a classic browser (Firefox, Chrome, Safari, etc.), an anonymised and secure browser (Tor) and a "peer-to-peer" browser (Beaker). By juxtaposing these three windows open onto different parts of the network, we can recompose the fragmented face of the artist whose hair is blowing in the wind with ever so slight discrepancies in the movement.

Link to the work: [Self-Portrait \(2018\)](#)

Nominees and works for the "net-based - Prize for net-based art" 2018

Ted Davis, *OSCILLDRAW_NotRecognized* (2017)
Marc Lee, *Political Campaigns - Battle of Opinion on Social Media* (2017)
Sebastian Schmiege, *I Will Say Whatever You Want In Front Of A Pizza* (2017)
Libby Heaney, *Lady Chatterley's Tinderbot* (2016-17)
Disnovation.org, *Predictive Art Bot (IV)* (2015-2018)
Olia Lialina, *Self-Portrait* (2018)
Reading Club et al. (Annie Abrahams, Emmanuel Guez), *Reading Club* (2017)
Benjamin Grosser, *Go Rando* (2017)
Jan Robert Leegte, *Google Maps as a Sculpture* (2017)
Owen Mundy, *I Know Where Your Cat Lives* (2014-fortlaufend)

Jury 2018

Josephine Bosma, Critic, Amsterdam
Christophe Guignard, Professor of Media & Interaction Design, ECAL Ecole cantonale d'art de Lausanne
Valérie Perrin, Director Espace Multimédia Gantner, Bourogne
Raffael Dörig, Director Kunsthaus Langenthal, Langenthal
Sabine Himmelsbach, Director HeK, Basel

Audience award

The voting result of the audience award was deliberately manipulated by a third party. For this reason, no audience prize will be awarded this year and the prize money of CHF 500.00 will be distributed equally among all 10 nominated artists.

The aim of the manipulation was to point out the vulnerability of online voting systems. We have always been aware that it is possible to hijack a "Pinpoll" vote. We also know that hacking is used as an artistic strategy. In this case we share the criticism of the technological means, but find the articulation of this criticism rather destructive, since the audience prize is not intended as a cash prize, but serves to generate visibility for artistic works.

Link to the "net_based - Prize for net-based art" 2018: [HeK.ch](#)