LGM in Saarbruecken 2018

HBKsaar // Light_Act_Project (2013)

Image: HBKsaar

1. Team and contact

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All team members have been involved in developing / hosting large international events.

2. Partners

➢ Academy of Fine Arts Saar
➢ German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI)
➢ Creative Commons Germany / EEAR (TBC)
➢ Dance Company, Saarland State Theater (TBC)
➢ Intel Visual Computing Institute (TBC)
➢ Linux User Group Saar e.V. (TBC)
➢ Landesinstitut fuer Paedagogik und Medien LPM (TBC)
➢ Ministerium fuer Bildung und Kultur (TBC)
➢ Rocklab / Rockhal Luxemburg (TBC)
➢ saar.is (TBC)
➢ TCRM Blida Metz (TBC)
➢ Technik und Kultur Saar e.V. (TBC)
➢ Technoport Luxembourg (TBC)

3. Date and venue

Proposed date: 13th – 15th April 2018. (A week before the semester starts, this is a near-ideal timeslot for a major international event as students will already be back from vacation but courses will not yet have started, allowing for broad participation in LGM events).

4. Main location: The Academy of Fine Arts Saar

The Hochschule der Bildenden Künste Saar (HBKsaar, Academy of Fine Arts Saar) is the Saarland's only university of art and design. Re-founded in 1989, it emerged from the

"Staatliche Schule für Kunst" founded 1924 which had changed into a "Schule für Kunst und Handwerk" in 1964, both with a strong tradition of arts and crafts.

Since 1989 it has developed into one of the most important creative training centres in the "Greater Region" (Großregion Saarland, Western Palatinate, Alsace, Lorraine, Luxembourg, Wallonia). The HBKsaar is a public institution with about 400 students and offers a wide range of degrees in design, fine arts, and media.

Highly relevant to LGM, HBKsaar is engaged in close cooperation with the local research cluster of computational sciences that include the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence, Max Planck Institutes for Informatics and for Software Systems, an Intel Visual Computing Institute.
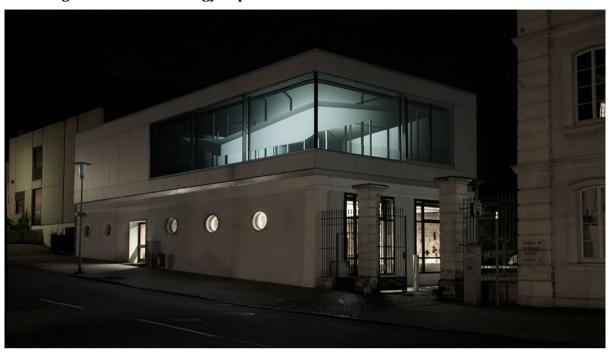
xm:lab - Experimental Media Lab, initiated in 2012, serves as the academy's primary institutional interface for the co-development of arts-and-technology projects and the coordination of the Media Informatics degree program.

Given the academy's strong ties across the cultural field, we would like to feature (and involve participants in) a wide range of applied arts-and-technology scenarios in which open technologies play a role.

The campus offers standard facilities (campus Wi-Fi / Eduroam access, cafeteria, library, seminar rooms and workshop spaces) as well as a variety of digital culture studios, including a Digital Fabrication Center and a Game Lounge designed to accommodate team-based prototyping activities, and additional workshops for ceramics, glass, metal, and wood which could be used for the creation of hybrid media installations.

We also plan to use the gallery (whose glass walls can also be used (in combination with a built-in multi-projector set-up) as an interactive media facade for an LGM-related exhibition (which could include a cooperation with dancers from the local dance company).

Featuring Arts-and-Technology Experiments: The Media Facade

Same As It Never Was, Mader Stublic Wiermann / Thomas Troge (2013)

Image: HBKsaar

The mediafacade opens onto one of Saarbruecken's largest and most central public spaces, the Ludwigsplatz. Designed by the Baroque architect Friedrich Joachim Stengel as a „Gesamtkunstwerk" (in the sense of a place royale), the Ludwigsplatz also includes the city's landmark building, the Ludwigskirche. The academy's mediafacade, a key infrastructure to facilitate practice-based arts-and-technology experiments, offers artists and researchers a unique opportunity to explore the cultural constitution of (public) space.

Designed as a media facade as well as an interactive audio-visual environment, the screen serves as an experimental site of projection as well as reflection, an instrument both to create and conceptually explore new forms of aesthetic communication. On a regular basis, artists and researchers are invited to create their own iteration of the general curatorial perspective.

Through its membership in the international Connecting Cities Network, xm:lab has been facilitating exchange on the role of open technologies and visual culture in the exploration of new forms of collaborative engagement across the network. For more information, see http://www.connectingcities.net/

FLOSS, Arts-and-Technology Research, and the "Greater Region"

A mid-size city and state capital of Saarland, Saarbruecken hosts a wide range of cultural and research institution involved in digital culture issues, from singular experimental uses of FLOSS in art and design to the co-development of large-scale open technology frameworks such as FIWARE as well as a large number of grassroots actors affiliated with one or more of several self-organizing communities.

Like many cities of its size, it draws its dynamism from across the networks in which local actors are involved; along with the vision of bringing members of the grassroots LGM scene together with academy researchers (and technology policy makers) committed to FLOSS, the integration of partners from what is locally referred to as the "Greater Region", i.e. Eastern France, Luxembourg, and Eastern Belgium, is a key feature of the LGM 2018 proposal.

We want to feature a Europe that works - from below, across borders, and with a vision of the central role played by open technologies in bringing more people into the process of co-creating digital societies. Which is why particular emphasis will also be given to the communication with cultural policy makers. The state government is preparing a new curriculum for cultural and digital literacy, and LGM offers a key opportunity to involve our colleagues in cultural policy and teacher training in the collaborative exploration of open technologies and new forms of digital social innovation.

Additional locations for LGM

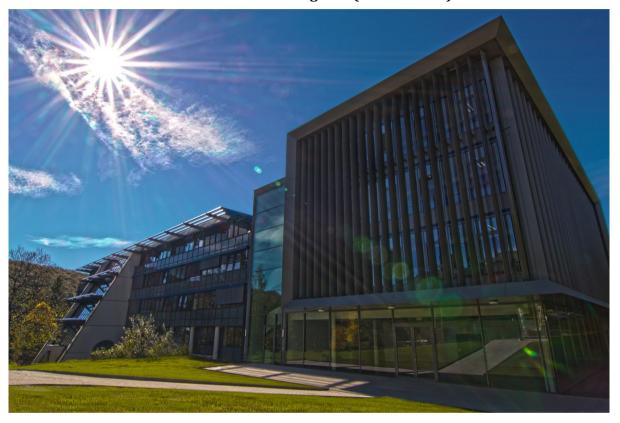**German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (www.dfki.de)**

Image: DFKI

The German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) was founded in 1988 and has research facilities in Kaiserslautern, Saarbrücken, Bremen and a project office in Berlin. In the field of innovative commercial software technology using Artificial Intelligence, DFKI is the leading research center in Germany.

DFKI is actively involved in numerous organizations representing and continuously advancing Germany as an excellent location for cutting-edge research and technology. Far beyond the country's borders DFKI enjoys an excellent reputation for its academic training of young scientists. Many of the DFKI's research projects involve the development of open code and technologies.

City

The state capital of Saarbrücken is the regional centre of the Saarland and is situated at the heart of the Saar-Lor-Lux region. The city has approximately 180.000 inhabitants and is strongly influenced by its proximity to France and its complex Franco-German history (the region has "belonged" both to France and Germany over tha past centuries.) Its public life is characterized by the large number of students enrolled at the city's five institutions of higher learning, its French atmosphere, and Uculturally) the key role played by film as the city also

hosts Germany's premier young filmakers' festival, the Max-Ophuels-Preis named after the locally-born Franco-German director.

For more information, see http://www.saarbruecken.de/en/tourism

Public transport

While Saarbruecken offers a bus, tram, and train system, most of the venues for LGM will be within walking distance of the academy's campus. The academy is well-connected to the university's campus (site of LGM side events) by bus.

How to get to the Academy of Fine Arts Saar

Visa requirements

If you're from outside the EU or Switzerland, you will probably need visa for Germany. For more information see https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en

Travel

Saarbruecken's train station is part of the European high-speed rail network (Frankfurt > Saarbruecken 2,5 hrs; Paris > Saarbruecken 2 hrs; Strasbourg > Saarbruecken 2 hrs).

The local airport is linked (via Berlin or Frankfurt) to almost all international destinations, additional airports (including Metz-Nancy, Paris, Strasbourg, Luxemburg, and Frankfurt / Hahn) are nearby.

Saarbruecken is also serviced by multiple long-distance bus lines.

Accommodation

Saarbruecken offers a multitude of hotels, hostels, bed and breakfast accommodation. Average price for a double room in the city centre is between 50 and 65 € per night.

For more information, check booking platforms such as http://www.couchsurfing.com or http://www.hrs.de

Food

The campus has its own small cafeteria that can provide basic catering for the duration of the meeting. Average price of meal is 2,50 €, coffee / tea / soft drinks 1,50 € (prices in May 2016). A range of organic / vegan / vegetarian catering options will be provided; foods from across Europe and the Mediterranean can be found across the city.

Security and health

You are strongly advised to take out travel insurance to cover any medical expenses.

Budget

Expenses, potential sources:

- ➢ German Research Council Conference Grant
- ➢ Creative Europe
- ➢ Interreg - Regional Cooperation Fund

Event income:

- ➢ T-Shirts
- ➢ tickets for a benefit party

Sponsorship possibilities

In kind: Academy of Fine Arts Saar has facilities to print banners, posters, T-Shirts, laser cutting

Funds: corporate sponsorships (TBC), local sponsorships (TBC)