



**PIKSEL**

festival for electronic art and free technologies

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PRESS RELEASE

***PIKSEL14 – Be|O/Art***

**Bergen, Norway**

**November 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>**

**prelude from November 10<sup>th</sup> (PiksteriaLab workshop)**

**at: Bergen Kjøtt / Lydgalleriet / Østre**



Robert B. Lisek

Piksel is an annual festival for artists and developers working with free and open source software, hardware and art. This November the festival will be arranged for the 12<sup>th</sup> time, gathering more than fifty international artists from Indonesia, Canada, Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Great Britain, Norway, Spain, Russia, Poland and Austria for two exhibitions, a series of workshops, a day of discussions and presentations, in addition to live performances and concerts in the evenings.

The term BioArt was coined by the artist Eduardo Kac in 1997, and has been an increasingly practiced form of art in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The genre, which involves creative tinkering with organic tissue, life processes, live organisms and bacteria, has often been enveloped in controversy due to its apparent lack of ethics. The 2009 edition of Piksel



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invoked strong reactions in the local press because of the BioArt workshop *HackteriaLab* – one local paper ran the scandalous notice "*Protest against bioart*". Some were dissatisfied with the idea that small living creatures, such as earthworms, should be (ab)used for obscure artistic purposes.

Now, five years into the future, the same bioartists and biohackers return to Piksel and Bergen to give yet another BioArt workshop. Under the moniker *PiksteriaLab*, they endeavour to teach how to build a DIY (or, as they prefer, *DIWO – Do It With Others*) kitchen sink or rucksack laboratory, guiding participants into the realm of *Bioelectronix* – splicing the living and technological – wherein one may try out techniques such as fish and plant hacking.

*PiksteriaLab* will commence Monday 10<sup>th</sup> of November, three days prior to the core festival. November 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> more workshops will be held in addition to lectures and presentations, concerts and performances in the evenings – for example Davide Bevilacqua and Alberto Boem's *URSUPPE* (German for primordial soup), where synthesizers will be processed through organic matter such as apples and oranges instead of traditional, electronic effect boxes – and exhibitions at two different venues, where can be seen Robert B. LISEK's Schrödinger's Cat-like *QUANTUM ENIGMA*, utilizing random signals from radioactive material (such as thorium, Norway's high-potential post-oil natural resource) to control a seemingly uncontrolled installation of flickering lights and sound impulses.

All that and much more...

## **Get infected, be the cure, be\O/art.**

Visit <http://14.piksel.no> for programme and details.

Feel free to contact us for more info, interviews and previews:

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Venues for Piksel14:

[Bergen Kjøtt](#) directions: ->[Map](#)<-

[Lydgalleriet](#) directions: ->[Map](#)<-

[Østre](#) directions: ->[Map](#)<-

**Piksel Produksjoner**

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