

ENERGY GIVEAWAY AT THE HUMUSPUNK LIBRARY...

10.06.2023 –
24.09.2023



WE ARE 
AWARENESS IN ART



ENERGY GIVEAWAY AT THE HUMUSPUNK LIBRARY∞

OPENING: JUNE 9TH, 2023, 6-9PM

EXHIBITION: JUNE 10TH - SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2023

ARTISTS

Regenerative Energy Communities and friends, including Miranda Moss, Helen V. Pritchard, Daniel Gustafsson, Eric Snodgrass, 施惟捷 Shih Wei Chieh, Cristina Cochior, Marc Dusseiller, Hackteria, Helmi Hardian, Zeenath Hasan & TheDirt, Oliver Jäggi, MELT (Ren Loren Britton & Iz Paehr), Maya Minder, Nani & Friends, Paula Pin, SGMK, The Institute for Technology in the Public Interest (TITiPI) feat. Martino Morandi, Gillian Wylde, plus surprise guests!

The Energy Giveaway at the Humuspunk Library shares ongoing works and practices emerging from the Regenerative Energy Communities project. We are artists, designers, technologists, farmers, and organisers exploring what possibilities lie in practices that aim to be regenerative. This involves experimenting with a range of different “regenerative” prototypes together with others. In the exhibition we ask, what do energy alternatives look like when we begin with the soil (humus: Latin for earth, ground) as a grounding for creative practice? How can we collectively define and cultivate a plurality of material practices of resistance, recovery, generosity, flourishing and pleasure?



AIA invited Regenerative Energy Communities as curators for their CO-HABITATIONS program, which asks “How do we want to live – now and in 100 years”? It’s hard to imagine the next decade, let alone the next 100 years, amidst the backdrop of rising violence, the war in Europe, and the intensification of mining for rare earth minerals to support the so-called green transition. The Energy Giveaway at the Humuspunk Library proposes a future-we-need for energy and agriculture that might breathe energy into the deadness of relation we find in the current moment—a future of queerer relations, resistances and refusals of redemption. We approached companions, inviting them to make forks of previous works, diagrams, zines, shared recipes, run workshops with us and lend us ferments. A community transition-infrastructure for the ongoingness of the world.

Regenerative Energy Communities welcome you to join them for the Energy Giveaway at the Humuspunk Library.

Different to the glossy images of a smart city or urban regeneration workshop, here you will find a library full of material resistances and prototypes creeping into life, spilling over and onto one another. Become a friend of the library and loosen up your relationship to energy and agriculture. Breakaway into a fantasy of queer geochemistries, regeneration, micro energy and creative life. Co-habit practices across a range of tones. Drop-in for rest and recuperation, planning your energy giveaway projects and experimenting with regenerative energy prototypes in the making. Hang out in the free energy giveaways, seed and spore swapping, and lounge lazily in farming, reading and listening corners with cushions for star-and-tardigrade gazing. Join our Loose Energy curriculum (cooking! circuit bending! soil remediation! cruising!) and other ongoing activities that embrace the fermenting queer revolts of punk energy makings as they emerge from the living, breathing, drinking, eating, farting, composting matter we call soil, a.k.a. humus.

Regenerative Energy Communities (REC) is a research project organised by Miranda Moss, Daniel Gustafsson, Helen V. Pritchard and Eric Snodgrass. They explore how current energy paradigms can be challenged by energy approaches that work with agroecology and regenerative agriculture's central commitment of not only maintaining but actively reviving and enhancing the health and resilience of local ecosystems. Funded by the Swedish Energy Agency's program for People, Energy Systems and Society (MESAM), the project engages members of the public interested in the crucial problems of contemporary energy practices through creative, community-inspired experiments with alternative approaches to energy provision. This work involves collaborating with local farmers, growers, energy enthusiasts and anyone interested in collectively exploring what possible forms a regenerative energy practice might take.

www.regenerative-energy-communities.org



Helen V. Pritchard is an artist-designer, geographer, activist and queer love theorist. As a practitioner they work together with companions on trans*feminist approaches to make propositions for environmental media and computing otherwise, developing methods to uphold a politics of queer survival and practice. They organise with Regenerative Energy Communities and The Institute for Technology in the Public Interest (TITiPi). Helen is Professor and Head of Research at IXDM, Basel Academy of Art and Design.

www.helenpritchard.info

Miranda Moss is a transdisciplinary cultural worker from Cape Town, focusing on socio-ecological sustainability through exploring the problematics and hopeful possibilities of technology from an anticolonial feminist perspective. She has exhibited, performed research, made a mess, and given lectures and workshops across the globe in various art, science, community, academic and public spaces. She is currently in Sweden working on the Regenerative Energy Communities research project, teaching in the Design+ Change department at LNU, and gardening.

www.mirandamoss.com



Daniel Gustafsson is a designer and a trained product developer who teaches at the Department of Design+Change at LNU and researches with Regenerative Energy Communities. He focuses on Research through Design (RtD) as well as negotiating an understanding of the world through physical objects that may transmit issues, ideas and alternatives to be less abstract – formulating a space of thought and action for change.

Eric Snodgrass is a senior lecturer at the Department of Design at LNU and guest researcher in the Department of Technology and Social Change at Linköping University. Their research engages with infrastructures that work to imagine, materialise and sustain forms of change, including current involvement with the Regenerative Energy Communities project.





Regenerative Energy Communities invited collectives and comrades to respond to their propositions for the Energy Giveaway at the Humuspunk Library through installations, forks, diagrams, workshops and prototypes. The community will grow throughout the exhibition and includes:

施惟捷 **Shih Wei Chieh** works with wearable art, e-textile, and laser audiovisual. He is also a self-taught material science researcher. His "Laser Dye Project" innovates an optical textile printing method by programmable laser projector and New Cyanotype solution, which inspire him to explore the trans-disciplinary collaboration between new medias and traditional craft techniques. He's the founder of "Tribe Against Machine", a project exploring how culture preservation works with modern technologies. His current research develops a DIY dye sensitized solar glass made with natural dye in a large size format, which is used for both energy and as a smart interface for sonic art.

www.shihweichieh.com

Cristina Cochior (RO) is a researcher and designer with an interest in automation, situated software and peer to peer knowledge production. Her practice largely consists of investigations into knowledge organisation systems and collective digital infrastructures. Recent projects she's been a part of include Vernacular Language Processing, Digital Solidarity Networks, Digital Discomfort, and Bots as Digital Infrapuncture. She is part of **Varia**, a space for developing collective approaches to everyday technology. Varia members maintain and facilitate a collective infrastructure from which they generate questions, opinions, modifications, help, and action. They work with free software, organise events, and collaborate in different constellations.

www.randomiser.info

Marc Dusseiller aka dusjagr is a nomadic researcher and workshopologist. He is part of the Center for Alternative Coconut Research and co-founder of **SGMK** and the global **Hackteria** network. He has worked as guest faculty and mentor at various schools, Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bangalore (IN), UCSB (USA) and in Switzerland, FHNW, HEAD, ETHZ. Before travelling the world for making DIY / DIWO laboratories for creative biological experimentation with living media, Marc entered the world of DIY electronics, designing printed circuit boards for synthesizers and organizing workshops and festivals mostly in Zürich, Taipei and Yogyakarta. He also loves coconuts.

Hackteria is a global network Hackteria is a global network active since 2009 of people practicing DIY (do-it-yourself) and DIWO (do-it-with-others) biology, with a focus on art, design and interdisciplinary cooperation to work with lifescience technologies with a citizen science approach, grassroot and DIY methods. Our web platforms, wiki, forum, 2D-virtual world, are online hubs for global community interaction, where participants share knowledge on living systems and knowhow on different ways of hacking them. Hackteria has so far been existing on a global scope and not based in a physical space, but since summer 2020 we have established the «Hackteria ZET - Open Science Lab» in Zürich. We want to allow artists, scientists, cooks, farmers, philosophers and hackers to collaborate, test and experiment with science, art and technology outside conventional settings such as academic laboratories and art institutions: basically, anywhere in the world.

www.hackteria.org/about/
www.hackteria.org/wiki/Press_Coverage



Zeenath Hasan engages with food as material for knowledge production in her artistic practice. Her works have been commissioned to culinarily articulate, amongst others, the violence in language, reverence and fragility in inter-species relations and the somatic in the act of cooking and eating. She is Senior Lecturer and Head of the Design Department, LNU, where, through two generative work sites, the Food Lab on campus and an urban farming collective called TheDirt off campus, she invites students, researchers and artists to manifest holistic relations through collective initiatives and immersive, participatory explorations.

www.zeenathhasan.net

Helmi Hardian is a grassroots artist and ghetto scientist, with a specific interest in cooking and smoking at the same time. He lives in Surabaya, the city that is well known for its industry and technology, as well as being the center of electronic component trading (chiefly, Pasar Genteng). Hence, almost all of his works are closely related to science and technology as the medium of creativity. He is the co-founder of Waft Lab, a creative-based initiative that works at interdisciplinary practices. Currently, he focuses on tech development through DIY/DIWO culture and playing his role in researching, hacking, or deconstructing daily materials to provide some devices with new functional aspects, as well as developing workshop kits, lecturing contents, and presentation materials, which aim to learn, share, and exchange knowledge.

www.waft-lab.com

www.instagram.com/helmihardian

Oliver Jäggi is a scientist in the field of environmental chemistry and a producer of electronic music. He has collaborated in many different projects (System der Dinge, kombox, omega attraktor) and released his music on tape, CD, vinyl and online. In 2014 he started playing solo live sets with hardware synthesizers and sequencers as omega attraktor. The setup also includes self-made DIY sound circuits in order to expand the sonic possibilities. For live performances he also collaborates with other musicians in a more experimental context. As a member of the Swiss Mechatronic Art Society (SGMK) he has developed and performed Workshops for artists, children and schools. Since 2012 he has been organizing the SGMK Homemade summercamp, a collaborative work and research week with international participants.

omega attraktor releases:

www.omegaattraktor.bandcamp.com

www.subsist.bandcamp.com/album/faith025-fields-of-sorrow



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Gurka - 12 St 2) Vogh 3) Rindweir 4) Sallad + Rhydder 5) Mörkörd bocken + Kogald salve 6) Safler, Tagetes, Ringblomma, Galiskörn 7) Tigeröga 8) Kogelblärbäl 9) Mörkörd Dahlia | <p>Material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spindel Frön Kraut Jord Kompost Kalk Bark Muller Tränsvor |
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Skala: 3:100



Maya Minder lives and works in Zurich. “Cooking thus transforms us”, is a framework she works in through processual conceptual art and performance. Cooking serves her to reveal the metaphor of the human transformation of raw nature into cooked culture and she combines it with the evolutionary ideas of a symbiotic co-existence between plants, animals and humans. In her work, fermentation is a suitable and metaphorically charged activity to invite the guests not only to share ideas for home-made agriculture, food circulation, ecological issues, collectivism, politics and role of gender, but also to debate on subjects and recipes for a post-digital / post-anthropocentric era. Beside her artistic practice she is also an organizer and curator, and has been acting as an agent of networking and international community building inside the DIYbio, bioart, living pedagogies, regenerative and circular system thinking, particularly with Hackteria which she joined in 2017. Currently, Minder is Co-President of Swiss Mechatronic Art Society, board member of Food Cultur Days, and has been nominated for the Swiss Art Awards 2023.

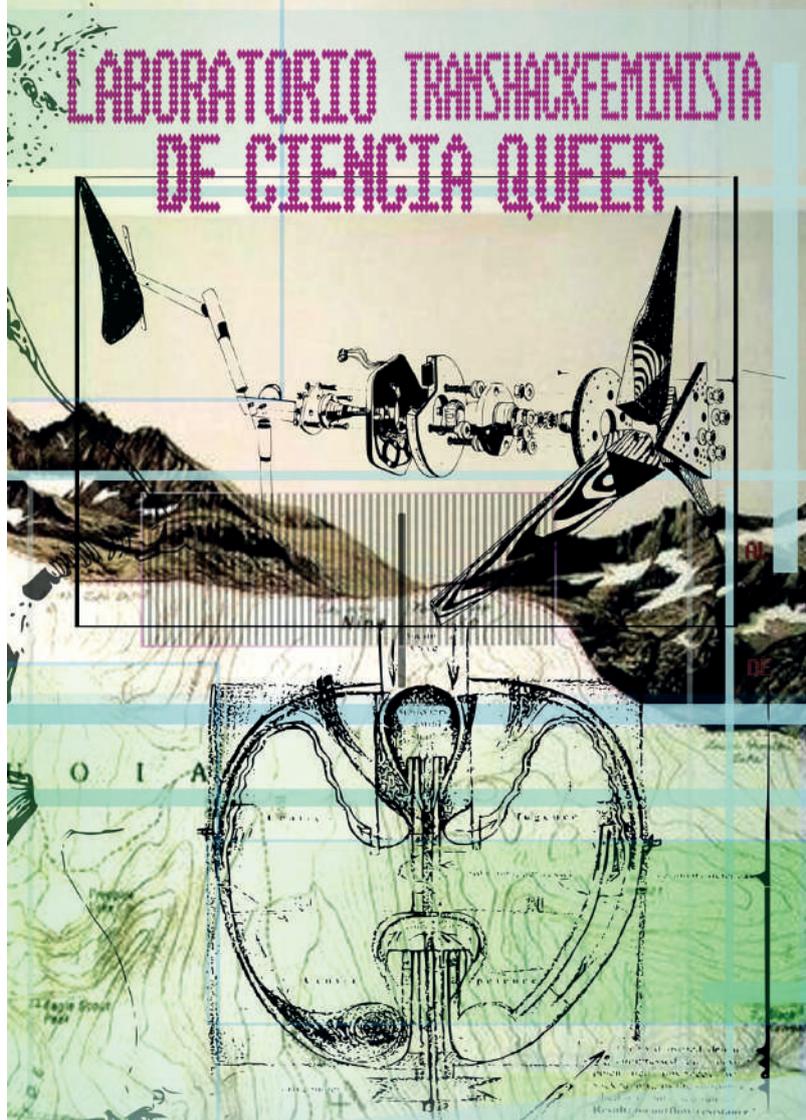


MELT (Ren Loren Britton & Iz Paehr) study and experiment with shape-shifting processes as they meet technologies, sensory media and critical pedagogies in a warming world. MELT currently builds projects along four different research tracks: ACCESS SERVER, The Meltionary, Counting Feelings and Zeitgeber. Their arts-design research cooks up practices that generate material and infrastructural transformations that intersect Trans* feminism and Disability Justice. Working with change and MELT(ing) as a kaleidoscope their work engages multiple topics at once: climate change, the potential for political reformulations, critical technical practice and access making. MELT shares work in the forms of videos, installations, websites, lectures and workshops.

www.meltionary.com

Nani & Friends. Nani cherishes her thinking hands and exploring fingers. They allow her to craft things that bring her happiness and that help her process her world all while exploring different materials, techniques and imaginaries. Her cherished feet have journeyed her from and back to a farm where she enjoys playing with soil and their inhabitants. For all of Nani's undertakings, her friends are precious contributors. They're attentive listeners who contribute with their unique imaginings and who offer precious reassurance during moments of doubt. Currently pursuing a masters degree in Experimental Design in Basel Academy of Art and Design, Nani is both learning to broaden her perspectives on what can be explored and imagined and expanding ideas of who or what can become her friends.

Paula Pin is an artist and activist who always had a strong inclination towards research and experimentation processes with collective and free technologies. Although their work emerges from a scientific tradition, throughout, whether drawing or abstract video, circuit bending or lab experiments, it is located in the intersection where biology, science and queer art collide. Pin has been part of the autonomous trans-hack-feminist Pechblenda and Transnoise laboratories, and since 2012 has collaborated in the extensive biohacking network Hackteria. Out of their practical experience in biohacking (body/environment) and health in the Pechblenda laboratory, Biotranslab emerged as an autonomous lab for experiments and investigations of Open Science Friction and queer natures on the road. Their work as a coordinator of Restoratives Practices extended the bioArt network to connect cultural, political and ecological issues in the east of Galicia. "We are in the mood for quotidian practices of cultivating, carrying and caring for Earth love ...We are the CYBORG WITCHES on Radical BioAutonomy!!"



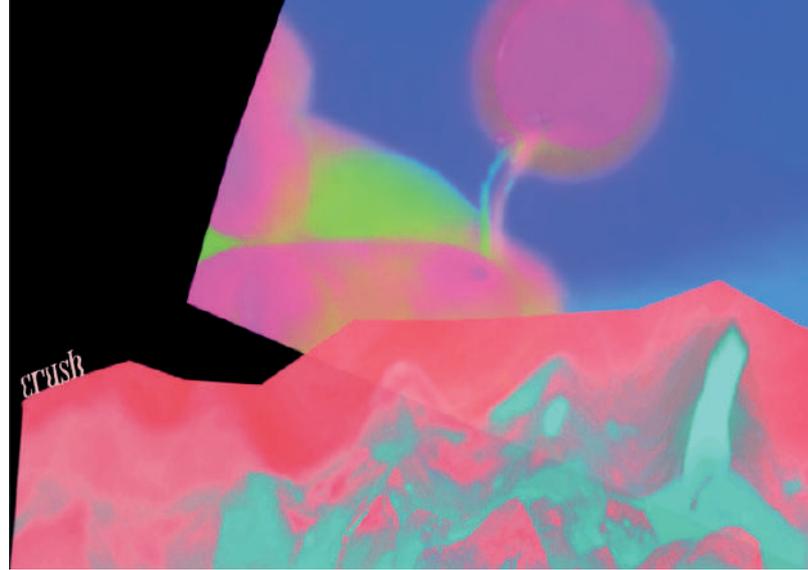
SGMK (Swiss Mechatronic Art Society) as an association is committed to a social exchange and joint learning at the intersection of art and technology. With a DIY culture approach they develop, amongst other projects, self-made sound machines, solar robots and visual installations.

The SGMK functions as a meeting point for ideas or help with the implementation of projects, such as the development of workshops or artistic works. The association maintains numerous national and international contacts with individuals, groups and institutions dealing with related topics. Since 2020, they have been running a hackerspace called Bitwäscherei together with several other associations in the heart of Zürich. SGMK organizes various public events like workshops or festivals and a research week each summer.

www.mechatronicart.ch

The Institute for Technology in the Public Interest is a trans-practice gathering of activists, artists, engineers and theorists initiated by **Miryam Aouragh, Seda Gürses, Helen V. Pritchard and Femke Snelting**. They develop methods from queer theory, Free Software, intersectionality, feminisms, anti-coloniality, disability studies, historical materialism and artistic practice. TITIPI convenes communities to articulate, contest and re-imagine the implications of Computational Infrastructures together. **Martino Morandi** searches for residual potentials in the genealogies of present technology to support recalcitrant futures. With-in TITIPI he develops semi-efficient convivial methods for circulating digital publications.

www.titipi.org



Gillian Wylde is an artist, researcher and teacher. They make video and film, object installations + text works. Central to their practice is an engagement with digital technologies, & other-wise thinking. *****QUEEEER love poetics SCREENS&feeee-els r constanz thru most of the work like maybe a wild smell or hairy logic. AlsoKnownAs good soups+++advanced masking/ultimate abs. Their portfolio: includes exhibitions, talks, writings, commissions, residencies. Recent works have been made for Glasgow Film Festival (UK), John Hansard Gallery (UK), ICA (UK), Arnolfini Gallery (UK), BFI (UK), TEAK (FIN), Arkadien Festival (DE), Casa das Artes (PT), Videotage (HK). Publications include; Punctum Books, Eros Press, Intellect Books + Information as Material Press. They currently teach in the Fine Art department of Falmouth University (UK)

WHO WE ARE

AIA stands for Awareness in Art. We believe that art is a powerful tool to answer the questions that humanity is faced with today. As a platform, we produce exhibition projects that use the prism of art to generate awareness of topical issues and encourage people to think innovatively about the future. In order to achieve this goal, our nonprofit association enables dialogue between art, society, technology, and science. In cooperation with our partners, we develop special educational programs that make complex ideas accessible to a wide audience.

CREATING KNOWLEDGE

AIA produces projects that raise awareness of social issues through the prism of art.

AIA aims to shed light on untenable conditions to initiate change rather than blame.

UNDERSTANDING

AIA dedicates itself to five topics and reveals their interconnectivity: human rights, biodiversity, social justice, equality and challenges of digitalization.

AIA creates unique educational programs with its partners to reach and sensitize a broader audience.

COLLABORATION

AIA encourages innovative ways of thinking about the future and enables dialogue between inspiring minds from art, society, technology, science and traditional ecological knowledge.

AIA collaborates with partners that live up to the highest ethical standards.

“Loose Energy Curriculum: Electric Field” with Regenerative Energy Communities

From smart city community projects to breezy speculative fictions, the monumentality of wind turbines seems to dominate the imaginaries of renewable, sustainable energy transitions. Despite the focus on sustainable energy transitions, the giant wind turbine project keeps energy hungry racial capitalism spinning and obscures the interdependencies of agriculture, communities and energy. In this workshop we ask how might we scavenge, retool, rescale and reassemble renewables into contraptions for community solidarity instead?

Using "regeneration" as a framework for challenging dominant paradigms and imaginaries of renewable energy practices, this workshop hosted by Regenerative Energy Communities will share hands-on practices for orienting towards wind as a way to nourish crossings between energy, culture, climate and biodiversity. To do so, we will introduce a range of regenerative methods and practices, including designing with compost-promoting regenerative materials, hybrid combinations of computational tools and biological processes, slow engineering, speculative and transdisciplinary crossings situated within the longstanding and emerging innovations of various agroecological communities.



“Loose Energy Curriculum: micronoisies; DIY microscope workshop, Performance by Omega Attraktor and open AV performances on the micro(be) energy level.” with Paula Pin, Oliver Jäggi, Helmi Hardian, Miranda Moss, Marc Dusseiller and special guests, organised by Regenerative Energy Communities, Hackteria and SGMK

“Loose Energy Curriculum: Grow your own Solar panels” with 施惟捷 Shih Wei Chieh, Maya Minder, Wiriya Mattanansuwan, Femke Snelting, Martino Morandi and Regenerative Energy Communities in collaboration with Hackteria and TITiPI as part of the CO-HABITATIONS programme

See AIA website for rolling workshop programme, more details and sign up: www.weareaia.ch

Saturday 10th June – 13:00 – 14:00

"There are No Clean Lines at the Edge" with Zeenath Hasan from TheDirt and Regenerative Energy Communities

About the speaker:

In her artistic practice Zeenath Hasan engages with food as material for knowledge production. Her works have been commissioned to culinarily articulate, amongst others, the violence in language, reverence and fragility in inter-species relations and the somatic in the act of cooking and eating. She is Senior Lecturer and Head of the Design Department, Linnaeus University, where, through two generative work sites, the Food Lab on campus and an urban farming collective called TheDirt off campus, she invites students, researchers and artists to manifest holistic relations through collective initiatives and immersive, participatory explorations.



This year we are looking at the theme of living together and the guiding principle of the life needs of each individual as well as our society, now and 100 years. We are addressing core issues of water, soil, air, food, energy and housing. We want to visualize these focal points and make them tangible. Discover, represent and realize on a small scale. We create a relationship to nature and learn to use its potential.

Regenerative Energy Communities and friends recognise that the status quo in energy generating, transporting, storing and consuming technologies have not been designed in the way they have because of any fundamental physical property of energy, but instead are deeply culturally embedded and have arisen from a particular toxic and oppressive design trajectory. And so we ask, how we might we reimagine and redesign these relations, through creative community knowledge sharing practices?

The workshop presents creative approaches to energy and renewables from the perspective of energy and agriculture. Join us to learn how to get your hands into energy generation and learn about energy in a way that will change how you think of it for ever! Workshop participants will create small experiments to get a tangible sense of energy, uncovering how technology could be reimagined as remediating and regenerating as opposed to harming ecosystems. The workshops include searches for wild electricity, assemblages of eco-centred electronics and playing with regenerative materials. The workshop also introduces ways to collectively work on micro energy together for all ages. Together we will open up the space of renewable imaginaries!

ACCESS

The main building on Limmatstrasse 270 has one regular and one large Elevator and both are wheelchair accessible.

The wheelchair accessible Entrance with elevator is on Limmatstrasse 268.

There are spacious single, gender neutral restrooms between level 1 and level 2.

And gender neutral, wheelchair accessible restrooms on level -1 (UG-Basement).

Floors are even with no ramps or thresholds throughout the building.

The gallery is dog-friendly.

Printed material is available in large print.
Informal audio description is available.

The closest public transport stop, Löwenbräu tram stop, is barrier-free for visitors with limited mobility. The tram stop is approximately 75 metres from the barrier-free access to Limmatstrasse 268 and approximately 100 metres from the main entrance to Limmatstrasse 270. The entrance most suitable for visitors with limited mobility is the side entrance to Limmatstrasse 268, via a lift. The entrance most suitable for visitors with limited vision is the main entrance to Limmatstrasse 270, via steps.

EXHIBITION DETAILS

Curator Regenerative Energy Communities (Helen V. Pritchard, Miranda Moss, Daniel Gustafsson, Eric Snodgrass)

**Founder
WE ARE AIA** Martina Huber

Assistant Curator Pietro Vitali, Nicolas Gränacher

Art Mediator Alexandra Eichenauer

Corporate Design WE ARE AIA

Graphic Design Nicole Imboden

Thanks to

In addition to our exhibition collaborators, we are also indebted to the generous collective aid and energies of many whom have supported and conspired in the project to date. In particular, we would like to thank Sven Laurer, Leah Ireland, VXO FARMLab, Jan Carleklev, Stephanie Föhr, Cassandra Troyan, Fred Carter, Ralf Schreiber, August Lewin, Miguel Ferreira, Hillebil Andersen, all of our Energy & Agriculture Open Lab participants.

With the support of:



Regenerative Energy Communities, REC studio door, 2023.
License: CC4r

Regenerative Energy Communities, Camomile, wind turbine renders,
2023. License: CC4r

Regenerative Energy Communities, Studio library, 2023.
License: CC4r

Regenerative Energy Communities, Calabash speaker, 2023.
License: CC4r

Regenerative Energy Communities,
Microbial fuel cell (MFC) station, 2022. License: CC4r

施惟捷 *Shih Wei Chieh*, Photophone based on dye sensitized
solar cell. Image courtesy of the artist

Zeenath Hasan, TheDirt, photo by Hubert Gaca.
Image courtesy of Zeenath Hasan

Oliver Jäggi, Omega Attraktor. Image courtesy of the artist

Zeenath Hasan, TheDirt Farming Plan,
photo by Linnéa Karlsson, 2019. Image courtesy of Zeenath Hasan

Maya Minder, Detail Untitled (Skin), 2022.
Image courtesy of the artist

MELT, PopUp Disabled Data Center, 2023.
Image courtesy of the artist

Paula Pin, Eco-Logic Queer Energy Harvesting event poster.
Image courtesy of Paula Pin / Pin Biotranslab

Gillian Wylde, Video still from *Cosy*, 2023.
Image courtesy of the artist

Regenerative Energy Communities, Feral Circuits, 2021. License: CC4r

Maya Minder, Lick'o'Meter, fusing electronics and Biomaterials
(in Collaboration with Zohar Messaca Fara), 2021.
Image courtesy of the artist

Regenerative Energy Communities,
Brände Udde farm site, 2023. License: CC4r



WE ARE AIA | Awareness in Art
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8005 Zurich

www.weareaia.art

📷 [weareaia.art](https://www.instagram.com/weareaia.art)

OPENING HOURS

Wednesday–Friday
12 p.m.–6 p.m.

Saturday
11 a.m.–5 p.m.

And by appointment

Sunday–Tuesday
Closed

FREE ENTRY

WE ARE  AWARENESS IN ART