



Summer school 2017

PIKSEL KIDZ Lab :)

CITY GO, CITY WATER & CITY TECH

a new media art lab for kids!



Bergen 2016

“Piksel KidZ 2015 has been a relevant project for kids that can well serve as example of the cultural strategy of the Arts Council Norway.”

Yngve Slettholm
Former Arts Council director
Bergen Kommune presentation 2015

In 2015, Piksel Festival, the Bergen festival focusing on new media art and open digital culture, introduced Piksel KidZ Lab, an artistic laboratory for kids to understand and build new media artworks. After two years of experience working with kids and technology, we will expand this program to happen also outside the festival. Piksel KidZ Lab will be held in Bergen during the summer of 2017.

Piksel KidZ Lab, aims to bring new media art practices to kids and youngsters. Understanding new media and technology art as a work in progress, a process, an ongoing research, we want the kids to learn how to develop an art work in the new XXI century. And to understand that, nowadays, an art piece is not anymore a final «object» but a engagement with the environment in a wide sense: social, cultural and natural environment.

The three experiences proposed at the lab apply to collaborative learning and

production methods based on Do It With Others (DIWO) and Do It Yourself (DIY), horizontal methods that promotes cultural diversity and multilayer physical and virtual experiences.

The use of free technologies empowers the kids to understand how things works and introduces them into the digital freedom concept.

The project intend to invite pupils from schools and the 1881 Youth Club in Bergen to participate in the Lab, creating strong links for more kids related Labs at Pikel in the next years.

In order to communicate widely, we intend to spread the content of Pikel KidZ Summer Lab to school teachers and young organisations through Bergen Komunne Section schools, and our local teachers and parents network developed in the last 2 years. In May we will use street publicity (flyers and posters) in the city of Bergen. Pikel is also an expert in the use of social media and mailing lists.

Pikel KidZ lab this year proposes three new workshops: **AgitPOV, Water talking! and Sonorartec**. The workshops are dealing with social communication through talkative bikes, electronic sound writing, and marine bio-art, all in once as a way of exploration of the urban and natural environment.

The three main activities have as results a set of art works produced by the kids that will be exhibited in different city environments.

Water talking! and **Sonorartec** will produce small sound devices and underwater recordings and will be shown at the Pikel Studio, **AgitPOV**, will take the streets of Bergen on bike!

CITY-GO

Agit P.O.V (Petit Objet de Vélo) is a microhack for bicycles relying on the persistence of vision (POV) effect, the propaganda tactics of the russian avant-garde (AGIT Prop) and the SpokePOV Project by Limor Fried (LadyAda).



A modest 12 LED circuit, a microcontroller, codes, a battery mounted on your bicycle wheel and the speed of the cyclist suffice to illuminate the streets with your poetical-political message. AGIT P.O.V. invites participants to a workshop and textual performance in the streets of our cities. Our bicycles are vehicles that can carry our poetic and creative voices and agitate the city.



POV (Persistence of Vision) is a phenomenon based on the residual presence of an image on the eye for 1/25th of a second. The myth of persistence of vision posits that the human perception of motion is the result of persistence of vision. In this way, the drawings of the zootrope, the photographic experiments of Muybridge on the successive instants of a horse's gallop produce the impression of the continuity of movement.



Within the development of this activity, kids are aiming to use the bike and to expand their critical thinking about the air pollution and the need to care about the natural environment of cities.

Duration: 5 day – 15 hours

Age: 8-18 years old.

Exhibition: Píksel Festival Street Exhibition

Alexandre Castonguay (Montreal, Canadá)

Alexandre Castonguay's practice is based in digital and conceptual art, his works uses obsolete technology and open source software. His installations and photographic work have been presented in Canada and abroad in New York, Beijing, Madrid, Berlin, Beyrouth, São Paulo and Graz. His works are included in the collections of the Canada Council Art Bank, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts, the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, the Canadian Museum of Contemporary photography as well as private collections. He is represented by the gallery Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain (<http://pfoac.com/>). Professor at UQAM's École des arts visuels et médiatiques in Montréal, he studied at the University of Ottawa (B.F.A. 1991 and B.A. 1993) and at Concordia University, Montréal (M.F.A. 2004). He is a founding member of the not-for-profit media lab Artengine.

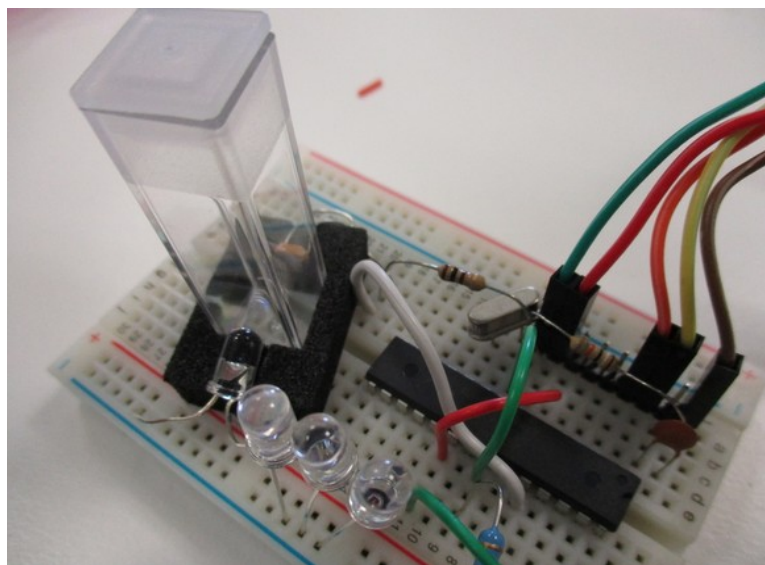
<http://agitpov.net/>

CITY-WATER

Do-It-Yourself bio art is fun! Artists all over are working with living organisms using their kitchen as a laboratory. Doing their own tools, a new bio art wave is taking place. First things first, to do bioart we need to learn the basics. In this workshop, kids will learn how important the water is, the “small” life that is contained there, and all the basics of marine biology.



They will build DIY microscopes and tools to monitor and measure all the principal parameters and keep an eye on marine water quality. This also includes making a remote sensing network and post it on the INTERNET, so we can have a global monitoring with small and cheap tools, also how to make chemical analytics and test for contaminants, all in a in “kitchen” approach.



DIY Hydrophones will permit the kids to do underwater sound recordings at the Bergen sea and later on to create their own sound art pieces which will be shown at

the Pikel Studio.

The importance of water

Day 1: DIY microscopes to explore the living organisms on water.

Day 2: Basic parameters of water conditions, marine biology explanations and its importance. Designing experiments to test pollution, photosynthetic rate, dissolved oxygen, etc. Experimenting session, with chemical reactions to test parameters. Design of a DIY sensor for water testing parameters.

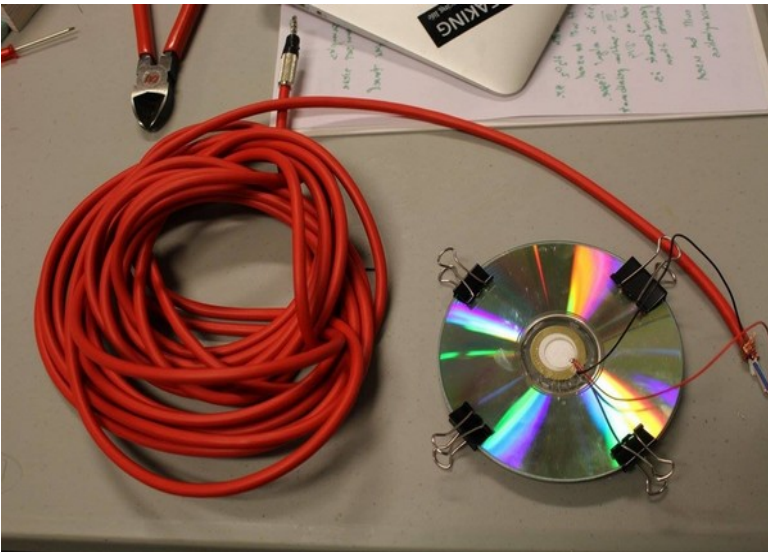


Day 3:

Designing a set of remote sensors. Building sensors and connecting them to the internet. Programming the devices. Outside session: Putting the sensors outside and testing parameters across the bay of Bergen and remote monitoring via mobile phones

Day 4:

DIY Hydrophones



Duration: 5 day – 3 hours/day

Age: 8-18 years old.

Exhibition: Bergen City

Cristian Delgado AKA Neoangel (México)

Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico

Molecular and synthetic biologist, from Faculty of Sciences UNAM CU, works on possibilities of applying biological aspects to technology, from biomimetics to bionanotechnology, also he worked on DIYBIO developing tools from synthetic biology, including collaboration with interdisciplinary projects like ARTE+CIENCIA, BIOSCENICA, PDI UNAM, UNESCO, ICTP, 3DMJMAKERS among others, with a special emphasis on art and science, with works awarded by MIT, UNAM, and others.

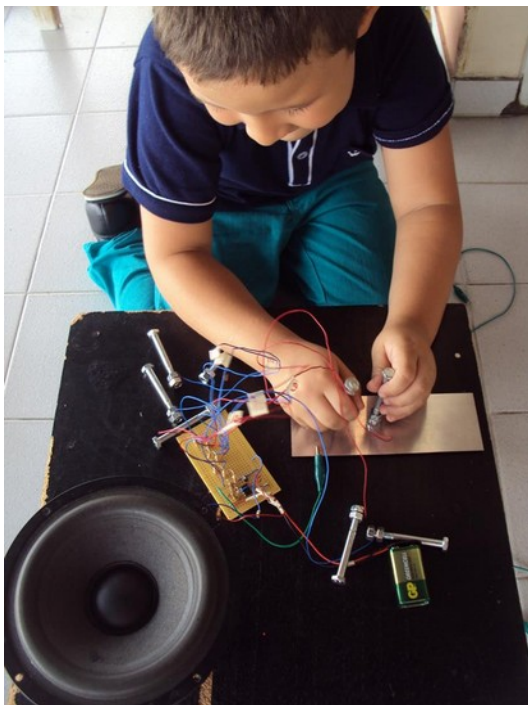
CITY-TECH

Sonorartec is a lab where the kids learn the basics of electronic to produce sound with drawn images, toys with lights, plastic pianos, ... recycling everyday materials.

Using the learning methods Do It Yourself (DIY) and Do It With Others (DIWO).



Day 1 to 5: Building different devices which permit kids to experiment with leds, circuits, sound, graphics, creative writing, and much more.





Duration: 5 day – 3 hours/day

Age: 8-18 years old.

Exhibition: Bergen City

Margarita Ardila, Colombia

Margarita Ardila is a Colombian maker, composer and sound researcher. Multidisciplinary artist coordinator and workshop of SONORARTEC LAB, laboratory oriented to the application of new media in the art, design, education. Emerging, independent and self-managed space interested in sharing and disseminating DIY and DIWO dynamics. Currently developing the project LAPIZ VOLTAJOSO activity mixing electronics and creative writing.