

„DIGITAL SECRETS“

Call for Exhibition | Accepted: *AR-Art, Conceptual Art, Digital Graphic, Digital Painting, Installation, Photography, Performance, (Post-) Internet Art, Sculpture/Plastic Arts, Video, VR-Art*

<die digitale dusseldorf> will take place in 2020 for the fifth time. The international festival will present the latest developments and trends in the digitization of art, design and music in concerts, exhibitions, performances and lectures. This year we will focus on „Digital Secrets“.

In the beginning was the transparency – the idea of the pioneers of the Internet, who dreamed of the greatest possible openness in data exchange and of a simplified publication of information that is difficult to access. In the meantime Wikileaks, a popular advocate of this idea and an important platform for whistleblowers, has its back against the wall, its founder Assange is threatened with death. And the euphorically propagated model of a "transparent society" seems to be developing into a nightmare - China's Social Credit System offers a preview of future conditions here.

Digital Secrets: How much does surveillance by the state and companies threaten our own private secrets? How much has our bourgeois understanding of privacy changed (keyword "post privacy")? Encryption technology is available to us - but interestingly, it is hardly ever used.

And there are digital secrets on the other side. The Internet giants Alphabet Inc. (formerly Google), Facebook or Amazon guard their algorithms like state secrets - but they affect us all and control our private and public lives. Who will know the hidden consequences of the algorithmic creation of reality by Big Data?

Digital Secrets, that also means: many things are not known or one does not want to know them, they are obviously no longer very mysterious or they are again. The Deep Net is a hidden huge digital space on the Internet, which according to experts is about 1,000 times larger than the Internet we know and use every day. All common search engines are standing there in front of closed doors. Not addressed in the public debate on the climate catastrophe: One third of the worldwide data traffic and thus of the entire energy consumption on the Internet is of pornographic origin. At the same time, digitalization is transforming pornography, which used to be shamefacedly played in the filthy corner, into an openly hyped and proudly presented cultural phenomenon. And then there is the ambiguity of the Dark Net as a truly dark place, which on the one hand enables the covert fight against authoritarian regimes and on the other hand offers a shopping paradise for criminals from all sectors.

And what does art do? < die digitale dusseldorf 2020 > wants to shed light on the darkness of digital secrets with art, music, performances, lectures, talks. How do the digital arts play with the secrets of the private sphere? How do they address the power of global companies based on private data? What role do whistleblowing, surveillance, digital pornography, cryptography, dark and deep net play in net and internet art? We expect original, enlightening and stimulating answers for ourselves and our audience.

>>> You are a digital artist? Then take part with your work in the big group exhibition at the Weltkunstzimmer, Düsseldorf, Germany, 30th October - 15th November 2020

Conditions:

- FREE ENTRY Artists, photographers, programmers are invited to submit 1 to 3 artworks addressing the theme. Please send an informative pdf showing your work at opencall@die-digitale.net (1 page text description, 1 page foto or illustration).
- If necessary free accommodation in our apartments, within the Weltkunstzimmer building for preparing the exhibition
- Deadline for this call: **15th May 2020**

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