

BIO Markus Heckmann

Markus Heckmann was born 1977 in Leipzig, GDR. He attended the University Ilmenau and Bauhaus University Weimar studying Media-technology. He left university in January 2006 to work as a Technical Director with Derivative, the makers of TouchDesigner, in Toronto, Canada.

Heckmann's inspiration to work with light-based media stems from the abundance of imagery in the club scene of the late 90s and early 2000s. Being exposed to the possibilities of generative and manipulative languages like director lingo, Heckmann started on the path of generative image creation and manipulation which to the day can be found in his professional and artistic works.

After a 9-month internship with Derivative and a 6-month journey through history as the video jockey for Canadian Rock legends RUSH, Heckmann switched Universities from Ilmenau to now attend Bauhaus Weimar and shape his experimental practice and previously gained experience under the direct influence of MX-Zehn's Stefan Kraus.

With Derivative offering a position as a Technical Director in early 2006, Heckmann embarked on the permanent resettlement to Toronto where he has since lived and worked. As part of Derivative, Heckmann works on commercial and artistic projects alike which span major theme park attractions to public video installations and the development of fully fledged control applications like WhiteVoid's KinetiCLights. Work on the winch and light control application culminated in a much-savoured project - GRID - for Christopher Bauder and Robert Henke at Lyons 2013s edition of Nuit Blanche. The work with Robert Henke can be seen exemplary for Derivative's relationship to some of the music industry's leading figures and the ongoing effort to serve this community well. Apart from project and development work, Heckmann is active promoting TouchDesigner and teaching its uses in the fields of art and technology to the interested public at festivals and conferences around the world.

In 2008 raster-noton and Derivative joined forces for a unique collaborative project which focused on the realization of the label artists' visual presentation during their audio-visual live shows on the basis of Derivative's TouchDesigner software. The work for Carsten Nicolai's univres eventually evolved into Heckmann working on 3 further large-scale multiscreen installations: unidisplay, unicolor and most recently unitape.

Heckmann's personal endeavours have always tended to combine the aesthetic aspects of generative computer graphics with the almost physical aspects of light. Feeling very comfortable in a club setting, he started performing as a vj under the moniker "Farbraum Lenkungs Aktiv" at parties in his hometown of Leipzig and continues this practise, while now less frequent, under the name "Wüstenarchitekten" in Toronto. A collaboration with electronic musician Matt Thibideau in 2014 resulted in "reclusion", an AV show presented at Mutek's AVisions series as well as at the inaugural "Day For Night 2015" Festival in Houston, Texas. A further A/V show with Matt and Mark Thibideau called "Timbre" was part of Mutek's 2017 program. For the 20th edition of Mutek in 2019, Heckmann accompanied France Jobin and Richard Chartier for the DUO AV performance which was subsequently also shown at the inaugural PRECTXE festival in Seoul 2019. Most recently Heckmann was invited by France Jobin to collaborate on her live performance "entanglement" revolving around the concept and properties of entanglement in quantum physics and quantum fields theory.

A collaboration with Olaf Bender saw the presentation of the A/V show "Pilot" at 2017s LEV Festival in Gijon. After a collaboration with Toronto based painter Rui Pimenta which was selected for the 2010 25fps Festival in Zagreb, a series of works in Pimenta's Gallery as well as at Pimenta's initiated Art Spin events had Heckmann explore the possibilities of installation based art. Aside from a collection of fake information visualizations and a singular experiment in interactivity the presented work more and more dealt and deals on the intersection of analog / physical objects or spaces and generated graphics or controlled light with a focus on the light and its presence in space.

Performances - Selection

2023	Zeiss Planetarium, Berlin	Entanglement Dome
2023	SAT - Montreal	Entanglement Dome
2023	Ars Electronica - Deep Space	Entanglement for Deep Space
2022	Mutek JP edition 7, Tokyo, Japan	"Entanglement" with France Jobin
2022	Mutek MX edition 18, CDMX, Mexico	"Entanglement" with France Jobin
2022	Hellerau Hybrid Biennale, Dresden, Germany	"Entanglement" with France Jobin
2022	Göteborg Sound Art Sounds 2022, Sweden	"Entanglement" with France Jobin
2021	Mutek Edition 22, Montreal, Canada	"Entanglement" with France Jobin
	Berlin-Rome Express at Villa Massimo, Rome, Italy	visuals for KMRU and Alva Noto
	HYBRID - Cutting Edge Canada, Hellerau, Germany (online)	"Reclusion" with Matt Thibideau
2019	Prextce Festival, Seoul, Korea	"DUO" with France Jobin and Richard Chartier
	Mutek Edition 20, Montreal Canada	"DUO" with France Jobin and Richard Chartier
2018	Mutek AR, Buenos Aires, Argentina	"Reclusion" with Matt Thibideau
2017	LEV Festival, Gijón, Spain	"Pilot" with Olaf Bender

	Mutek Edition 18, Montreal, Canada	"Timbre" with Matt and Mark Thibideau
	Electric Campfire at Villa Massimo, Rome, Italy	visuals for Island People, Olaf Bender and Alva Noto
2016	FITC, Toronto, Canada	"Reclusion" with Matt Thibideau
2015	DayForNight, Houston, USA	"Reclusion" with Matt Thibideau
2014	Mutek Edition 15, Montreal, Canada	"Reclusion" with Matt Thibideau

Production XR

2023	Kontteijner festival	Entanglement XR with France Jobin
2023	Ars Electronica	Entanglement XR with France Jobin
2023	Sónar, Barcelona	Entanglement XR with France Jobin
2022	World Premiere - Mutek Montreal Esplanade Tranquille Aug 23-28.2022	Entanglement XR with France Jobin
	Mutek MX -	Entanglement XR with France Jobin
	Mutek JP -	Entanglement XR with France Jobin
	Beyond the Frame Festival- JP	Entanglement XR with France Jobin
	Immersive Tech Week - Rotterdam	Entanglement XR with France Jobin
	Magnetic Fields Festival, Inde	Entanglement XR with France Jobin

Installations

2008	Median Contemporary, Toronto, Canada	"Scanline" with Sherry Kennedy, real-time video
	Median Contemporary, Toronto, Canada	"Sea" real-time data visualization
2009	Median Contemporary, Toronto, Canada	"market" real-time data visualization
2010	Annual ArtSpin Exhibition, Toronto, Canada	"nulleinsfuenf" real-time data visualisation
2011	Annual ArtSpin Exhibition, Toronto, Canada	"regEx" mixed media, real-time video

2013	Annual ArtSpin Exhibition, Toronto, Canada	“kohärenz” site specific laser installation
2015	DayForNight Festival, Houston, USA	“transduktor” mixed media light object
2016	Tonlagen Festival, Hellerau, Germany	raster-noton 20: screen av-installation

Work for Artists

2021	france jobin	Entanglement
2019	francejobin - richard chartier	DUO
2018	robert henke	show programming for “from within...”
2015	carsten nicolai	installation programming for “unitape”
2014	carsten nicolai	installation programming for “unicolor”
2013	christopher bauder and robert henke	software design, execution and show programming for “grid”
2012	carsten nicolai	installation programming for “unidisplay”
2011	alva noto	show design and programming for “univrs”
2010	plastikman	show design and programming
2008	alva noto	show design and programming for “unitxt”
2006 - present	Derivative, Toronto, Canada	Technical Director

Markus Heckmann
Warschauer Str. 60 -
10243 Berlin Mobile:
+1 416 732 2844

markus@project1.net
<https://project1.net>