



Veronica Ranner, Polyphonic Futures (2014–heute)

„Collective Futuring on Silk and Body Interfaces“

A Polyphonic Futures Workshop with Veronica Ranner (Royal College of Art) in German language

In the context of Skin Close – the BIOTOPIA Fest

Saturday, 16. June 2018, 10 am – 9 pm, Schloss Nymphenburg, Munich/
Museum Mensch und Natur; Workshop from 12 am – 4 pm

free of charge, deadline for application is 8th June 2018

Reinventing and expanding the current Museum of Man and Nature at the spectacular site the Nymphenburg Palace in Munich, Germany, BIOTOPIA will aim to explore, question and reconfigure the relationship between humans and other living species - using a groundbreaking new concept that will lead the classical natural history museum into the future. In the context of the first BIOTOPIA Fest “Skin Close”, the designer and researcher **Veronica Ranner** will be hosting a **Polyphonic Futures workshop** that investigates design, biomaterials and body interfaces. The focus will be specifically on coupling the novel biomaterial ‘reverse engineered silk’ with digital technologies and its potential configurations.-

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Collective Futuring on Silk and Body Interfaces – a Polyphonic Futures Workshop

Traditional methods of crafting silk have barely changed in 5000 years, but recent explorations by scientists are uncovering extraordinary new potential uses for this material. Reverse engineered silk is one of the few biomaterials not rejected by the human body. Rather, able to be fully absorbed by human tissue, it allows for a range of applications within and interacting with the body, including human bone and tissue replacements, biosensors and biodegradable electronics opening the potential to imagine new wearables and implantables with a range of functions.

Taking the body as the first site for investigation we will consider it as an “assembly” that can be hacked, enhanced and patched into through using bio-digital materials. Activities will involve the handling of original laboratory biomaterials and other transient materials, combined with a narrative design process to collectively, constructively and critically speculate on silk's possible future use in the world.

Call for Participation

We invite participants (experts in their own field (m/w) – artists, designers, scientists, writers, technologists, academics, and activists, to join a half day-long workshop where they are introduced to ‘reverse engineered silk’, a biomaterial currently confined to laboratories.

The workshop is free of charge, but places are limited. For securing a place **we ask you to send a short bio and a few words about your motivation to participate** (max. 200 words) to the following address: info@polyphonicfutures.com

Minimum age for participation is 18 years.

No specialist knowledge needed for participation.

The workshop will be held in German language.

Date and time: 16th June 2018, 12 am – 4 pm

Place: Johannissaal, Schloss Nymphenburg in Munich, Germany

Deadline for application is 8th June 2018

Workshop Lead

Veronica Ranner is an artist and designer researching transdisciplinary interfaces between design, science and art. In her practice she develops speculative scenarios and experimental methods for constructive and collective imagining of futures. She exhibits and teaches worldwide –

currently she is undertaking a PhD at the Royal College of Art in London and is a visiting scientist at Tufts University in Boston (MA, USA).

veronicaranner.com , polyphonicfutures.com

Partner & Supporter

Polyphonic Futures is a project by designer Veronica Ranner (Royal College of Art, Creative Exchange Lab) in collaboration with Tufts University (Boston, MA), The Arts Catalyst (London) and Imperial College (London). The projekt has been funded by the British Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

The Creative Exchange is a national initiative that brings together the best creative and digital minds from leading universities with dynamic and entrepreneurial companies, to create innovative new digital products and services. The Creative Exchange has labs at the Royal College of Art in London, Newcastle University and Lancaster University; funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

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