

Youth Education Center at the State Hermitage
and CYLAND MediaArtLab
with the support of the North-West Branch of NCCA-ROSIZO
as part of the International media art festival CYFEST-12
present

Alessandro Sciaraffa. The Winner Symphony Multimedia installation

Youth Education Center at the State Hermitage
January 31 — February 3, 2019

On January 30th 2019, Alessandro Sciaraffa will be opening his first exhibition in Russia at the prestigious Hermitage Museum Youth Education Center in St Petersburg.

The Winter Symphony is a contemporary art installation within the Hermitage Museum, which explores the interaction between artificial intelligence and humans. Offering a new perspective on artificial intelligence, the stance of this installation is to provide a return to Nature through technology: the *invisibility of nature*.

The Winter Symphony will be composed of vibrant sculptures which mold the exhibition space into an immersive experience. Each visitor will be provided with the unique opportunity to interact with lights, shadows and sounds in a groundbreaking way. The fleeting gestures will set on impalpable shadows creating sculptures made of vibrations, placing the visitor in the midst of a sea of lights, shadows and sounds. Once again, Sciaraffa's foray into new technologies paves the way to his endless fascination and exploration of Nature. Technology and Nature at peace.

Born in 1976, Alessandro Sciaraffa is based in Turin. His work explores the relation between sculpture and sound, pushing each experience to its technological limit, creating new paths in order to bring together architecture, nature and music. His sound installations propel you into a multi-sensory experience.

After completing a degree in Architecture at the Turin Polytechnic, Alessandro Sciaraffa joined the Domus Academy. He participated in many seminars and workshops especially at Banna Spinola Contemporary Art Foundation and Karlheinz Stockhausen Foundation. He set up with Luca Congedo and Fabrizio Rosso the musical experimental group called WHYOFF.

Curated by Valentino Catricala (Italy), Sofia Kudryavtseva (State Hermitage)
Coordinated by Rodion Ataulin (State Hermitage)

The opening night will take place on January 30 (Wednesday) at 7 PM at the Youth Education Center at the State Hermitage at Dvortsovaya pl., 6-8. Entry by invitation or advanced registration.

The rest of the time the installation will be open to public from January 31 to February 3, 2019.

Viewing Hours: 1 PM to 5 PM.

Access to exhibition is from Dvortsovaya pl. (Palace Square) through the museum zone of General Staff Building; with tickets to the museum complex of General Staff Building.

Two lectures will be held as part of the project:

February 2, Saturday, 3 PM — "Symphony of Alessandro Sciaraffa"

Alessandro Sciaraffa and Valentino Catricala will participate in the lecture.

The project's curator Valentino Catricala will talk about the interaction of art and technology in sound art and analyze Alessandro Sciaraffa's projects from the point of view of contemporary Italian art context. Then he, together with Alessandro Sciaraffa, will talk about the artist's previous projects.

February 3, Sunday, 3 PM — "Experimental Application of Algorithms of Artificial Intelligence and its Potential in Contemporary Art"

Participants of the art duo "Endless Attractions Museum" (Yekaterinburg).

Anastasia Krokholeva and Denis Perevalov will talk about possible methods of experimenting with modern algorithms of artificial intelligence and their use in contemporary art:

1. To choose a base, simple algorithm and study the ways of its development;
2. To get armed with an "advanced" API in the field of analysis and data transformation, to check out what it is capable of, to understand the current limit of its capabilities and to surpass it;
3. To take a newest, not yet completed study and to do a project based on their current outcome;
4. To do a project that uses the unexplored fields of AI.

Free admission to the lectures by advanced registration.

CYLAND is a nonprofit organization founded in 2007 in St. Petersburg by independent artists and curators. For over 10 years, Cyland has been dedicated to supporting the production of and exhibiting New Media Art both on the Russian and international art scene. We are promoting the emergence of new forms of art and high technology interactions, developing professional connections between artists, curators, engineers and programmers around the world and exposing wide audiences to the works in the field of robotics, video art, sound art and net art. Emerging and established, local or international – selected artists are provided resources from technicians to equipment and professional development. Over 12 years CYLAND organizes The International media art festival CYFEST. 12th CYFEST:ID will hold in November 2019.

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Youth Education Center at the State Hermitage is the new museum environment for the

creation of experimental educational and cultural programmes. The Youth Educational Center designs the unique programmes including the masterclasses by the famous figures of art and culture, the series of lectures on the history and theory of art and many more.
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The Winter Symphony was made possible by the support on the Art residence NCCA-ROSIZO in Kronstadt. Founded in 1995, the The North-Western Branch of NCCA offers an opportunity for national and international artists in order to strengthen international relations in the field of culture and art, to promote contemporary art in Russia and to support contemporary art projects.

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