

Dark Matter: when art met science

Creative collisions on the DESY campus

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HELMHOLTZ SPITZENFORSCHUNG FÜR GROSSE HERAUSFORDERUNGEN



ART

MEETS

13.10.–09.11.17

dark matter

SCIENCE

DESY, Notkestraße 85, Hamburg
desy.de/artmeetsscience



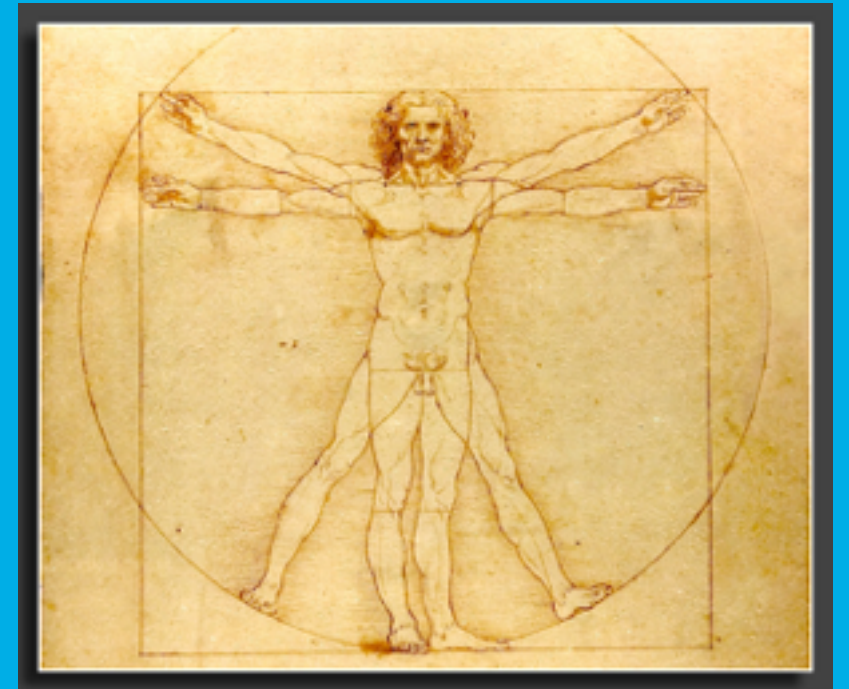
The vision

Art and Science: essential for our democratic culture and our freedom

- Many similarities: historically unified; still today: what are we exactly looking for?, experimental methods to perform research, ...
- How can we get to close interaction and communication to profit from each other?

- DESY's first art-meets-science project
- 15 artists, 10 scientists
- Topical artwork presented in a working laboratory
- one month

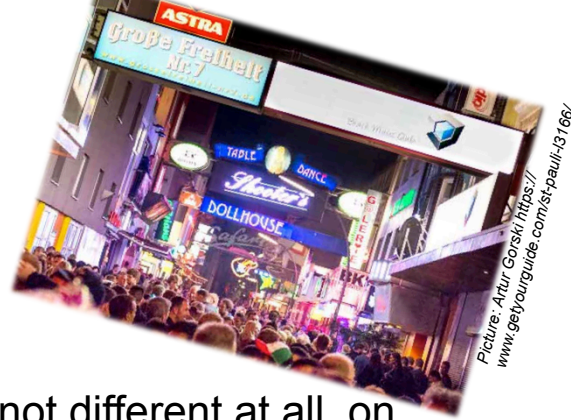
→ artmeetsscience.desy.de



Leonardo da Vinci, The Vitruvian Man

The idea

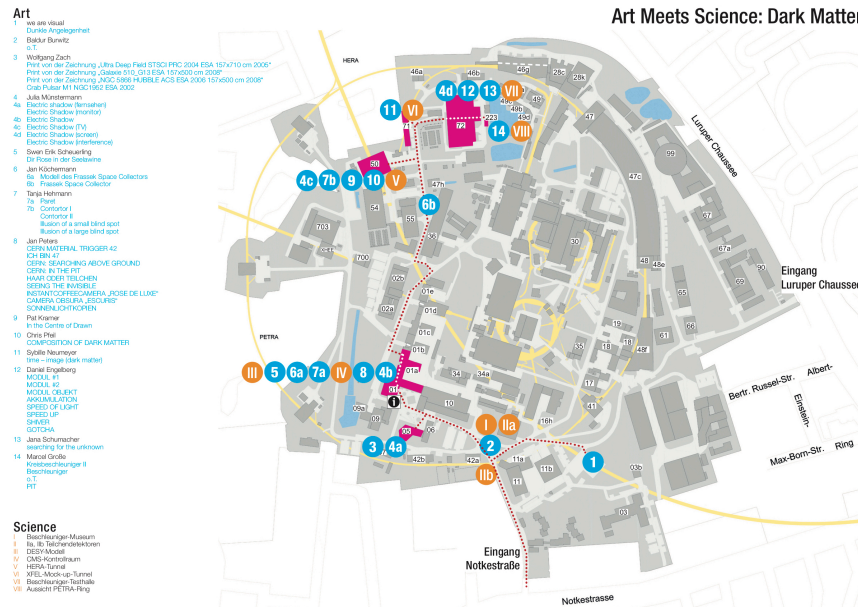
- A party in Hamburg
- One artist, one scientist...
- A brilliant idea: art and science are not different at all, on the contrary – let's explore the similarities:
- Scientists and artists have similar approaches and methods to their work, searching for something not knowing exactly for what
- Dark matter is a particularly striking example



Picture: Artur Gorski <https://www.geyounguide.com/st-pauli-13/166/>

The idea – develops

- Initiators contact DESY PR; a project is born
- DESY PR decides to carry out the project as a test for a potential art-meets-science programme at DESY to conquer new target audiences
- DESY is chosen as location: attractive for artists, attractive for new target audience
- The project is designed to truly bring art and science into collision
- Official ok in May 2017
- Next steps:
 - Contact a variety of artists
 - Scan possible locations on campus
 - Check how to keep visitors safe
 - Make sure visitors don't get lost
 - Find suitable partners
 - Organise kick-off meeting
 - Ensure balance between art and science



Who are the artists?

15 artists from all over Germany

Baldur Burwitz, Interventionen, Hamburg;

Marc Einsiedel und Felix Jung, we are visual, Installation, Hamburg;

Daniel Engelberg, Malerei, Objekte und Installation, München;

Marcel Große, Installation, Hamburg;

Tanja Hehmann, Malerei, Hamburg;

Jan Köchermann, begehbare Skulpturen, Hamburg;

Pat Kramer, Licht und Skulptur/Installation, Forbach

Julia Münstermann, Malerei, Berlin;

Sybille Neumeyer, Installation, Video, Berlin;

Prof. Jan Peters, Fotografie und Film, Kassel und Berlin;

Chris Pfeil, Sound Designer, Klanginstallation, Köln;

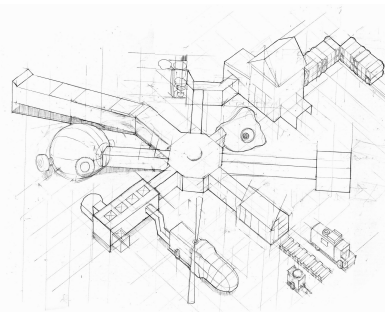
Swen-Erik Scheuerling, kinetische Objekte und Installation, Berlin;

Jana Schumacher, Grafik, Installation, Hamburg;

Wolfgang Zach, Computergrafiken, Bremen;

Kurzfilmprogramm der Kurzfilmagentur Hamburg

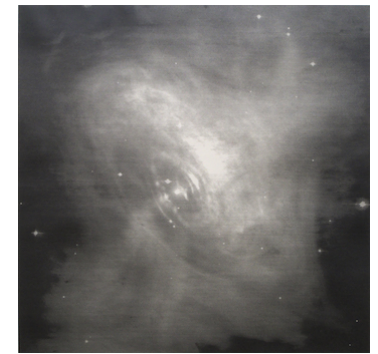
Baldur Burwitz,
Applause



Jan Köchermann,
Tunnelsystem 2



Swen Erik Scheuerling, *Dir Rose in der Seelawine*



Wolfgang Zach, *Crab Pulsar M1 NGC1952 ESA 2002"*
Pat Kramer, *Prozess zu „Dark Matter“*



Julia Münstermann, *Electric Shadow*



Marcel Große, *Teilchenbeschleuniger*

Cooperation partners

Hamburger Kreativ Gesellschaft

Hamburger Kreativ Gesellschaft cooperation partner for the project: “a municipal institution founded to promote Hamburg’s creative industries”

- Thematic cooperation, documentation of “dark matter” trough EU EFRE project
- Financial support
- Future cooperation planned
- <http://kreativgesellschaft.org>

KurzFilm Agentur Hamburg

- Series of short films called “dark matters” shown on Dark Matter Day and DESY Open Day
- <http://agentur.shortfilm.com>

Renowned art scientist **Belinda Grace Gardner** gave introductory talk putting the project in context with the history of art an science

All images by architecture photography expert **Helge Mundt** who followed the project from the kick-off



Hamburg Kreativ Gesellschaft



EUROPÄISCHE UNION

Europäischer Fonds für regionale Entwicklung



**KURZ FILM AGENTUR
HAMBURG**



DON'T BE
AFRAID OF
THE DARK

The creative phase – hurdles

How can we get our science across?



Can we hang huge canvases on tunnel shaft walls?

Where do we find a location at DESY that has enough wall space for all the two-dimensional artworks?

What training do the artists need in order to be able to work in halls with cryogenics or other restrictions?

Art meets Science coincides with the DESY Open Day with 20000 expected visitors. How do we make sure the science exhibits and the art exhibits both have enough space?

How do we take visitors to the HERA tunnel? It features a sound installation but access is restricted.



How do visitors find their way to the art that is scattered over various buildings on campus?



Where do we get the money from?

How do we reach the art crowd? And will they come?

How do we reimburse artists for their material costs?



Is it okay to stage a collision between two cars on the DESY roundabout?



Do we have a crane that can arrange shielding blocks into a safe walk-in construction?

The Kick-Off, April 2017

Vital statistics: 2 days, 11 artists, 10 scientists, 18 talks, a lot of coffee...

Theory

Scientists presented the basics of dark matter:

- Why do we know it must be there?
- What could it be?
- How do we look for it?
- Why is it important?

Practice

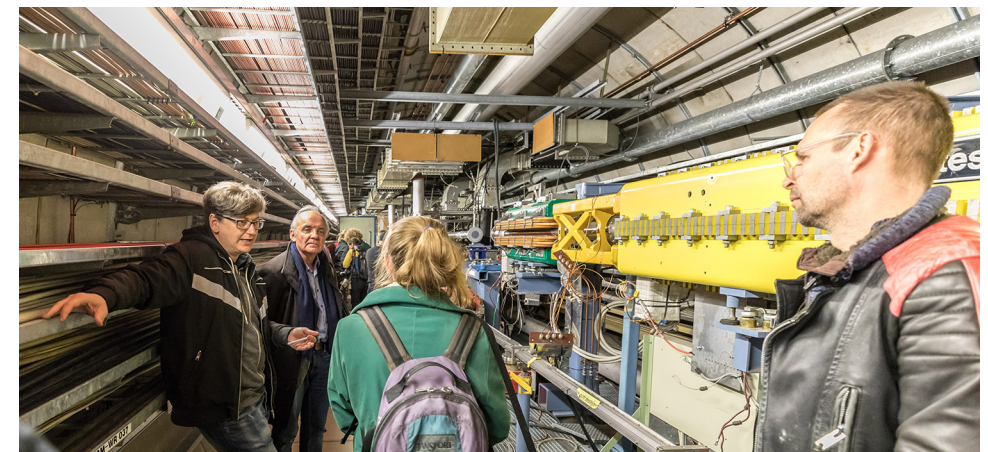
Artists presented their previous work and initial ideas for art-meets-science art

First discussions about content and practicability

Tourism

DESY site visit for information and location-scouting

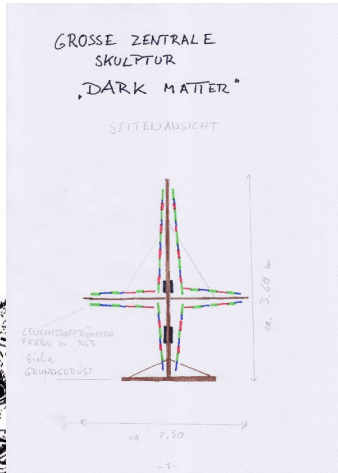
Agenda: <https://indico.desy.de/indico/event/17495/>



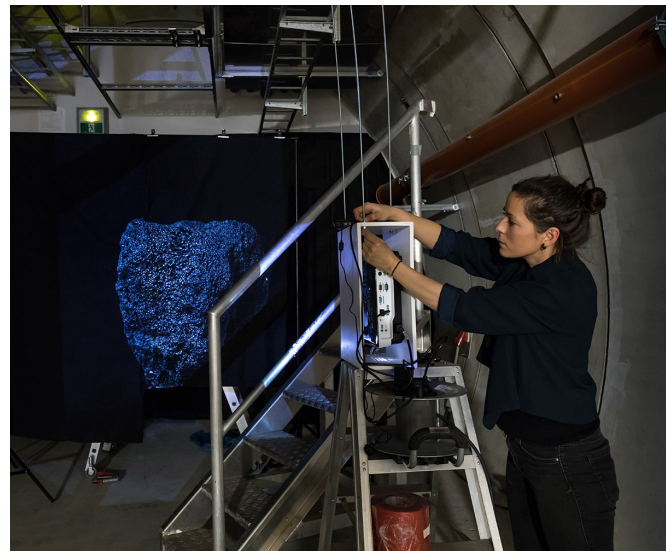
The creative phase – impressions



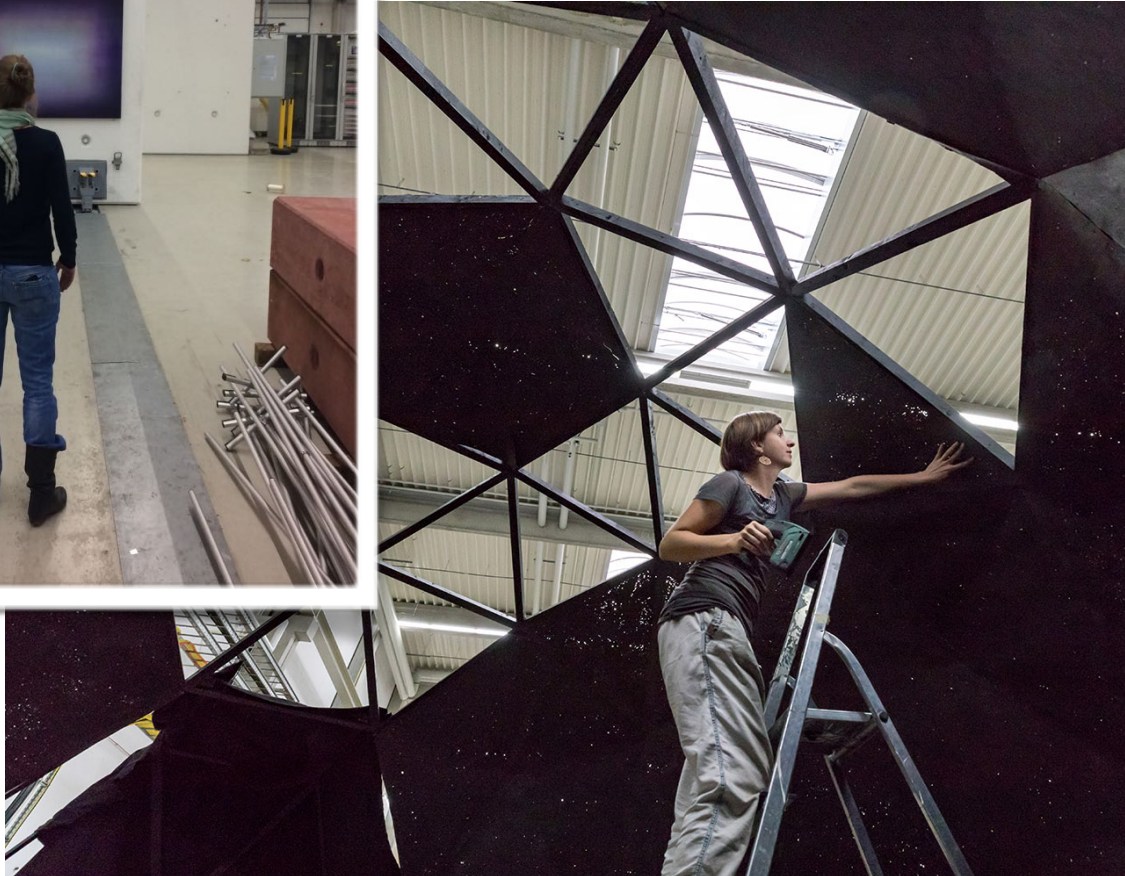
Tanja Hehmann in her studio;
sketches by Baldur Burwitz and Pat
Kramer



Setting up – impressions



Setting up – impressions



The collision

Science and art are everything but worlds apart

What we learned during the process:

Scientists and artists have very similar approaches to their work:

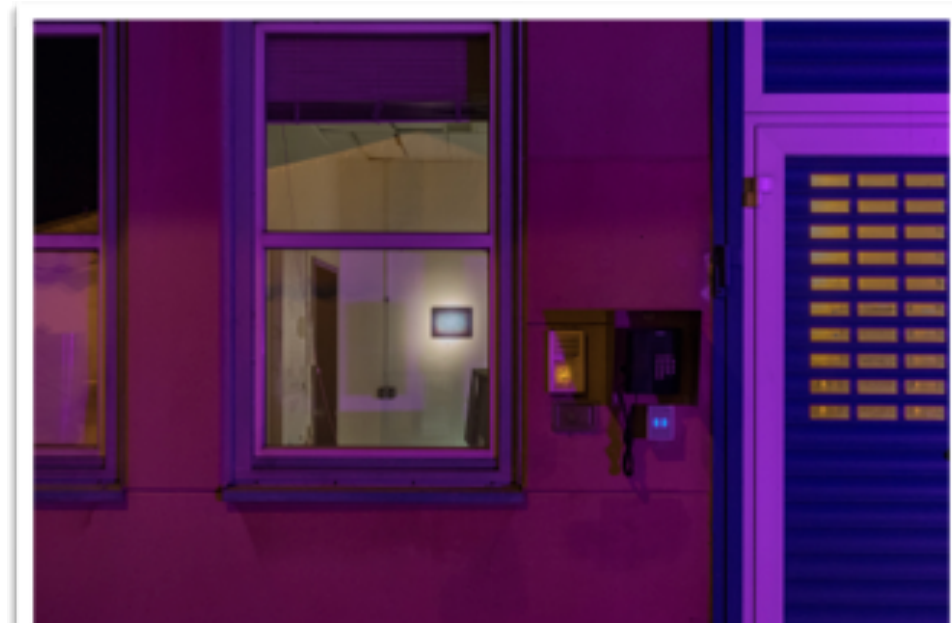
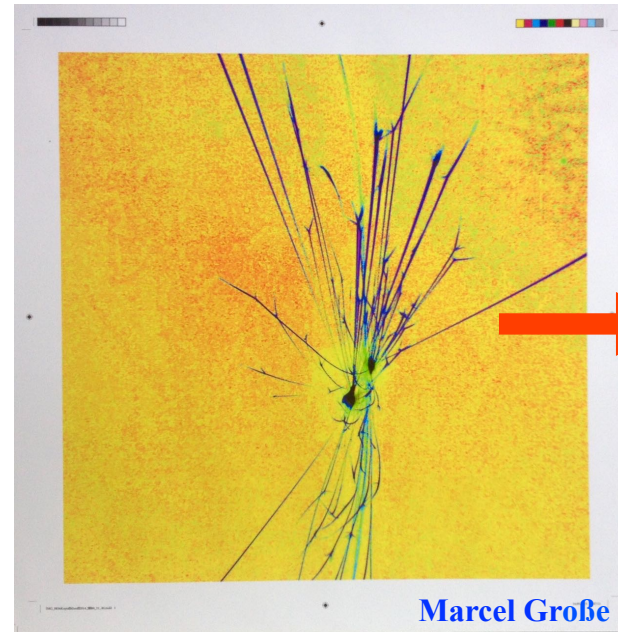
- unbiased
- flexible
- driven by curiosity
- limited by technology
- inventive

Main challenge was to find a common language

How can science inspire art?

How can art inspire science?
Can art become part of science?

We are still digesting the results.



The exhibition

Dates: 1 Month from 13 October to 9 November

| | |
|--|---------------|
| 13 October: Vernissage | 500 |
| 18 October: Lecture Performance and Visit | 250 |
| 25 October: Lecture, Discussion and Visit | 350 |
| 31 October: Dark Matter Day | 500 |
| 4 November: DESY open day | 20 000 |
| 8 November: Lecture, Discussion and Visit | 300 |
| 9 November: Finissage | 200 |

70-80 % of visitors had never set foot on the DESY campus before!

The exhibition - impressions

Scientific programme | Guided tours, talks, short films



The Centrifuge Brain Project – by Till Nowak



Quelle: You Tube, Till Nowak – The Centrifuge Brain Project

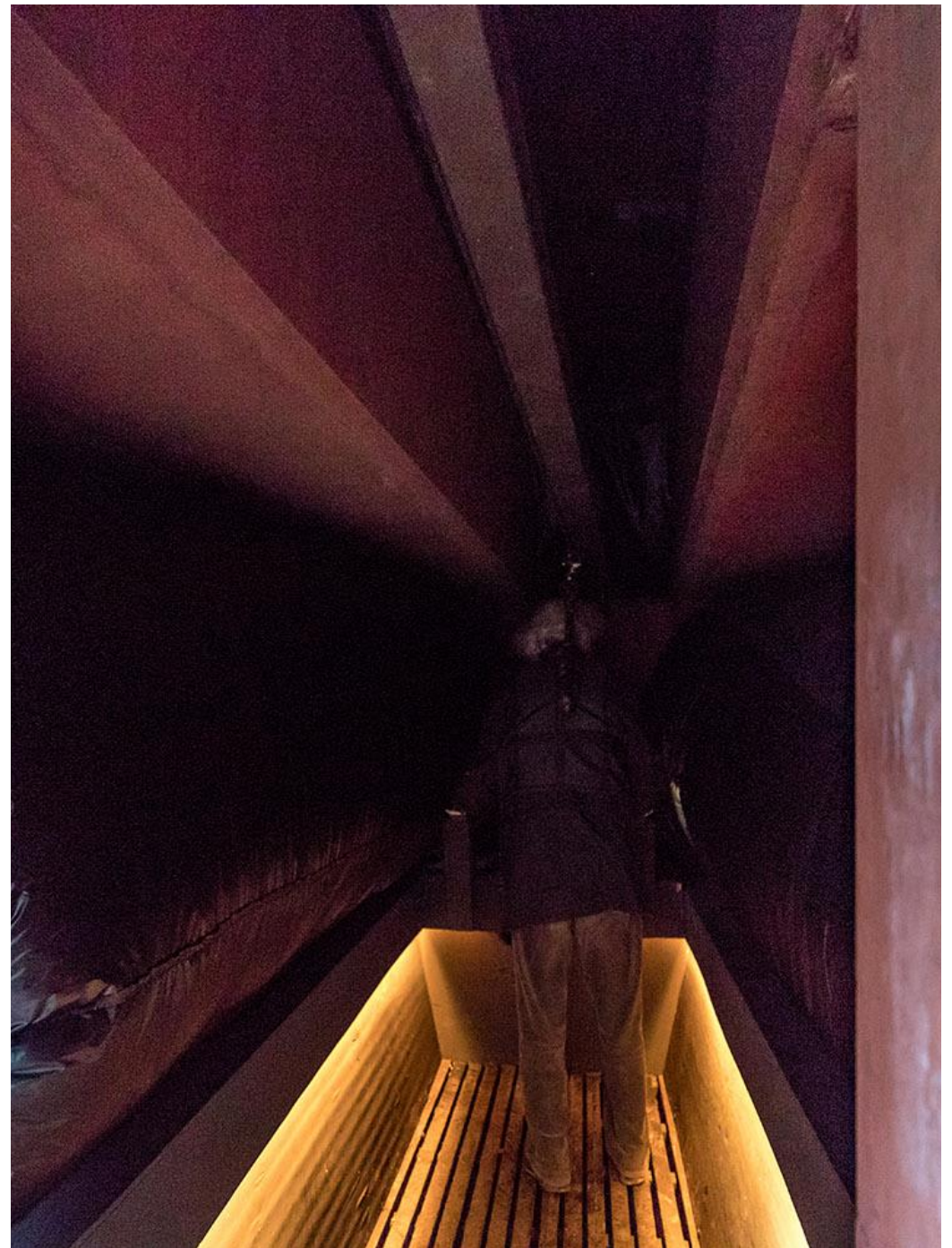
Dark Matter

The exhibition: impressions



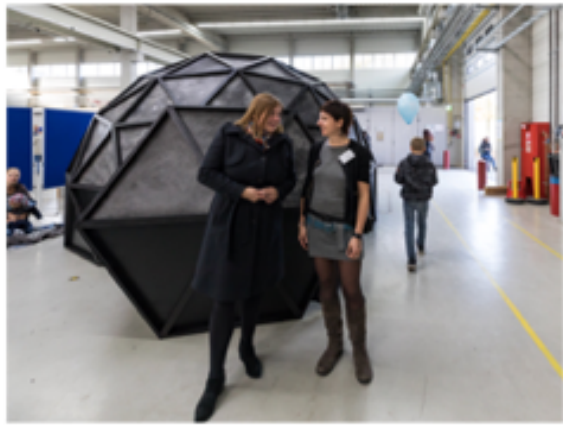
Dark Matter

The exhibition: impressions



Dark Matter

The exhibition: impressions



Dark Matter

The exhibition: impressions



Dark Matter

The exhibition: impressions



Dark Matter

The exhibition: impressions



Dark Matter

Science places and artworks were sometimes hard to distinguish



Response

Media interest for the exhibition was high, also interest from politics

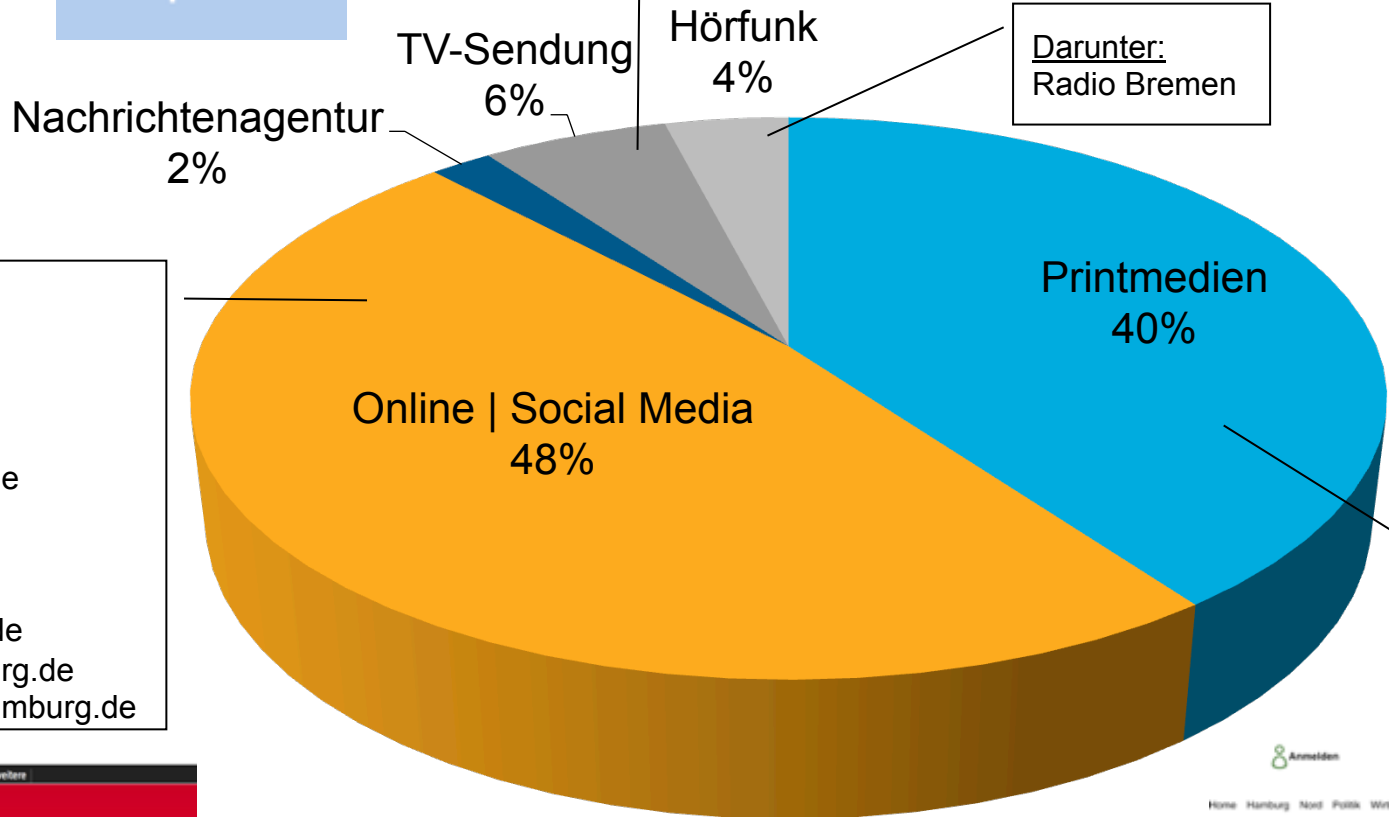


Media response Dark Matter

Berichterstattung | gesamt: 50 Beiträge



Darunter:
NDR, Hamburg Journal



Darunter:
Radio Bremen

Darunter:
spiegelonline
welt.de
hamburg.de
abendblatt.de
Szene-hamburg.de
mopo.de
taz.de
hamburg.de
heuteinhamburg.de
gemeintipp-hamburg.de
Goethe-institut-hamburg.de

- FAZIT:**
- DESY konnte durch das Kunstprojekt neue Interessensgruppen für seine Forschungsinhalte begeistern.
 - DESY erreichte durch die Ausstellung überregionale Aufmerksamkeit und positive Berichterstattung über die Fachpresse hinaus.
 - Projekt lebt fort in vielen Kunstaussstellungen

Darunter:
Die Welt
TAZ
Mopo
Hamburger Abendblatt



Kunst im Teilchenbeschleuniger
Neues Licht ins Dunkel
Im Hamburger Forschungsinstitut Desy trifft Kunst auf Wissenschaft. Dabei wird deutlich, wie nahe sich beide sind.



Outlook

More art will meet more science



The pilot project was very successful. DESY will build on this success:

- DESY is working on a concept for a sustainable art-meets-science project
 - Several ideas for follow-up projects already in the pipeline: theater (Schauspielhaus Hamburg), music (Deichkind), etc.
 - Collaboration with CERN
 - Art exhibitions outside DESY
 - ... and more

- Project of Excellence Cluster with University of Hamburg
 - Broader science topics
 - Open Call for new artists
 - Board of curators to be founded
 - Pairing of artists and scientists
 - Artists in residence
 - DESY started its own art collection
 - ... and more



more to come soon!!

Backup: Video

Documentation video by Kreativ Gesellschaft



Hamburg Kreativ Gesellschaft



<https://vimeo.com/247946339>