



© Nye Thompson and UBERMORGEN, *UNINVITED*, still, 2018.

GAZELL.iO x The Lumen Prize

UNINVITED

Exhibition: 19th November 2021 — 29th January, 2022

GAZELL.iO is proud to announce our official partnership with The Lumen Prize commemorating the 10 year anniversary of both Gazelli Art House, the founding entity of GAZELL.iO, and the 10 year anniversary of the Lumen Prize. From November 18th 2021, GAZELL.iO's newly refurbished Project Space, will be exhibiting Gold Winner, Nye Thompson and UBERMORGEN's (lizvix and Hans Bernhard) AI horror film, *UNINVITED*. The exhibition will be accompanied by events at the gallery.

UNINVITED is a horror film for machine networks and human-machine organisms exploring the nature of perception and realism of the unknown and the terror of angst and exhaustion within emergent network consciousness. This generative work (2018–ongoing) is a self-evolving networked organism watching and generating a recursive 'horror film' scenario using mechatronic Monsters - digital flesh running machine learning algorithms. The work is described by the artists as a radically new creature looking at the world, hearing the universe through millions of hallucinogenic virally-abused sensors and creating a hybrid nervous system.

Jury Panel member Boris Magrini, curator for HeK Basel, comments: "This absurd and grotesque work is successful in that it exaggerates the darker aspects of new technologies such as surveillance cameras and artificial intelligence. By creating a programme that makes (...) a film through the analysis of recordings made by CCTV, especially a film not intended for a human audience, the artists actually put their finger on the horror of the surveillance society."

“We are so pleased to be partnering with The Lumen Prize for their 10 year anniversary this year. We commend their long-standing dedication to the legitimacy and visibility of digital and mixed-media arts. Many GAZELL.io artists have had the honour of receiving a Lumen Prize, giving this partnership a strong resonance for GAZELL.io and Gazelli Art House. We are honoured to be exhibiting talented artists Nye Thompson and artist duo UBERMORGEN, welcoming them to our programme”, says Mila Askarova, director and founder of Gazelli Art House and GAZELL.io.

About the Artists

Nye Thompson is an artist turned software designer turned artist. She is known for her experimental software architectures exploring network-embedded power dynamics and machinic visions of the world. Following a Fine Art degree at YBA-era Goldsmiths, Thompson took a sideways step to immerse herself in the newly-created World Wide Web. She spent the next two decades designing software, focused on the human-machine interface and big data analytics. In 2012 she returned to art college to do an MA, subsequently quitting her corporate software career to become an artist. Thompson is based in the UK and operates between London and mid-Wales. She initially came to public attention in 2016 with her first solo show *Backdoored.io*, an exploration of the secret life of security cameras and the global phenomenon of self-surveillance. The exhibition – described by C4 News as “too shocking to broadcast” – became global clickbait and triggered an international government complaint. Since then, Thompson has exhibited around the UK, Europe and the Far East, including Tate Modern, The Barbican, The Louvre, The V&A, ZKM Karlsruhe, Ars Electronica and The Lowry. Thompson was the recipient of the Lumen Prize Gold Award 2021 for her short film *UNINVITED*, made in collaboration with UBERMORGEN. Her work has been featured on BBC, C4, CNN Hong Kong, the Guardian and Wired, and she was guest presenter on BBC Radio 4’s ‘The Art of Now: Surveillance’. V&A Museum National Collection, international and UK private collections.

UBERMOGEN (‘the day after tomorrow’, CH/AT/US, *1995) is an artist duo, a synthesis of autistic actionist *lizvlx* & pragmatic visionary Hans Bernhard. They are net.art pioneers, ‘Media Hackers’ widely recognised for their Online Actionism, Haute Couture NFTs & Websites, Polarising Social Experiments, Deep/Radical Research, Binary Primitivism & Conceptual Art. CNN called them ‘Maverick Austrian Business People’ during their Vote-Auction project, reaching 500 million worldwide & challenging the FBI, CIA, & NSA (US presidential election 2000). A series of conceptual hacks (EKMRZ Trilogy, 2005-08) shook the foundations of the dominating e-commerce giants: ‘Google Will Eat Itself’, ‘Amazon Noir’, & ‘The Sound of eBay’. In 2021, ‘The Next Biennial Should be Curated by a Machine’ used AI-TikTokPop to catapult visitors into 64 twisted parallel universes. Today *UNINVITED* AI Horror ≈ Crypto/NFTs collide to create deeply nostalgic synthetic organisms. Main exhibitions include: Liverpool Biennial, Whitney Museum, MoMA PS1, Centre Pompidou, Gwangju Biennale, Louvre Paris, Biennale of Sydney, SFMOMA, MOCA Taipei, ICA Miami, Serpentine Galleries, Kunsthall Aarhus, Chronus Shanghai, Museo Reina Sofia, New Museum, Somerset House, Haifa Museum of Art, Wei-Ling Kuala Lumpur, HKW Berlin, ZKM, National Art Gallery Sofia, Ars Electronica, MoMA Ljubljana, ArtScience Singapore, 3331 Tokyo, WRO Media Art Biennale, Prague Biennale, ICC Tokyo.



About Lumen Prize

The Lumen Prize celebrates the very best art created with technology through a global competition. Since its launch in 2012, it has given away more than US \$80,000 in prize money and created opportunities worldwide for the artists who have been longlisted, shortlisted or won Lumen Awards. Lumen is run by Lumen Art Projects, an independent arts organisation based in Wales, UK which curates exhibitions, commissions and events for art venues, cultural institutions and public spaces globally in partnership with its community of Lumen artists.

About GAZELL.iO

GAZELL.iO is the digital arm of Gazelli Art House, comprising an online Residency programme, NFT drops and collaborations, a dedicated Project Space holding monthly exhibitions, and a permanently installed VR Library — all in the heart of Mayfair. Since 2015, GAZELL.iO Residency has offered a unique insight into the environments of some of the most recognised and upcoming VR, AR, and digital artists. The four-week online Residency allows artists to take creative control, enabling them to showcase their artistic journey and interact with new and existing audiences directly. In 2020, the Project Space was launched to allow artists to showcase their digital artworks in a physical space. By bridging the gap between the digital and physical, NFT drops are shared in conjunction with the subsequent Project Space exhibition or artist Residency. GAZELL.iO aims to bring digital art pioneers and a new generation of artists to a broader audience through its dynamic exhibition and educational programme.

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