EPFL CDH ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM LAUSANNE

# ENTER THE HYPER-SCIENTIFIC

# SARAH OPPENHEIMER

## 18.1.—18.2. 2024

# N-03X67

*N-03X67* is a pneumatic network by artist Sarah Oppenheimer that encourages human interaction with EPFL Pavilions' glass structure. Please touch.

Buildings are intelligent systems. Like living cells, their boundaries mediate flow. *N-03X67 i*s a dynamic network intertwined within this existing metabolic relay. Sited along EPFL Pavilions' glass façade, seven elongated pneumatic instruments subdivide the glass wall. Interwoven within and between façade mullions, networked pathways are set in motion by human touch. An architectural array tips and turns in response to human action: sliding a horizontal bar tilts its vertical counterpart. Operating at atmospheric pressure and activated by touch, human energy extends across architectural space.

Linked by air, *N-03X67* is a pneumatic network composed of actuators, cylinders, valves, and dampers. Its kinetic permutations were generated in collaboration with the Laboratory of Intelligent Systems at EPFL. Informed by the laboratory's research on neural networks and learning algorithms, computer code was developed to optimize routing between actuating instruments. A complex Boolean logic mediates analogue flow. Sliding an instrument directs air along a set of circulatory pathways, creating loops of cause and effect.

*N-03X67* embodies the material potential in an energetic circuit. As flow is routed and re-routed, new sensory encounters emerge. An intimate, tactile energy radiates from building to body to machine, blurring the boundaries between viewer and actor, human and mechanism, interior and exterior, public and private.

Sarah Oppenheimer is an architectural manipulator. Oppenheimer creates circulatory pathways that establish unexpected kinesthetic and visual relays between bodies and buildings. Gestural manipulation of interwoven instruments alters the contours of surrounding architecture. Rhythms and timescales of living systems flow from body to building and back again. The viewer is transformed into an agent of spatial change.

Oppenheimer's recent solo exhibitions include *Sensitive Machine* (Wellin Museum of Art, USA 2021), *N-01* (Kunstmuseum Thun, Switzerland 2020), *S-337473* (Mass MoCA, USA 2019), *S-337473* (Wexner Center for the Arts, USA 2017), *S-281913* (Pérez Art Museum Miami, USA 2016), *S-399390* (MUDAM Luxembourg 2016) and *33-D* (Kunsthaus Baselland, Switzerland 2014). Oppenheimer's work has also been exhibited at ZKM Karlsruhe, the Baltimore Museum, the Andy Warhol Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Art Unlimited at Art Basel, the Mattress Factory, the Drawing Center, and the Sculpture Center.

▶ sarahoppenheimer.com

Commissioned and produced in the framework of EPFL – CDH Artist in Residence Program 2023, Enter the Hyper-Scientific.
Curator: Giulia Bini
Partners: EPFL Laboratory of Intelligent Systems (LIS), Prof. Dario Floreano and Simon Jeger PhD
EPFL Laboratory of Integrated Performance in Design (LIPID), Prof. Marilyne Andersen
Acknowledgments: Michèle Jaccoud Ramseier, Administrative Assistant LIS, Yvonne Buehl-Brauc, Administrative Assistant LIPID. Thanks to EPFL teams at ATMX, AFA and SKIL and Frédéric Tesse.
Graphic design and Identity: Jakob Kirch (Lamm & Kirch)
GTM Technique Montage
Chiara Pezzetta and Austin Jarvis
Thanks to EPFL Pavilions team.
With the kind support of sedak GmbH & Co. KG.

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Initiated by the EPFL College of Humanities (CDH), amplified by EPFL Pavilions, and in partnership with the City of Lausanne, the EPFL – CDH Artist-in-Residence (AiR) Program Enter the Hyper-Scientific reflects the CDH mission of fostering transdisciplinary encounters and collaborations between artists and EPFL's scientific community. The program invites professional Swiss and international artists for three-month residencies to realize innovative and visionary projects at the intersection of art, science, and advanced technologies.

Curator & Head of Program: Giulia Bini
Program Administrative Assistant: Christine Farget
Program Assistant – Communication and Production: Lucie Ryser

## EPFL PAVILIONS

Pavilion A

PLACE COSANDEY
1015 LAUSANNE

TUESDAY-SUNDAY
11AM-6PM

EPFL ■ College of Humanities

EPFL Pavilions Amplifier for Art, Science and Society Lausanne

Ville de Lausanne