



Nxt Museum  
Amsterdam Noord

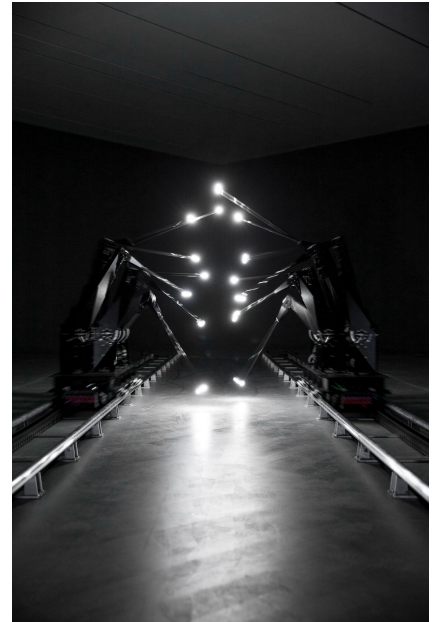
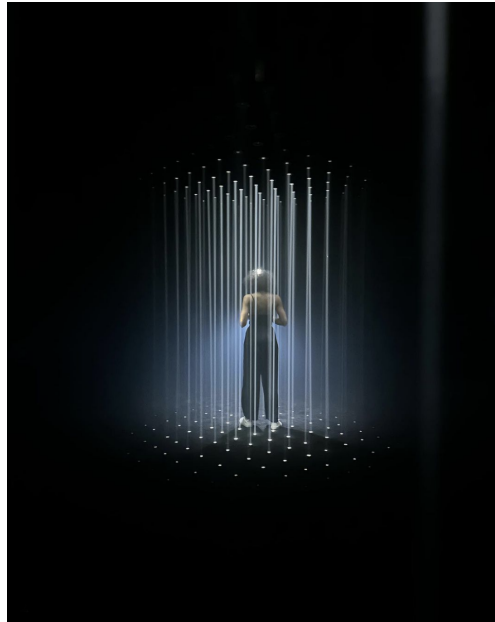
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# Nxt Museum Amsterdam presents Random International: *Life in a Different Resolution* | Opening 27th September 2023

**Press Preview Days:** 25-26 September  
**Public Opening:** 27 September  
Nxt Museum Amsterdam, Asterweg 22, 1031 HP Amsterdam

Amsterdam's **Nxt Museum** will host British-based art collective **Random International: *Life in a Different Resolution*** - a retrospective looking back on two decades of their remarkable creations. Including the first-ever European presentation of Random International's monumental **Living Room** in addition to other newly completed works, this will be Nxt Museum's first ever solo exhibition and is curated by **Bogomir Doring**.

A public programme will feature performances by renowned dancer and choreographer **Sedrig Verwoert** and commissioned musical compositions created by **Mamiko Motto** as a means to explore the projects through the interactive mental and physical experiences that each work provokes.



**Left:** *Fifteen Points* by Random International Photography by Esteban Schunemann **Right:** ©RANDOM INTERNATIONAL Unique still from *Life in Our Minds / Motherflock*

The title ***Life in A Different Resolution*** stems from a series of informal dinners hosted by Random International in 2011. With guests coming from a range of fields from navigation, animation to psychology, the aim was to cultivate knowledge-sharing via a series of existential questions, spanning the nature of behaviour to the future of humanity. This project gave rise to a new methodology for the studio as a whole, with each meeting shaping the conceptual course of future works.

Each artwork in Random International: *Life in a Different Resolution* is a living study, translating complex ideas into immersive experiences and encouraging deep thinking on human consciousness. Nxt Museum will open up the craftsmanship and intellectual and contextual backgrounds to these seminal works, allowing a deeper understanding of Random International's vision and endeavour.



Left: *Our Future Selves PC*, Random International Right: *15 Points* by Random International

In addition to sculptures and studies from across their oeuvre - and marking the first time that Nxt Museum highlights an artists' entire career within an exhibition - highlights from *Life in a Different Resolution* include:

***Living Room***: first shown during Art Basel Miami last year in the studio's inaugural collaboration with Aorist, is a monumental artwork that explores the idea of space as a living being. Visitors are invited to enter a fluctuating architectural domain, which is itself a sentient organism embodied in light and fog interacting with those who inhabit it. Continually altering its form in response to visitors in varying and unpredictable ways, *Living Room* creates a living labyrinth in real time and in real space, a machine that allows us to choreograph a precise dynamic and sentient architecture around the audiences. The aim is to create a living space, accompanied by the sounds of the composer Signe Lykke, that invites to instinctively connect with fellow visitors and the environment. The installation marks an evolution from Random International's famous *Rain Room* (2012), an immersive artwork of perpetually falling water that pauses wherever a human body is detected;

Random International presents a virtual flock of paper-like 'bird-oid objects as an exploration of digital collectibles and Blockchain technology titled ***Life in Our Minds: Motherflock***. This newly created work is an interactive sculpture immersing the visitor within the flock: the sculpture casts a digital shadow, prompting a real-time response, establishing an interplay between the digital and physical realms, thus pioneering a method for communal ownership of public art that bridges the gap between the two worlds. The installation will be accompanied by the music of the composer Masahiro Hiramoto;

***Fifteen Points***: an artwork developed, tested and prototyped during a research residency at Harvard's Biomimetic Robotics Division. Random International represents the form of a walking figure using rail-mounted robotic arms, each of which holds a point of light. . The moving sculpture explores the brain's ability to decipher identity from only minimal data, as the human-like figure emerges from its mechanical apparatus. The installation will be accompanied by the music of the composer Chihei Hatakeyama;

Throughout the exhibition the lines between human and artificial intelligence are deliberately blurred, whilst the merging of physical and digital realms reflect various contemporary anxieties. The exhibition asks: what makes us recognise something as sentient – capable of feeling or perceiving – regardless of whether it is? And why do we find human-like consciousness where rational thinking reveals its very absence?

The **Public Programme**, developed to run in line with the exhibition, will focus on giving a platform to trailblazing talents: Mamiko Motto – currently in residence at Wiels in Brussels – is a composer, sound artist and music director from Lithuania achieving worldwide recognition. She has been commissioned to produce the sound for different spaces and rooms for this exhibition.

For the opening evening, there will be two performances choreographed by Sedrig Verwoert, a prominent dancer and guest choreographer of the Dutch National Ballet. The evening will be accompanied by a DJ set by Mamiko Motto.

Quotes:

*“For what will be our third exhibition, we decided to delve deep into the body of work and thinking of one art group. The artworks of Random International are creative, collective dances between the audience and technology; they create stories in our minds about what it means to be human and alive and together. How do we stand before technological challenges such as AI that excite and scare us? For this exhibition, they have created a stage for immersive, large-scale installations and contributed to developing new media art. Random International’s work has inspired many, and in fast-moving times, it is essential to recognise their importance to what is happening today in creative arts and our lives upgraded by new technology.”*

— **Bogomir Doringer, Curator**

*“The curatorial dialogue leading to this comprehensive exhibition mirrored our creation process for many of the works shown, and working with Bogomir (Doringer) and the Nxt team over the past year has felt both organic and energising. This process encouraged us to weave together some major dramaturgic threads that had previously been somewhat discrete, allowing us to foreground new angles on what we had thought to be familiar. The show’s long-duration format enabled experimentation, co-creation, and instinctive engagement to become more than topics nested within the exhibition’s core, and instead develop their own ongoing dynamics together with audiences and collaborators. In short: the exhibition represents the studio’s current perspective on how we live today and how we look at all our lives in different resolutions.”*

— **Random International**

*“We’re beyond excited to be featuring Random International’s brilliant body of work spanning 20 years of research and craftsmanship all in one place in Amsterdam Noord. For the third time, since the launch of Nxt Museum in summer 2020, our ‘black box’ will be completely reimaged. This time around by Random International, Bogomir Doringer, Ivo Jellinek with the support of our team and partners. New art, tech & sound will bring our visitors to new dimensions of exploration, emotion and education.”*

— **Merel Van Helsdingen, Founder Nxt Museum**

### **Nxt Museum and Samsung Electronics Benelux**

For the third year in a row, Samsung Electronics and Nxt Museum are coming together to ignite curiosity, fuel creativity and educate through art and technology. Samsung is committed to supporting the arts and will dive deeper into the theme of exploration with Nxt Museum whilst visitors can explore the exhibition supported with the latest Samsung hardware.

*“Innovation is the core of our brand and we’re so excited to contribute to these new forms of art through technology. It shows once again that possibilities remain endless as long as you have the right mindset and #DoWhatYouCant.”*

— **Gerben van Walt Meijer, Marketing Manager Mobile eXperiences Samsung Netherlands**

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### **About Random International**

Established in 2005, Random International is a postdigital art group exploring the impact of technological development on the human condition. Best known for their large-scale interactive installations, the group works across an array of media including sculpture, light, kinetics, video, print, and sound. Led by founders Hannes Koch (b.1975, Germany) and Florian Ortkrass (b.1975, Germany), the group has a studio in London and comprises a global team of complimentary talent.

Experimental by nature, Random International's practice is fuelled by research and scientific discovery. The group aims to broaden the question of what it is to be alive today by experimenting with how we connect — to different kinds of life, to different views of the world, and to one another.

### **About Nxt Museum**

Nxt Museum, the home of new media art, opened in Amsterdam in 2020 and is one of the first museums in the Netherlands dedicated to art, technology, science and sound. Nxt Museum exhibits and commissions ambitious, large-scale new media art installations born of interdisciplinary collaboration between artists, designers, technologists, sound builders and scientists. The museum's three-fold programme, comprising exhibitions, performance and education, are designed to appeal to a broad range of visitors and interests, from tech to music, dance and performance art, to creative coding, NFTs and Web 3.0. The programme is led by Nxt Museum's founding mission to seek, show and question what's next.

### **About the curator**

#### **— Bogomir Doring, Curator Nxt Museum**

Bogomir Doring works with Nxt Museum on their exhibitions and public programs. He is an artist, researcher, curator and guest lecturer at universities internationally. He is currently doing an Artistic Research PhD at the University of Applied Arts Vienna with an ongoing research project "I Dance Alone" that observes clubbing from a birds-eye-view as a reflection of and reaction to social and political change. In collaboration with frei\_raum Q21's Artist-in-Residence programme and exhibition space at MuseumsQuartier Wien, he curated the exhibition "Dance of Urgency", establishing a definition of dance that aims to empower individuals and crowds in times of personal and collective crises. The part of the exhibition was also presented at Het Hem in the Netherlands

Between 2012-2015, he curated an international series of exhibitions and events tackling the social meaning of the personal image under the title 'FACELESS'. The project was inspired by his interest in the recurring presence of hidden faces and the ritual of masking in contemporary society after September 11th. After this project Bogomir started a yearly collaboration and production of exhibitions and symposiums with the CPDP-Computer Privacy and Data Protection Conferences in Brussels. This phenomenon is documented as a special edition of the University for Applied Arts Vienna, under the title "FACELESS: Re-inventing Privacy Through Subversive Media Strategies". He is co-curator of Frei(T)räume – Envisioning Free Spaces, the public day of Stadt Nach Acht conference since 2014. So far at Nxt Museum Bogomir curated the *Shifting Proximities* and *UFO-Unidentified Fluid Other* exhibitions, being Random International's *Life in a Different Resolution* the third exhibition curated by him. Additionally he has contributed to various international music festivals, club programs and institutions, including Amsterdam Dance Event, Garage Rotterdam, Synergy Art Festival, IDFA- International Documentary Film Festival and more.

### **About Samsung Electronics Co, Ltd.**

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