



Concept Line

Group exhibition

February 4 - March 28, 2024

Opening on February 3, 2024, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

with **Arno Beck, Jean-Pierre Hébert, Marcel Schwittlick, Roger Vilder and Mark Wilson**

DAM Projects presents '**Concept Line**' from February 3 to March 28, 2024, offering a fascinating insight into the plotter drawings of five internationally recognized artists from different generations. Spectacular large formats visualize code-generated art in an ever-changing medium, such as the rare and first-time-presented pioneer work by Roger Vilder from 1973, measuring over 4 meters. The exhibition's opening will feature a live-plotting by contemporary Berlin artist Marcel Schwittlick, accompanied by a conversation between Wolf Lieser and Luca Bendandi, Vetro Editions.

Plotter drawings are a crucial component of contemporary generative and digital art, bringing the digital working process back into the physical world. The characteristic vector graphics become tangible to the touch. The 'Concept Line' exhibition showcases the diversity of individual styles and perspectives within generative art. Particularly in recent years, the technique, as seen in Arno Beck's work, is reintegrated into contemporary art, exploring new possibilities through technological innovations, whether with graphite or laser. Each drawing, created through the artistic process, possesses unique features and distinctions, setting them apart from purely digital representations.

The exhibition is inspired by the recent publication 'Tracing the Line – The Art of Drawing Machines and Pen Plotters,' edited by Luca Bendandi and Pierre Paslier, published by Vetro Editions in collaboration with Generative Hut. In the second part of the A.R.E. series, the comprehensive role of plotter machines and computer-controlled drawing machines in the development of generative and algorithmic art is examined. Through remarkable contributions, including an essay by Wolf Lieser, and showcasing the works of 100 international artists, it becomes evident how these machines have created a unique, tangible aesthetic with diverse expressions.

Conversation

February 3, 4:00 PM

Wolf Lieser in conversation with Luca Bendandi, Co-editor of the publication "Tracing the Line – The Art of Drawing Machines and Pen Plotters" by Vetro Editions

Live-plotting

February 3, 5:00 PM

Marcel Schwittlick live-plotting on Vintage Plotters
Marcel Schwittlick offers an insight into the line by line creation
of a plotter drawing in the physical world

Arno Beck (born 1985) from Bonn successfully represents contemporary trends in digital art. He translates the pixelated aesthetics of early computer games and graphics into the physical world using primarily analog multimedia means. Integrating historical technical visual constraints of image carriers and materializing them, he skillfully plays with the human desire for materiality. A selection of his impressive plotter drawings will be presented in Concept Line.

Jean-Pierre Hébert (1939-2021), a pioneer in digital art, merged science, physics, mathematics, and geometry with poetry. His intricate plotter drawings, driven to infinity, captivate viewers through the strict, conceptual implementation of mathematical algorithms. His works are represented in the collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum or LACMA, among others. DAM Projects presents a selection of his most significant works.

Marcel Schwittlick (born 1989) from Berlin playfully explores contemporary generative art with conscious data abstraction and algorithmic aesthetics. His spectacular plotter performances uniquely bring this area of digital art closer to the audience. In Concept Line, his recent works, including the fascinating series "Composition no. 92" and the minimalist "1010 Complex Lines," will be showcased. Composition no. 92 was created through algorithmically controlled laser application on photosensitive paper.

Roger Vilder (born 1938), known for his interdisciplinary sculptural, systemic, and kinetic works, is a native Lebanese currently residing in Nîmes, France. DAM Projects now presents, for the first time in Germany, the exceptionally large and unique plotter drawing measuring 4.30 meters in length from 1973. The hypnotically repeating black motif on a white background captures the generative translation of coincidence onto paper and marks a significant moment in the development of digital art.

Mark Wilson (born 1943), an established pioneer of digital abstraction from Oregon, USA, has been developing independent software since the 1980s to precisely bring complex geometric structures to paper. Inspired by diagrams and technical drawings, his exhibited works appear multidimensional. With a length of 2 meters, his pieces are among the absolute large formats of plotter drawing.

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