

# THE LUMEN PRIZE AT EVA BERLIN 2016

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**ABSTRACT:** Now in its fifth year, The Lumen Prize celebrates the very best art created digitally by artists globally. As a not-for-profit, Lumen's goal is to focus the world's attention on this exciting genre through an annual competition, a global tour as well as workshops, seminars and special events. The Lumen Prize is delighted to join in on the discussion about the future of art and technology at EVA by presenting a showcase of works from the 2016/17 Global Tour.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Lumen Prize for Digital Art is presenting highlights of its 2016/2017 Global Tour at EVA Berlin, following their collaboration at EVA London in July 2016.

Since 2014 The Lumen Prize has been collaborating with the Computer Arts Society, and with the help of its Chair, Dr Nicholas Lambert, also a Director of Lumen Projects Ltd, Lumen has continued to increase the understanding of digital art.

## 2. ABOUT LUMEN

Now in its fifth year, The Lumen Prize celebrates the very best art created digitally by artists globally. As a not-for-profit, Lumen's goal is to focus the world's attention on this exciting genre through an annual competition, a global tour as well as activities including workshops, seminars and special events.

Since its first show in London's Cork Street in January 2013, Lumen has staged nearly 30 shows and events around the world, including New York City, Shanghai, Athens, Amsterdam, Riga, Cardiff, Hong Kong, Leeds and London. In collaboration with its academic partners, which includes the Computer Arts Society, Lumen advances the understanding of digital art at seminars, artist talks, workshops and symposiums.

Lumen is owned by Lumen Projects Ltd., a not-for-profit company registered in Wales, UK. All entry fees to the prize are allocated to the prize fund and global tour.

*Figure 1: Hyperplanes of Simultaneity (2016) by Fabio Giampietro and Alessio De Vecchi.*



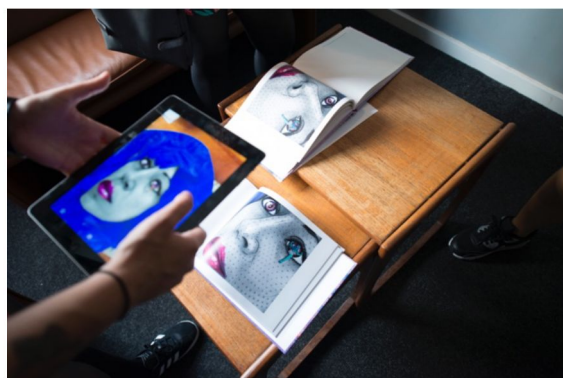
*Winner of the 2016 Gold Award.*

## 2. THE 2016 LUMEN PRIZE

A selection from the 2016 competition will be shown at EVA including this year's winning piece, the work of Italian duo Fabio Giampietro and Alessio De Vecchi, *Hyperplanes of Simultaneity*. A dialogue and a comparison between the painted canvas and the digital illusion *Hyperplane of Simultaneity* brings down the barriers between art and technology.

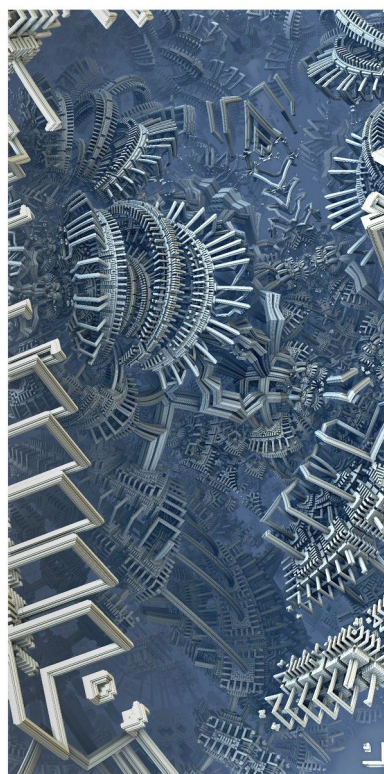
Melding the tradition of painting with the most innovative technologies, *Hyperplanes of Simultaneity* uses virtual reality to annihilate the contemplative distance between the voyeur and the work of art. Removing the painting from the confines of its frame, the painting on canvas is exploded into three dimensions allowing the spectator to step inside and voyage across the mind of the artist.

The recipient of this year's Founder's Prize, *The Selfie Drawings Book* by American artist and digital art professor Carla Gannis, will also be exhibited. Using Blippar Augmented Reality Gannis embraces and explores the significance of the selfie. A collection of 52 digital drawings completed over 52 weeks and shared via social media channels have been brought together in a book to dissect the performative nature of the selfie phenomenon.



**Figure 2:** *The Selfie Drawings Book* (2015) by Carla Gannis. Winner of the 2016 Founder's Prize

Responding to artistic developments The Lumen Prize introduced several new awards this year including the Mixed Reality and Web-based Award. In *Farm Tableaux*, winner of the web category, Sylvia Grace Borda and her collaborator John M. Lynch utilise Google Street View to illustrate Canadian food culture in a way that moves us beyond lifestyle magazines and TV reality shows. While *Nature Abstraction*, a work by Matteo Zamagni, Ben Hur and David Li transports you into an immersive sensory experience that explores the arcane forms of fractals - the mathematical visual representation of natural and biological forms.



**Figure 3:** Detail from *Nature Abstraction* (2015) by Matteo Zamagni, Ben Hur and David Li. Winner of the 2016 Mixed Reality Award.