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HILUS - Intermedia Project Research

HILUS was founded in 1991 by Reinhard Braun, Max Kossatz, Christine Meierhofer, Christoph Nebel and Herwig Turk. We established a place for research and production as an independent plattform for intermedia project research. The goal of this plattform is to examine, discuss, develop, realize, investigate and publish art with new technologies on the basis of a critical attitude.

In spring 93 we realized a pilot project called "UNITⁿ" in the WUK, Vienna/A. After that an office was rented in which 5 computer workstations are extended to full functioning at the moment, a videothek, a library and an electronic database are installed or up to now working efficiently on a reduced scale. In these three moduls important international examples of art with new technologies are made accessible, and a dezentalized archive is developing that concentrates on interlinking and exchanging different current archives. With the voluntary help of artists a substantial archive is also build up in Vienna.

The continuous research program wants to initiate independent projects in form of "splittings", which means there is no claim of concentrating work and resources within the organisation alone, but the organisation is initiator and starting point of longer time projects and looks for further and repeated cooperation.

One of the first HILUS projects, UNITⁿ, was already organized and realized together with different other media art groups. The publication REFLEXIONEN zu Kunst mit Neuen Medien/UNITⁿ - Publikation can be seen as an especially successfull cooperation, for which EIKON and MEDIEN.KUNST.PASSAGEN were won over as editors and Mathias Michalka as editorial coordinator. In this way not only the event UNITⁿ was documented and embeded into an international theoretical context, but also a representation of the Austrian situation was achieved.

UNITⁿ was not least made possible, and that way put on a broad basis, through full support by Pyramedia, Kunstlabor and different individuals.

This basis was not formed accidentally, but was the result of projects such as "Open circuit" (a round-table on art/media systems with 36 austrian groups working on video, film, literature, performance, music, radio, television and intermedia) or "Kettenanimation" (45 artists working on a coherent animation) which has improved communication with other artists/groups a lot.

At the moment different international projects are prepared and the internal structure of HILUS is being optimized. All artists, theoreticians, interested people, etc. are kindly invited to contact our group and to support our work.