

June 28th, 2018 - Barcelona

**auto-màtic:**

**a Barcelona exhibition explores the implications of automation in architecture**

(Centre d'Arts Santa Mònica, June 29th — September 2nd, 2018)

The “auto-màtic” exhibition (<http://artssantamonica.gencat.cat/ca/detall/auto-matic>), hosted at the Centre d'Art Santa Mònica, a former Renaissance convent in the heart of Barcelona’s La Rambla, converted into a contemporary art centre, **addresses the limits and potential of generative drawing, by exploring how the Automation Revolution is shaping the work of architects, designers and creatives.**

The research was developed within the framework of Machinic Protocols (<http://machinicprotocols.com>), **a project directed by Edouard Cabay**, within IAAC's Master’s in Advanced Architecture: *"the title ‘auto-màtic…’”,* the curator explains *“…is an homage to Jean Tinguely's Méta-matics, the series of machines that produce artwork and that investigate the forceful intrusion of technology in our society".*

Raising questions on automation, reproducibility, and the role of arbitrary “accidents” as sources of creative experimentation, **the exhibition gathers over 120 drawings** that have been developed over the past three years, by more than 80 contributors from fields including computation, arts and design.

Casting aside the “hand of the artist”, each drawing results from imposed conditions rather than preconceived ideas. **It is based on the principle of not designing the final form of a product, but enunciating the instructions that govern its production.** Once the process has begun, it runs on its own and the “author” becomes a spectator. The protocol is the recipe, a set of instructions that dictate actions to be executed. Although they have been produced by different means, including people, robots, computers, and even by forces of nature such as wind and waves, they all share a set of common characteristics: they are always unique and their result cannot be anticipated; they are not created by an individual, but rather by a system composed of plural actors.

**Two installations complete the exhibition path, focusing on performative drawing.**   
First, an electronically controlled array of eight fans blow towards the centre of a page, where a pen attached to a sail moves in the wind. In a context of reciprocity, where the pen and the fans dialogue, the machine never stops drawing, in a kind of perpetual dance.

The second installation is an experiment: 10.000 droplets of ink fall onto a moving canvas from a height of 15 metres. The mobile canvas moves at the rhythm of the falling drop, in order to form an orthogonal grid. Will the drop fall vertically and land in the precise position anticipated by the robot in order to shape a perfect grid, or will the movement of the air and other factors affect its trajectory?

Automation can incorporate deviations from original expectations, that can be read as imprecisions, arbitrariness or even accidents but, at the same time, may allow new outcomes to emerge. **As a metaphor of the new age of uncertainty where anything is possible, the real intention of the exhibition is to develop an attitude towards creation, where designing is more about the process rather than envisaging an outcome.**   
The unexpected is yet to come.

A **video teaser** of “auto-màtic” exhibition can be viewed via the following link:

[https://youtu.be/GhPLkZnaq3A](https://youtu.be/GhPLkZnaq3A" \t "_blank)

*For more information, please contact Edouard Cabay – Machinic Protocols’ Press Office (Giulia Milza, Maria Azzurra Rossi) at:* ***press@mintlist.info***

***[auto-màtic](http://artssantamonica.gencat.cat/ca/detall/auto-matic)***

**June 29th — September 2nd, 2018**

Centre d’Arts Santa Mònica (La Rambla, 7 - Barcelona, Spain)

Tuesday – Saturday: 11.00 a.m. – 9.00 p.m.

Sunday: 11.00 a.m – 5.00 p.m

**Organized by:** Centre d’Arts Santa Mònica – Department of Culture

**Produced by:** IAAC – AAG

**Collaborators:** SANTLLUC, HP and ABB

**Project Director**

Edouard Cabay

**Project Team**

Rodrigo Aguirre, Keesje Avis, Mehmet Berk Bostancı, Kunal Chadha, Peter Geelmuyden Magnus and Lili Tayefi

**Visual Identity**

Mara Sylvester

**Project - Plots 2018**

Project 1: Tal Dotan & Martin Garcia-Miro Zaldumbide with Rodrigo Aguirre

Project 2: Aman Jain & Hayder Abdulameer Mohammed Mahdi with Relja Ferusic

Project 3: Gayatri Harikrishana Desai & Ewald Jooste with Roger Paez

Project 4: Bhakti Vinod Loonawat & Matteo Proaño Albuja with Marco Ingrassia

Project 5: Soroush Garivani & Elena Kavtaradze with Isabel Witt

Project 6: Gabrielė Liuda Jurevičiūtė & Deepak Sivadasan with Lluis Viu Rebes

Project 7: Xu Jiang & Takeru Osoegawa with Rebeca Font

Project 8: Arman Najari & Baran Mostafa Tehrani with Crissant Romans

Project 9: Yingxin Du & Ardeshir Talaei with Mademochoritis

Project 10: Marc Bou Assaf & Alberto Emil Holguin Martinez with Ana Isabel Cajiao

**Project - Scripts 2017**

Machine #1: Valerie Frey

Machine #2: Mehmet Berk Bostanci

Machine #3: Gelder Van Limburg Stirum and Pablo Agustin Vivas

Machine #4: Hsin Li and JengRung Hong, based on original work by Nasser Ghannam, Mohamad Rachid Jalloul, Ceren Yildrim and Guolang Zhang

Machine #5: Cagan Izgi

Machine #6: Athanasios Zervos and Keesje Avis

Machine #7: Kathleen Bainbridge, Irene Ayala Castro, Yasmina Wery and Krati Gorani

Machine #8: Anonymous

**Project - Traces 2016**

Pedro Levit Arroyo Ventura & Lina Salamanca

Dirk van Wassenaer & Naitik Shah

Tobias Deeg & Martin Hristov

Peter Geelmuyden Magnus & Utsav Mathur

Vishnu Jadia & Khushboo Jain

Hong Jeng Rung & Ekaterina Simakova

Sidharth Kumar & Goutham Santhanam

Jean Sebastian Munera & Lili Tayefi

Chenthur Raaghav Naagendran & Varsha Subba Rao

Connor Stevens & Mercedes Swiecicki

**IAAC**

**Academic Director:** Areti Markopoulou

**Communication Director:** Silvia Brandi

**Head of Studies:** Mathilde Marengo

**MAA01 Coordinator:** Marco Ingrassia

**Special thanks to:** Olga Subirós, Vicenç Altaió, Laura Pérez Lupi and Teresa Cheung