

Ars Electronica Archive – current developments and plans

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Abstract

The Ars Electronica Archive contains documentation content since the start of Ars Electronica in 1979. A huge amount of artists and researchers from the field of art, technology and society were part of Ars Electronica activities during more than 40 years. Part of the archive is accessible online (Online Archive), part of it only internally (physical Archive & Internal Database).

The presentation provides a glimpse into the current developments and plans of the Archive.

Keywords

online archive, media art, festival, websites, search, software

Ars Electronica Archive

The Ars Electronica Archives mission is to preserve the ideas and the diversity of Ars Electronica, based in Linz, Austria, and to make as much of it as possible freely accessible to users. It's holdings include a diverse array of art works and documentation of projects, exhibitions and activities from the Ars Electronica context and across the entire spectrum of media art throughout the world. Highlights are the winning projects of Prix Ars Electronica in the Prix Online Archive, and video documentation of the early Festival years and Center exhibitions, which was possible through the involvement of the ORF – Austrian Broadcasting Company's Upper Austria Regional Studio at that time [1].

Part of the Ars Electronica Archive is accessible online (Online Archive, <https://ars.electronica.art/archive/en/>, <https://archive.aec.at/>), part of it only internally (physical Archive & internal Database).

The latest achievements were among others the re-accessibility and preservation of previous web pages (Figure 1), and the implementation of a search function across all areas in our Online Archive, which was due to different sources more complicated than it seems in the first view. The tasks for the next years are challenging as well. This year this will be the start of the update of our database

structure. Starting with the intern database, we have mainly two goals in Mind:

First, and most important, to make research and adapt to current standards and best practice examples in the archive world regarding data handling. This will be the groundwork for further continuity and long-term preservation, for new connection possibilities (with other archives for example) and better export and import possibilities.

The second main goal – highly important for the intern workflows - is, to use this update to also adapt and improve the user interface regarding new requirements. This basically means, to simplify it, to make it easier manageable and therefore more interesting for Ars Electronica employees outside of the Archive Context.

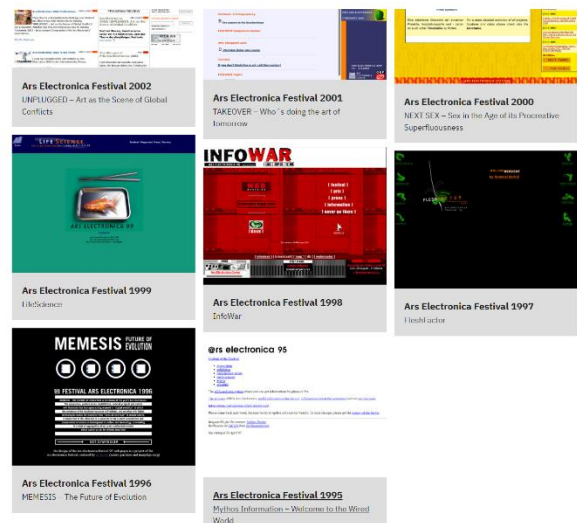


Figure 1. Ars Electronica Website Archive, <https://ars.electronica.art/archive/en/web/>. ©Ars Electronica

References

- [1] Martina Hechenberger, Theresa Schubert Minski, "The Ars Electronica Archive", in: *The Big Picture – New Concepts for a New World*, (Hatje Cantz, 2012), S. 388.

Author(s) Biography(ies)

Christina Radner (AT) currently is the responsible project manager for the Ars Electronica Archive in Linz, Austria. In 2009 she got her master's degree in art history at the University of Vienna. At an internship at the Art Brut Museum Gugging in Klosterneuburg near Vienna, she got a first insight into the archive work of a

museum. She was hired project-based, to help work on an artist's estate and to prepare a retrospective and a comprehensive catalogue of works. In 2013 she moved back to Upper Austria and started her work in the Ars Electronica Archive Team. Since 2015 she is the responsible project manager for the Archive and part of the Festival/Prix/Archive Core Team of Ars Electronica.