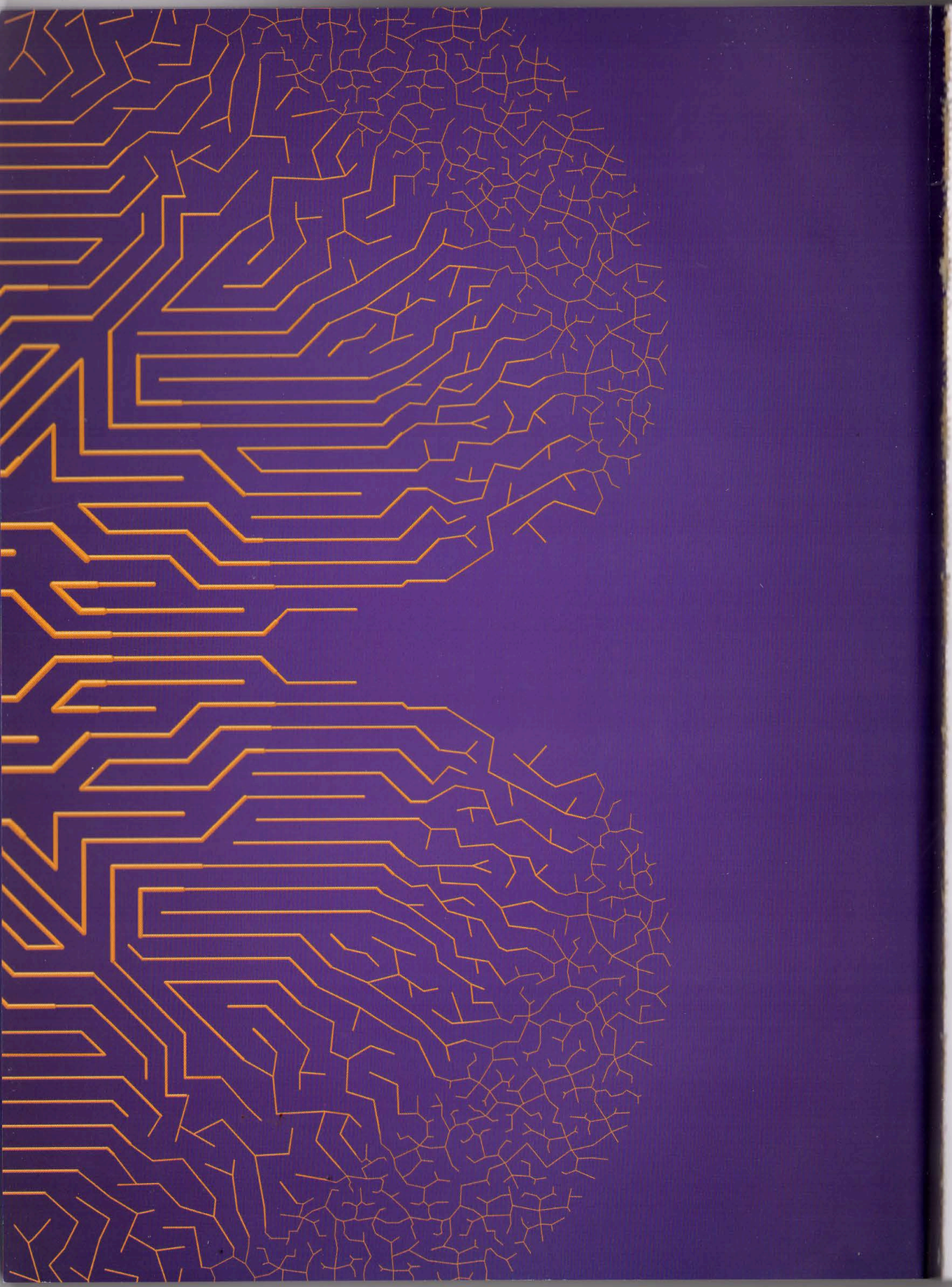
EXPERIMENTA

MAKE SENSE

INTERNATIONAL
TRIENNIAL
OF MEDIA ART



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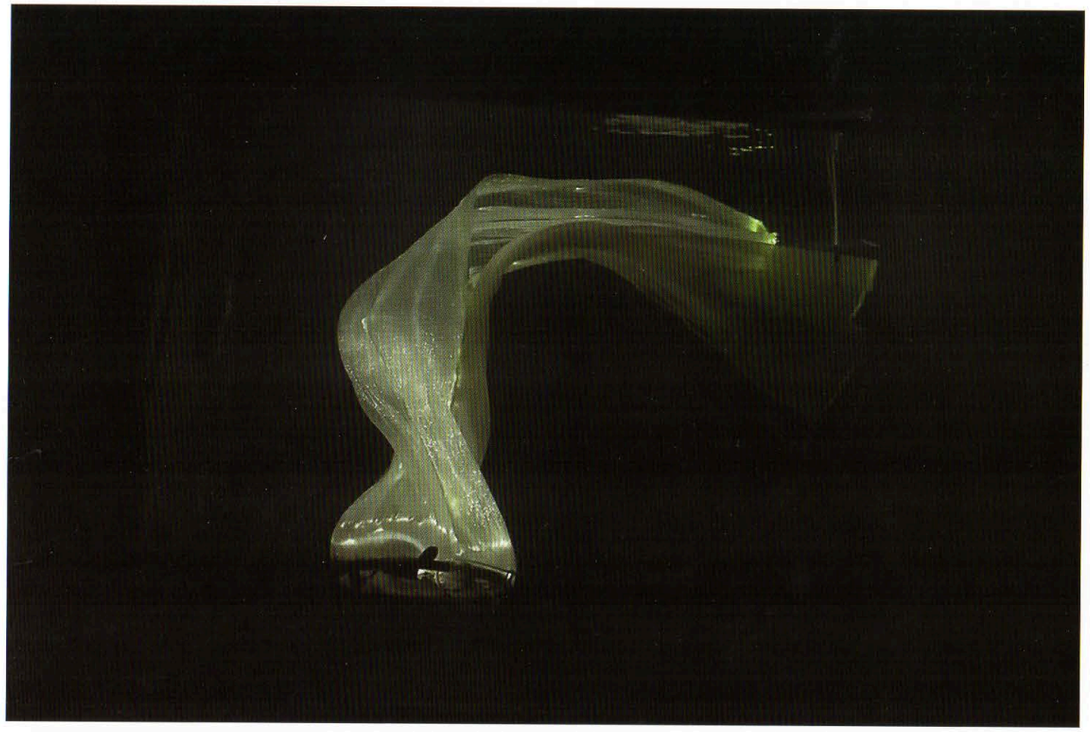
First published on the occasion of the
Experimenta Make Sense: International Triennial of Media Art
2 October 2017 – 11 November 2017
RMIT Gallery, Melbourne

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA
CATALOGUING-IN-PUBLICATION DATA

Author: Experimenta Media Arts
Title: Experimenta Make Sense: International Triennial of Media Art
ISBN: 978-0-9581597-4-6
Subjects: Experimenta Media Art
[Melbourne, VIC] – Exhibitions, Media [Art]
Exhibitions, Technology in art – Exhibitions.
Communication – Exhibitions, Art,
Contemporary – 21st Century – Exhibitions
Communication – Exhibitions, Art
Contemporary – 21st Century –Exhibitions.
Art, Media – 21st Century – Exhibitions
Other Authors/ Contributors:
David Cross, Suzanne Davies,
Maura Edmond, Jonathan Parsons,
Lubi Thomas, Erin Coates.

Catalogue design: Hayman Design
Printer: Metro Printing

EXPERIMENTA
Experimenta Media Arts Inc
PO Box 21152 Little Lonsdale Street
Melbourne, Victoria, 8011 Australia
www.experimenta.org



KEITH ARMSTRONG WITH LUKE LICKFOLD AND MATTHEW DAVIS

EREMOCENE [AGE OF LONELINESS]

AUSTRALIA

A mysterious creature glows from within. Witnessed from several vantage points, it moves uncannily, a fluid motion within a dense blackness. Sound, vision and movement are as one. A life-like, biomorphic form fades in and out of perception.

The concept of 'the extinction of human experience' expresses our fear for all that will be rendered senseless when an ancient, intelligent, biodiverse world descends into permanent darkness. But as one series of conceptions slip into extinction, so others flow on. *Eremocene* suggests that we might instead embrace artificially intelligent 'things', which have little need for dated legacies such as excess light or the long-extinguished sounds of biological life. Philosopher and biologist EO Wilson calls such possible futures the Eremocene – an Age of Loneliness.

Eremocene has developed out of ten years of sustained collaborations with life scientists, ecologists and sustainability professionals. It reflects upon both the vulnerability and resilience of marine, terrestrial and human ecologies as they are forced to relate to today's increasingly 'overheated' and artificially intelligent worlds.

EREMOCENE SUGGESTS THAT WE MIGHT INSTEAD EMBRACE ARTIFICIALLY INTELLIGENT 'THINGS', WHICH HAVE LITTLE NEED FOR DATED LEGACIES SUCH AS EXCESS LIGHT OR THE LONG-EXTINGUISHED SOUNDS OF BIOLOGICAL LIFE.

← **Keith Armstrong with Luke Lickfold and Matthew Davis**
Eremocene (Age of Loneliness) 2017
Glass, fibre optics, electronics, computer, water, lighting, mechanics, five channel sound
Dimensions / duration variable

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