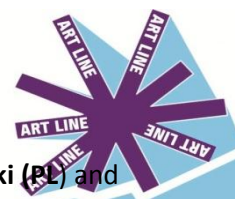


HYDRO ACTIVE CITY. JURY VERDICT!

On February 19-20th, 2013 the jury of The Hydro Active City contest, comprising of:

Anna Zalewska-Andruszkiewicz (PL), Jacob Lillemose (DEN), Ryszard W. Kluszczyński (PL) and Peter Hagdahl (SE) chose 3 equal, winning projects (**random order**), which will be realized and exhibited in Gdansk in May 2013:



- **„Message in a bottle” by Maciej Wojnicki (Poland)**

“Message in a bottle is a project based on a custom designed social interaction tool combined of a dedicated mobile app and a website. User is given virtual bottle where one can drop messages (sentences, questions, short stories, images). Message is instantly and virtually packed into a bottle and dropped into the river. Bottle floats down the river (Radunia canal) until it gets stranded somewhere by the shore populating the riverside. Visitors walk along, discover messages of unknown authors, answer them, put back into bottles and send further, throwing back down to the river. Soon the bottle gets stranded again, another visitor finds it in a different place with original message and it’s replies, if he joins the conversation the bottle flows further.”

- **„Water Memory” by Piotr Wyrzykowski (Poland)**

*“The project is based on augmented reality system allowing to layer multimedia content on the live image from the camera mobile device. I would like to create a virtual (...) space located in a certain location of Gdansk next to the Radunia canal. The viewer entering the location with tablet or smartphone in his hands will virtually dive underwater. By walking and changing the position of the device he/she will explore **the underwater world** full of floating memories and stories. **The underwater world** - will be filled with photos, postcards, letters, everyday things floating in a water. All those items will build a narrative descriptions of important formative memories from local history experience, from the collective memory of Gdansk.”*

- **“Little Ice Age by Olga Zofia Warabida & Mariusz Samól (Poland)**

“Sound installation made of movement sensors which will activate hidden sound system by pedestrians crossing the path through Radunia river canal. Depending on people’s movement, sounds of walking on ice will overlap and become stronger until they leave the interactive pole and the sound fades away. Our inspiration were winters of the century (...) when it was conceivably possible to cross the Baltic Sea on foot through ice. (...) Sound characteristic of this installation is meant to revive and stimulate audience’s imagination.”

The jury panel decided to give also a honorary mention to project **“Post-Fishing Post” by Justinas Gaigalas and Rytis Urbanskas (Lithuania)** and recommended it for production if the budget permits.

Projekt jest współfinansowany ze środków Europejskiego Funduszu Rozwoju Regionalnego.

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Justification of the verdict:



- **"Water Memory" by Piotr Wyrzykowski**

What struck jury panel about the project, apart from esthetic quality, is its multilayered structure in which the present is paralleled with the past. The artist creates augmented reality that offers multileveled, interactive experience. Water serves here as a perceptive filter through which viewer is audio-visually immersed in a non-linear narrative created by the artist. Nothing is obvious in this piece. There are elements of surprise and distortion. "Water memory" is challenging due to its open form. It skillfully combines site specific elements with "translocal", universal structure.

- **"Message in a Bottle" by Maciej Wojnicki**

"Message in the bottle" tries to set an alternative urban, non-pragmatic communication network. What the jury panel found interesting about the art piece is the fact that it investigates communication and mobility by means of modern technology. It translates the notion of water as one of traditional means of communication and transportation into contemporary use of mobile devices. The project is of a great participative value.

- **"Little Ice Age" by Olga Warabida & Mariusz Samól**

"Little ice age" is a surrealistic intervention into urban reality – a pragmatic function of a bridge, understood as architectural construction, is transformed from communication to experience. The experience is initiated by a body movement which is in this context an interface that brings installation into life. The sound triggers estrangement effect and changes viewer perception of materiality. It plays here an immersive and transgressive role – it is meant to locate viewer in a winter context in the middle of May. The art piece also stresses connection between Baltic states, symbolically expressed by a frozen sea.

Honorary mention: "Post-Fishing Post" by Justinas Gaigalas and Rytis Urbanskas

The Jury appreciated the contemplative value of the piece. An act of *fishing*, a simple by-water activity, is transformed and presented as an attempt to extend human senses in order to discover what hides beneath the water surface. "Fishing for sounds" is presented here as a subtle poetic social gesture. Jury recommends production of the art piece if budget permits.

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