

## **Art & Science about the transdisciplinary, the accessible and the tangible**

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### **Abstract**

The Ars Electronica Futurelab is an atelier and laboratory for art and research. Ars Electronica's in-house think tank has been doing R&D at the interface of art, technology and society since 1996. Artificial intelligence, robotics, media architecture, interactive technologies, new forms of aesthetic expression, and swarm intelligence are some of the leading-edge phenomena at the focal point of the Futurelab team's considerations.

Rendering speculative future scenarios in artistic, experimental forms is another core element of the lab's mission statement. The aim of this is to make the outcomes accessible to the general public and to thereby host a discussion about the social implications of these scenarios.

Since its very inception, this media lab has been steadily evolving into a go-to source of authoritative insights and a driving force for innovation. The Ars Electronica Futurelab's successful work is carried out in cooperation with a large and diverse network of partners active in the private sector, the creative economy and the art world, academia, and the educational field.

The Futurelab team's approach is based on transdisciplinary research and work, and thus on the tremendous diversity of credentials and skills the team members bring to their assignments. Collaboration with international artists and scholars during the course of their residencies at the Ars Electronica Futurelab is a core element of this approach.

### **Biography**

Horst Hörtner is a media artist and researcher. He is expert in design of Human Computer Interaction and holds several patents in this field. He started to work in the field of media art in the 1980ies and co-founded the media art group x-space in Graz/Austria in 1990. Hörtner is founding member of the Ars Electronica Futurelab in 1996 and since then directing this atelier/laboratory.

Since 2013, Horst Hörtner also holds a position as conjoint Professor at the University of Newcastle/Australia.