



Press Release
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Rain falling upwards, electric paramecia and xenobots
The Light Art Museum's fourth exhibition *More Than Human* has opened

Visitors can explore the LAM's latest international selection opening this September. Featuring nearly forty works, the exhibition presents spectacular installations, projections and immersive creations by world-renowned artists. It takes us into realms that provoke thought and, fundamentally challenging our anthropocentric worldview, offer inspiring alternative perspectives ranging from the beginnings of evolution to speculations about the future, from the molecular to interplanetary scales.

At the heart of *More Than Human*, as in previous years, are projects at the intersection of art and science. These works create breathtaking visual experiences, while being underpinned by extensive scientific research and often realised using cutting-edge technology. They explore the meaning of the world and of existence in a way that transcend conventional human thinking, one that is far more open and multifaceted.

The exhibited artworks adopt a new sensitivity to life forms that have previously been overlooked or undervalued. They help us to discover the intricate connections between humans, plants, animals, fungi and even geological processes. They also reveal relationships that extend beyond the traditional boundaries of biology, embracing artificial intelligence and man-made entities.

Advances in biotechnological research, neurotechnology and soft robotics have transformed life itself into a technological question, one that can be constructed in the laboratory. All-pervasive and complex technological systems exert a profound influence on our bodies, behaviour and emotions, and on how we interact with our surroundings. Several of the works envision hybrid collaborations between living beings and artificial entities, making it unequivocally clear that we need to broaden our definition of "life."

"I am exceptionally proud that our fourth exhibition is not only extremely fresh and spectacular but can hold its own in any leading art institution worldwide in terms of its themes, scale and participating artists."

Szabolcs Vida, Head of Programme, LAM

Visitors will encounter works by several 'world stars' at the exhibition. **Ólafur Elíasson's** installation of colourful glass discs, for example, transforms the very process of perception, revealing how movement and sensory experience change our very understanding of reality. Drawing inspiration from architecture, space research, science fiction, biology as well as geometry, **Tomás Saraceno** scans the hidden architecture of a complex spider's web with laser beams, interpreting these fragile yet resilient structures as models of sustainable coexistence. The selected material also includes works by seminal figures in the history of immersive projection. In addition to a classic early work by **Anthony McCall**, visitors can see an installation created by **Otto Piene** in 1966, which broke with the conventions of traditional projection.

"This new exhibition explores the medial possibilities of light and technology through the works of world-class artists, helping us to reimagine the boundaries between human and non-human life, while familiarising the Hungarian audience with contemporary artistic and scientific discourses that are fundamentally reshaping our thinking about the future of our civilisation in the age of ecological crisis and artificial intelligence."

Borbála Szalai, Co-curator of the exhibition

Walking through the more than 2,000-square-metre exhibition, visitors can encounter new, inspiring perspectives on the complex ecosystem which we are all part of, encouraging us to seek a state of equilibrium that creates equal opportunities for each one of us. In her installation – which enjoyed enormous success at its debut at the 2025 Venice Architecture Biennale – **Andrea Shin Ling** collaborates with ancient cyanobacteria, organisms that oxygenated the Earth billions of years ago, to construct structures that actively contribute to combating the greenhouse effect. **Jennifer Allora** and **Guillermo Calzadilla** give voice to the plight of endangered Puerto Rican parrots, which live in the shadow of humankind's search for extraterrestrial intelligence. In doing so, they question why we prioritise hunting for intergalactic signals, while ignoring species on the brink of extinction in our immediate environment. Ranging from **Wim van Egmond**'s microscopic universes to **Jakob Kudsk Steensen**'s interactive projection visualising ephemeral desert lakes, the exhibited artworks expand our perceptual awareness, enabling us to notice life on scales that are typically invisible to human senses.

"In addition to providing aesthetic and sensory experiences, the works presented here also offer thought-provoking alternatives to the utilitarian, anthropocentric mindset that has also shaped the development of Eastern European societies since the political transition, and which requires urgent reconsideration today as we are facing climate change, the global pollution of the natural environment and the alarming decline in biodiversity. The Budapest exhibition can thus become a cultural event with both local and global significance."

Barnabás Bencsik, Co-curator of the exhibition

More Than Human explores themes that focus attention on the importance of an expanded and increasingly multifaceted awareness. It inspires us to move beyond the position of the bystander and allow genuine cooperation and compassion define our approach to life and the world.

Curators: Barnabás Bencsik, Borbála Szalai

High resolution images:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1uJK1ZDTMNT_ZsRljDx2oBsc0lIC2eX_-?usp=sharing

Photo: Dávid Bíró/Light Art Museum Budapest

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