

Tout ajuste tout parce que tout ajuste ce qui est
(everything adjusts everything because everything adjusts what is)

Paul Brown | Geoff and Eilidh Lucas

15 September – 13 October 2018

Tout ajuste tout parce que tout ajuste ce qui est (everything adjusts everything because everything adjusts what is) with works by Paul Brown and Geoff and Eilidh Lucas, will open at EQ on Saturday 15 September, 2018, from 2-4pm.

By framing the world as a self-organising system we question common notions of consciousness. The works in this exhibition can be judged to reflect on the nature of consciousness and more specifically, on how the making and interpreting of art relates to a common-place understanding of cognition: the works appear to appeal beyond a discussion of solely human perception, to ask whether some form of structured awareness may exist in non-sentient beings and environments. This suggestion of panpsychism shifts from the anthropocentric and presents instead an inquiry into the nature of agency: if consciousness is a feature of even the most basic forms of matter, then what are the implications for our sense of self-awareness and subjectivity? Where is the boundary between self and other? How do our notions of self depend on our environment? How far does our consciousness extend and reside outside our skin? Here, in a self-organising world, the formation of the whole might appear through the 'choices', or aesthetic or emotional judgements of all of the components that comprise the whole.

Paul Brown, a pioneering computer artist specialising in art, science & technology since the late 1960's, has, through his career, developed the concept of Art That Makes Itself. Brown has a significant international reputation in the field of computational and generative process, with a specific interest in Cellular Automata, or 'CAs'; simple systems that can propagate themselves over time. His works lead the viewer to question whether art may emerge spontaneously and autonomously from forms generated from technically assisted systematic processes, and consequently, whether we can equally reflect on the organic processes of Nature, independent from human perception? In this exhibition Brown will show a new version of a work from the mid-1970s that could be physically reconfigured by the viewer, a form of audience interaction consistent with the artist's interest in permutative sets. This interest led to the creation of real-time computational and generative artworks as 'kinetic paintings'. A new generative painting will be made especially for this exhibition, and will be shown alongside an accompanying series of drawings.

Geoff and Eilidh Lucas have collaborated on making artworks since 2008, when they jointly devised the HICA (Highland Institute for Contemporary Art) project, based near Loch Ness in the north of Scotland. HICA functioned as an instance through which to consider the 'concrete' results of its engagements, as it purposefully also researched and explored the history of ideas of Concrete Art. Their works for gallery exhibitions have developed equivalent strategies for highlighting interactions, where 'lived situations' are presented as possible self-similar states to complex processes of nature, such as those of the sub-atomic: frequently having a basis in cell-like forms and simple games whose rules could be said to operate in 'concrete' ways, the act of exhibiting these works is made a point of reflection on the mechanisms of communication and the nature of judgement. Geoff and Eilidh Lucas co-founded and have co-curated EQ since 2016.

Tout ajuste tout parce que tout ajuste ce qui est will open on Saturday 15 September, from 2-4pm. Thereafter, to 13 October, it will be open by appointment only.

For more information or images please contact Geoff Lucas or Eilidh Lucas at:

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