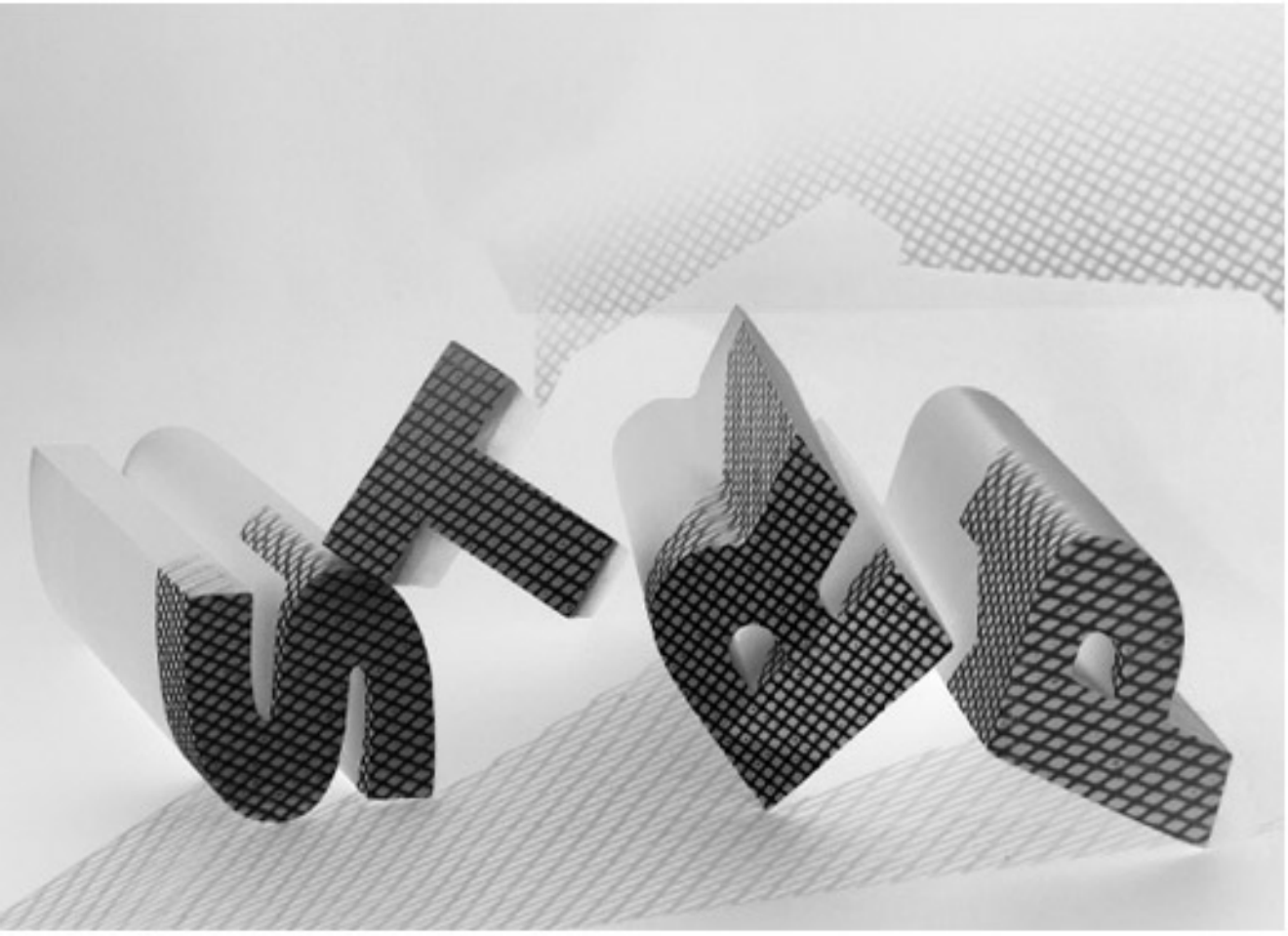
STRP festival

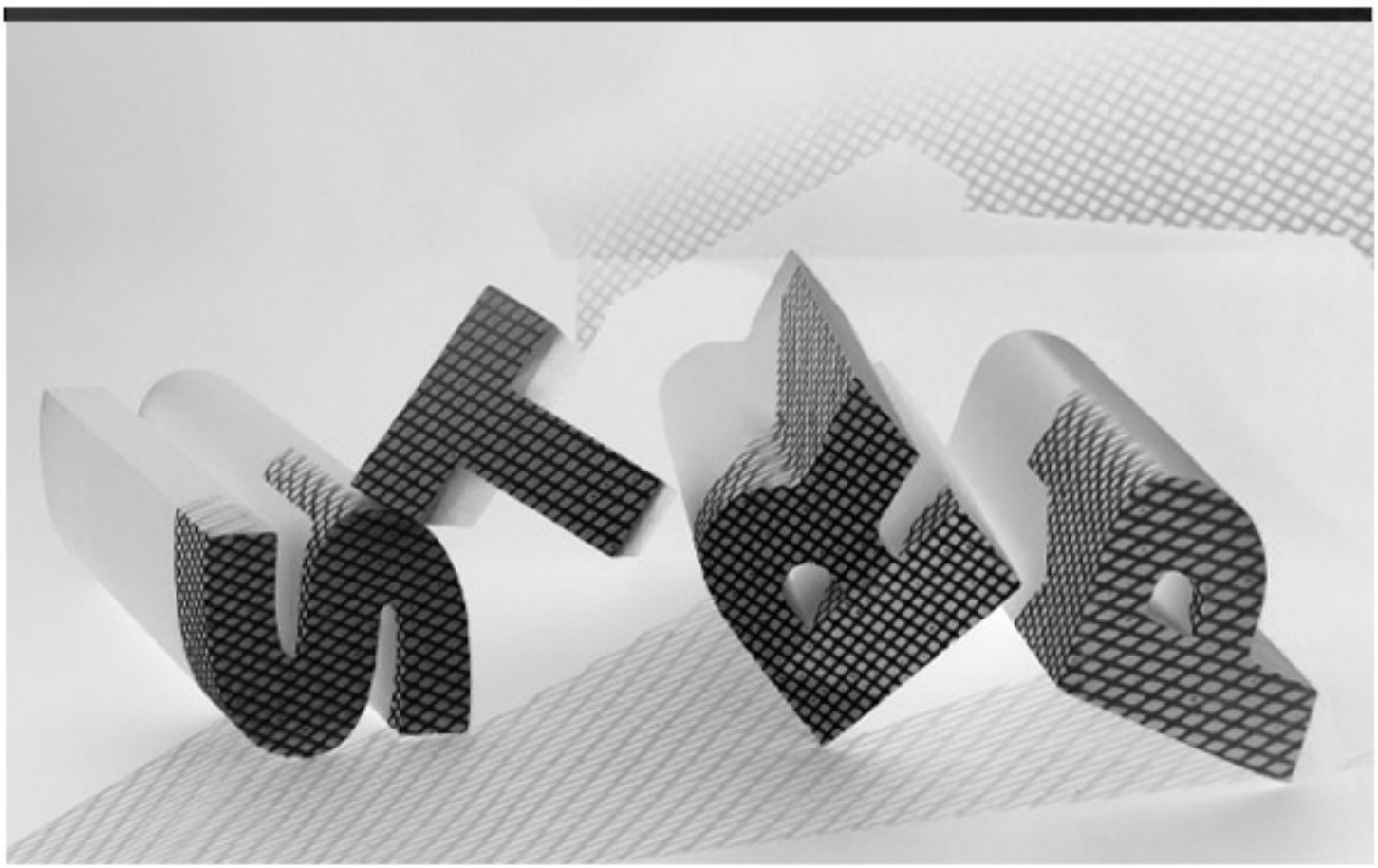
Eindhoven, the Netherlands

2009



SwarmDots
by LAb[au]

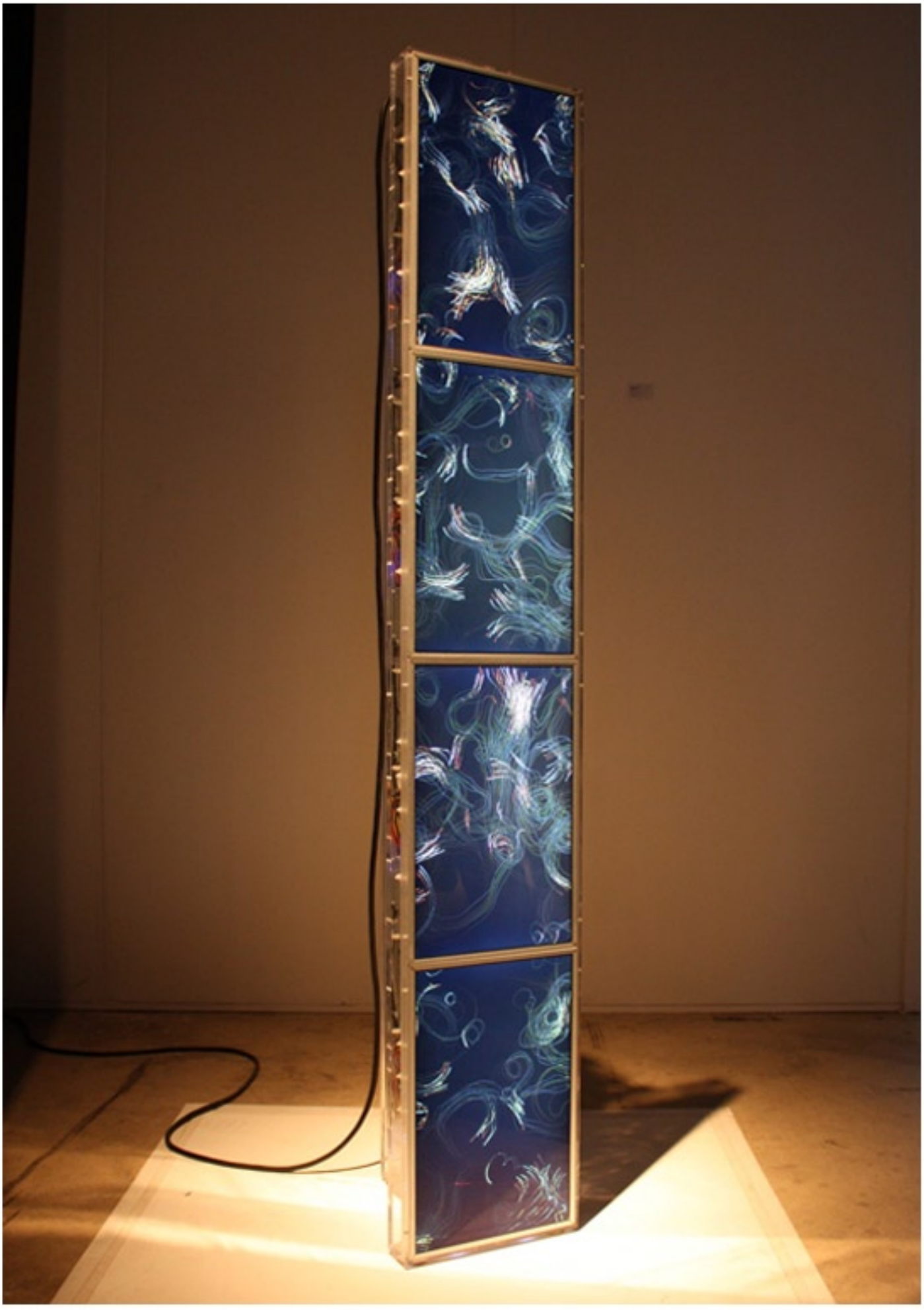
STRP festival
Eindhoven 2009
03.04.2009 – 13.04.2009



About the festival

The STRP Festival is one of the largest art & technology festivals in Europe and the mix of music, art & technology makes it unique. The multidisciplinary programme appeals to a wide audience. The focus during the opening weekend in 2009 is on impact and experience, while the second part will concentrate on delving deeper, amazement and quieting down. In addition to the festival, the STRP Foundation also organised the 5MM (five minute museum) in cooperation with Eindhoven's MU art space.

STRP stands for Strijp, the name of the industrial site where the STRP Festival is held. The Strijp-S location is a huge industrial area where Philips came up with practically all of its revolutionary inventions during the previous century. This is where the audio cassette, the CD and the video 2000 system were born. In addition to all of these technological advances, Strijp-S was also the scene of an honest-to-goodness creative revolution. After Philips left the area, it was time to find a new use for Strijp-S. The solution was to provide and develop a home for the creative urban centre of Eindhoven: 'The Creative City'.

About SwarmDot, 2009

SwarmDot is. SwarmDot is a generative artwork based on swarm behavior, an artificial intelligence entity featuring a collective behavior of decentralized, self-organized systems. Self-organization is a process in which the internal organization of a system increases in complexity without being guided or managed by an outside source, but on simple rules each 'agent' follows. From their mutual influence of separation, alignment and cohesion emerges an unsuspected, highly evolving behavior; dots shaping swarms of migrating lines and turbulences by following the combinatory play of numbers. SwarmDot is running on an 'art console', a T-shaped plexiglass object with 4 networked computers and 4 LCD screens, a sculpture crafted by LAb[au].