

VCUQatar Presents ‘Get Physical: from screen-based to tangible computational design’

Doha, Qatar – As part of the Crossing Boundaries Lecture Series, Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar presents a lecture by German media artist and designer Joachim Sauter entitled ‘Get Physical: from screen-based to tangible computational design’ on Wednesday, 18 September, 2013 at 6:00 pm at the atrium at VCUQatar. The lecture is open to the public.

As our world becomes increasingly digital and our communication virtual our desire for the tangible gets stronger again. To illustrate that counter movement from the virtual back to the tangible in the field of digital design, projects from ART+COM's 25 year history will be presented during the lecture, starting with the earlier exploration of new media in the virtual realm leading up to the latest development in the tangible world.

After graduating from the academy of fine arts in Berlin, Sauter studied at the German Academy for Film and Television, Berlin. Since the early 1980s, he has been working as a media artist and designer focusing on digital technologies and experimenting how they can be used to express content, form, and narration. Fuelled by this interest, he founded ART+COM in 1988 together with other artists, designers, scientists and technologists. Their goal was to practically research this new up-and-coming medium in the realm of art and design. He leads this interdisciplinary group until the present.

In the course of his work Sauter has been invited to participate in many exhibitions showcasing his work at Centre Pompidou, Paris, Stejdilik Museum, Amsterdam, Museum for Contemporary Art, Sidney, Deichtorhallen Hamburg, Kunsthalle Wien, Venice Biennial, ICC, Tokyo, Getty Center, Los Angeles, MAXXI, Rome, among others. He has received several awards including the Golden Lion, Cannes, the D&AD Black Pencil, the Ars Electronica Interactive Award, the British Academy for Film and Television Interactive Award, ADC New York and ADC Germany Gold, the Grand Clio, the Red Dot Grand Prix, the Design Award of the Federal Republic of Germany, and many other national and international awards. Since 1991 he has been working as a full professor for New Media Art and Design at the University of the Arts Berlin and since 2001 as adjunct professor at UCLA, Los Angeles.

VCUQatar's Crossing Boundaries Lecture Series reflects the cross-disciplinary nature of the featured speakers who are representatives of excellence in creative and innovative thinking. ‘Get Physical: from screen-based to tangible computational design’ is the first in the series of six lectures and will be presented on 18 September at 6:00 pm at the atrium at VCUQatar. The lecture is open to the public.

Note to Editors:

About Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar:

VCUQatar is the Qatar campus of the prestigious Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Richmond, Virginia. Established in 1998 through a partnership with Qatar Foundation, VCUQatar offers students the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in fashion design, graphic design, interior design and painting & printmaking, a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history and a Master of Fine Arts degree in design studies.

Through all its programs, research projects and community activities, VCUQatar continues toward its vision of a Qatari society that innovates through art and design. In addition to a comprehensive annual public events program that includes a wide range of exhibitions, lectures and fashion events, the University hosts the biennial international design conference Tasmeeem and the biennial Hamad bin Khalifa Islamic Art Symposium, attracting globally recognized designers, academics and thinkers while fostering sustainable, university-community partnerships that enhance the educational, economic and cultural vitality of Qatar. For more information please visit www.qatar.vcu.edu

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, non-profit organization that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world.

Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Amir of Qatar, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF carries out its mission through three strategic pillars: education, science and research, and community development. QF's education pillar brings world-class universities to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. Meanwhile, its science and research pillar builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. Finally, its community development pillar helps foster a progressive society while also enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

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