# COMPUTALA

LCB Depot's exhibition & events programme highlights work from different creative practices every month.

This month the focus is on digital art with <u>@newmediaartclub</u>'s computala exploring art with the internet, with work from established professionals and emerging creatives. Exhibitions and events run from **13**<sup>th</sup> – **31**<sup>st</sup> **January 2025** 

Find out more <u>@lcbdepot</u> or at <u>lcbdepot.co.uk/event/computala/</u>



### I'm your pixelpleasure / [digital] Alien Intimacy

#### Zander Porter

Installed between hanging and grounded inflatable seats and brightly tanging paraphernalia, five sculpturally isolated television screens become interconnected around a fountain's pink liquid dripping in I'm your pixelpleasure. Declarative by its title, the work confuses pleasure sources by its being composed of various subjects: I, the artist, or I, five Vizio screens, or I, seven Beagle puppies frowning above a screen shrine, or I-you, you watching Zander Porter move between monitors by way of blue-pink vinyl licorice webs, performing as self or as 14 reality TV masc.-fem.-moms-dads-winners-losers.

I'm your pixelpleasure strives for deep reach into the thin surface of Google search, over-realized desktop backgrounds, and pop cultural-sonic YouTube



(re-)remixes, internet events with similar mass-production and artificiality to plastic wigs, children's blankets, and AstroTurf. The work's self-motivated narrative desires to know what it means that the winner of RuPaul's Big Brother Survivor Race hosted in thin internet receives a flesh baby as her grand prize, having been birth-concocted initially as a plastic-bagged collection of domestic toys by her own queer parents and sponsor-donated by ASMR Mom, rooting for her success through the eyes of their MacBook Pro and VIXIA camcorder.

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Alien Intimacy by James Batchelor and Zander Porter speculates on an interpersonally constructed "alien sensibility" where the visible and the invisible, or the physically embodied and the virtually disembodied, intertwine. The duo's speculative choreography proposes new landscapes comprised of console gaming scenography and low-res NASA images. "Touch" is recalled as a microscopic gravitational force and a magnetic repulsion over the illusory notion of a direct contact. In Alien Intimacy, "contact" is macroscopically proportioned, inviting new senses of (non)touch-touch, the "almost-touchable," or a "space-in-between." Both the concept and content of Alien Intimacy emerged in 2019-2020 through bodily/extra-bodily choreographic relationships to digital interfaces. The work has been danced for staged audiences in Birmingham, Berlin, Ho Chi Minh City, Bangkok, Canberra, and Prague. In its newest iteration, Alien Intimacy merges "audience" with "smartphone" and "stage" with "socially-distanced public" to re-conceptualize contact-points between viewers across neighborhoods, oceans, and browsers.

#### **Artist Bio**

Zander Porter (ザンダー・ポーター) is a US-American artistic researcher and choreographer-cyborg based primarily in Berlin with additional frequencies in Los Angeles, Amsterdam, and Tokyo. Working between liveness and onlineness, ze interpolates (dis)identification and (dis)embodiment as phenomenological inquiries between surface, soma, portal, and psyche. Zander's practices dissect and recompose attention and identity through gamification of gender, affect, interlocution, and subjectivity. Citing internet



semiotics, hormonal technologies, corporeality, and surveillance paradigms with a mixture of curiosity, reverence, irony, and skepticism, Zander's work critically exposes neoliberal orders of hyper-individualization and reimagines staged/documented ceremonies of the techno-social. Ze articulates byproducts (expressions, performativities) of this negotiation as (technogenetic, neuroatypical) matrices of queerer relationality.

Zander has been a core member of XenoEntities Network (XEN), a platform for discussion and experimentation focusing on intersections of queer, gender, and feminist studies with digital technologies. Holding a high-honors BA in Art Studio (with additional coursework in Computer Science and Performance Studies) from Wesleyan University and an MA in Choreography from DAS Graduate School – Amsterdam University of the Arts, ze has worked or participated in residencies at Swiss Institute / Contemporary Art (New York), Cité internationale des arts (Paris), Trauma Bar und Kino (Berlin), the Saison Foundation (Tokyo), National Institute for Space Research (São José dos Campos), and Leonardo@Djerassi (Woodside), alongside reception of disparate production and research grants or awards and participation in various exhibition and festival contexts internationally. Zander is an avid Pump It Up (펌프 및 업) player and also a learner of Spanish, German, Japanese, Arabic, and Latin.

<u>@z3ndxr</u>

