



CALL FOR THE SELECTION OF THREE RESEARCH PROJECTS WITHIN THE ANNUAL MEDIALAB PROGRAM AT MATADERO MADRID

1.- PRESENTATION:

The Madrid City Council directly manages the Matadero Madrid cultural center through the municipal corporation Madrid Destino, Cultura, Turismo y Negocio S.A. (hereinafter, "Madrid Destino") with Tax Identification Code A-84073105, and registered office at calle Conde Duque 9-11- (28015 Madrid).

Matadero Madrid, as a center for contemporary creation, has as one of its programs Medialab.

Medialab promotes transdisciplinary, collaborative and open research, encouraging the development of research projects of national and international scope. With its transfer to Matadero, Medialab aims to consolidate itself as a cutting-edge research center from which to shape the future. For this reason, the annual program of research projects is presented with an open call for international projects. The program will host, promote and visualize the development of three research projects on the margins of established modes of thought. Medialab encourages proactive, collaborative and experimental research work, but at the same time rigorous, critical and operational, supporting research proposals based on speculative design, learning by doing and counterintuitive, which promote the resolution and testing of projects with human potential and social and ecological utility.

Medialab is a space for innovation and research that welcomes those projects that are too exceptional to fit into the strict lines of academic research, often incapable of bringing together and intertwining diverse disciplines or intermediate positions between thought and practice. Medialab's mission is to fill this institutional void as far as possible, welcoming and promoting ideas and projects that, despite their brilliance and transformative capacity, do not find their place in the more disciplinary public programs.

Within this broad framework, Medialab provides, through this call, the context and the appropriate space to develop three research projects throughout the year 2023/24.

2.- OBJECTIVE:

This call, in accordance with the principles of transparency, equality and competition, and in line with the programming lines of Matadero Madrid, has as its final objective the selection of three research projects that develop, during a maximum period of one year, a research project within the framework of the themes proposed by the curatorial manager of Medialab, and in dialogue with the activities of the annual program of Medialab and the communities linked to it.

3.- CANDIDATES/PARTICIPANTS:

This call is aimed at projects, individually or collectively, researching in disciplines such as



design, art, architecture, urbanism, economics, film, photography, journalism, digital media, environmental sciences, philosophy, engineering, social studies, political science, programming, materials science, activism or any other field.

Research projects should contribute to the creation of an open space for personal and professional exchange; the language of communication is usually both Spanish and English.

Those responsible for the projects must be of legal age, with capacity to act and in possession of the corresponding administrative authorizations to be able to stay in Spain for the duration of the research project, and who do not incur in any of the prohibitions to contract established in article 71 of the Public Sector Contracts Law.

The project must be presented and developed in both Spanish and English.

4. RESEARCH PROJECT

The research projects must be related to one or more of the thematic lines proposed by the Medialab curatorial manager (Annex I of this call):

1. New Dynamics
2. Sentient Media)
3. Hybrid Ecosystems
4. Intelligent Semiotics
5. Micro-Macro Tectonics
6. Disruptive Tools
7. Tangible Cybernetics
8. Event Horizon

During its development, the project must be able to dialogue with the rest of Medialab's activities, and be able to transform and enrich itself through this dialogue in contact with collaborators (individuals and other organizations), other researchers, users and the public.

Throughout its development, the research project may be developed in the spaces of Matadero enabled through information, documentation, exhibitions or presentations of a public nature, and may also be translated into public activities associated with it, agreed throughout the development of the project with the curatorial manager. The research process and its results must be adequately documented.

Those projects will be chosen whose themes, proposals and dynamics contribute the most to the program and at the same time those proposals that benefit the most from the context of openness, collaboration and innovation of Medialab in accordance with the evaluation criteria of this call.

5.- CANDIDACY EVALUATION COMMITTEE AND SELECTION CRITERIA

a. Selection Committee

MADRID DESTINO will set up a Selection Committee made up of two professionals from outside the institution, the curatorial manager of Medialab at Matadero Madrid and a member of the programming team of Medialab at Matadero Madrid, who will chair the Committee. The Commission will have a Secretary, who will take the minutes of the sessions, with voice but no vote. The external professionals are Alfredo Puente and Maite Borjabad López-Pastor. Alfredo Puente is an art historian and is part of the Curatorial Area of the Cerezales Antonino y Cinia Foundation [FCAYC.org]. His research covers different fields related to the idea of ecology, including aspects linked to environmental humanities. Maite Borjabad López-Pastor is an architect, curator and researcher currently based in Bilbao, Chicago, New York and Madrid, whose work revolves around various forms of critical spatial practices, operating through the disciplines of architecture, art and performance.

The decision of this assessment committee will be communicated as of 20 July 2023 via the websites www.medialab-matadero.es and www.mataderomadrid.org and to the e-mail address provided in the applications submitted with the selected projects.

Decisions of the members of the Commission shall be taken by a majority of the members participating. In the event of a tie, the vote of the person holding the Presidency shall decide.

4 The specific regulation of the Evaluation Commission is in accordance with the rules established for collegiate bodies by Law 40/2015 of 1 October on the Legal Regime of the Public Sector. Exclusion due to non-compliance with the requirements and assessment are the exclusive competence of the Assessment Committee. The evaluation committee may convene the candidates it considers to an exhibition and presentation of the projects presented.

b. Evaluation criteria

The track record and experience of the projects submitted will be examined by the Evaluation Committee based on the following criteria:

- Trajectory of the projects in relation to the objectives and forms of execution of the Medialab projects at Matadero.
- Relevance and depth of the research, its capacity to operate beyond disciplinary barriers, its idiosyncrasy and its connection with Medialab's objectives and its different lines of work.
- Projects that can benefit from the particularities of a space like Medialab and, at the same time, those most capable of contributing to the development and objectives of the program.
- Clarity of the proposal and feasibility in terms of its realization and execution.
- Demonstrated competence in cross-cutting research projects, team dynamics and tools.
- Conocimiento del tejido de iniciativas ciudadanas y organizaciones de la ciudad de Madrid.
- Knowledge of the network of citizen initiatives and organizations in the city of Madrid.
- Actions presented by the projects to be developed for the integration of social groups and coordination with other projects will be positively valued.

Part or all of the call may be declared deserted, by competence of the evaluation committee

without appeal.

6.- CONTRACTING AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The candidates who have submitted the selected projects will be hired by MADRID DESTINO according to the applicable contracting procedure in accordance with Law 9/2017, of November 8, on Public Sector Contracts.

The development of the research projects shall be carried out at the risk and peril of the contractors, who shall act with full freedom and autonomy, deciding at their own risk and peril the organization of their means of production, and without prejudice, to the use of the spaces resources and means of MADRID DESTINO during the development of the research. The relationship between the Parties shall correspond to that of independent contractors, and no company or joint venture shall be constituted by the contracting, nor shall any of the Parties be considered as agent, partner, employee or representative of the other.

The maximum price of the contract will amount to a maximum of FOURTEEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EUROS (14,900.00 €), plus VAT and subject to the practice of withholdings corresponding to income taxes, if applicable, in consideration for the development of the research project adapted to the Medialab program at Matadero, as well as for production expenses for the development of the activities that form part of the research project.

The payment of the agreed consideration as remuneration for the provision of services, up to a maximum of €14,900.00, will be made upon presentation of the corresponding invoices in accordance with the following milestones:

- Forty percent (40%) upon formalisation of the corresponding contract or, if applicable, notification of award, for the rights to adapt the research project to the Medialab programme at Matadero, which will be attached as an Annex to the contract together with the execution schedule.
- Thirty percent (30%) upon delivery of a report on the results of the research in the first six months of the project, expected to take place between 1 and 15 March 2024.
- The remaining thirty percent (30%) upon completion of the research project and upon presentation of the results and final report of the project.

7.- DURATION

The development of the research project will be executed within a period of 12 months from the formalization of the contract, or, if not required to formalize the contract, from the notification of the award.

The services are scheduled to start in the first half of September 2023, although the dates are subject to possible changes duly justified for scheduling reasons.

It will be agreed as a specific clause of resolution that the research project cannot be developed due to an outbreak of COVID-19, reasons of public health or instructions or recommendations of the governmental, autonomic or municipal authorities, including the sanitary ones. Any of these sanitary circumstances or others of public order will be considered a cause of force majeure, according to 1105 of the Civil Code and consequently, and once the

event that prevents the development of the research project has occurred, neither of the parties will be liable for the damages suffered by the other party, each one assuming its own and both being released from the fulfillment of their obligations, except those that without prejudice to themselves serve to reduce the damages to the other party or partially achieve the purpose of the contract and of the research project.

8.- TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

The technical specifications for the development of the research projects that are contracted and which will be an essential condition will be the following:

- The results of the research project will be published under a Creative Commons By-SA or similar licence at www.medialab-matadero.es and www.mataderomadrid.org
- The contractor will agree with MADRID DESTINO and with the consensus of the curatorial manager of Medialab at Matadero the periods and times when the research will be carried out in person, depending on Medialab's timetables and programming during the term of the contract. The opening hours of the Matadero Madrid facilities are Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 to 21:00.
- The research project will coexist with the rest of the projects selected in the same call for proposals in coordination with the Medialab curatorial manager, to whom the contractor will propose all those issues considered interesting for the approach of the respective research project.
- Coordination with the Medialab curatorial manager will be carried out in regular meetings that will allow for the review, monitoring and evolution of the research project to enable its development and adaptation to the Medialab programme proposed by the curatorial manager. To this end, the contractor will propose activities related to the research project that can be incorporated into the Medialab programme, such as meetings and visits by groups related to the project, to be assessed by the curatorial manager.
- To facilitate the documentation and dissemination of the research project, the contractor shall provide MADRID DESTINO with text, graphic and/or visual content that serves to explain the research project and its development, in addition to the reports on the results and final report of the project required as invoicing milestones.
- Comply with the rules of use of Matadero Madrid's facilities whenever accessing them.
- To have an insurance policy for professional risks covering the entire research period.

- The contractor shall be subject to the MADRID DESTINO Code of Ethics, which is mandatory for all MADRID DESTINO contractors. The code is available at the following link on the website www.madrid-destino.com in the Transparency and Good Governance Section https://www.madriddestino.com/sites/default/files/202012/C%C3%B3digo%20%C3%A9tico_Madrid%20Destino_2.pdf. In particular, project members must behave correctly and avoid racist, homophobic, transphobic and/or sexist behaviour, and in general any other conduct that may violate human dignity, will be grounds for immediate cancellation. The contractual relationship may be terminated in the event of serious breach of any of the essential conditions established.

9. DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED AND APPLICATION DEADLINE

To apply, the following online form must be duly completed by **18th June 2023 at 23:59 CET**.

APPLICATION FORM:

Complete social or personal and contact details (name of the organisation and/or name and surname of the representative, address, email, telephone number).

Attachments:

1. **Applicant's documentation:** The applicant's documentation must be attached in a single PDF file with the name of the entity or representative (nombredelautor.pdf) in A4 format, and must include:

- Biographical summary and motivation letter (maximum 500 words)
- Portfolio with previous or similar projects, maximum 10 pages.

2. **Project documentation:** The project documentation must be attached in a single PDF file with the name of the organisation, representative and the title of the research proposal (authorname_projectname.pdf) in A4 format, and must include:

- Title of the project.
- Description of the project (between 1,000 and 2,000 words), which must include the following sections: background, approach, objectives, communities with which it is proposed to work, work schedule, methodology, preliminary proposal of possible public activities and expected results. Graphic material illustrating the project may be included, maximum 10 images.
- Link to a video file with a personalised presentation and introduction to the proposed project, maximum 3 minutes.

Proposals may be submitted in Spanish or English. The submission of projects implies full acceptance by the candidates of the terms and conditions of this call and does not grant any rights to the participants.

Any doubts will be resolved at the following e-mail address: info.m@medialab-matadero.es, indicating in the subject 'Convocatoria proyectos de investigación Medialab Matadero

2023-2024"

Without prejudice to the documentation requested for participation, in the event of passing the selection process, it will be requested prior to the start of the corresponding contracting procedure:

DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED IN THE CASE OF BEING SELECTED

- Copy of the signatory's valid ID card or passport.
- Copy of the signed rules of the centre and of the use of the space.
- Once the contract has been formalised, or if not required, after notification of the award, in accordance with the protocols of the Madrid Destino Safety and Emergency Department, the contractor will receive the following Occupational Risk Prevention documentation from the MADRID DESTINO Self-Protection and CAE Sub-Directorate:
 - Occupational Risk Assessment of the spaces that make up the Matadero cultural centre attached to Madrid Destino.
 - Emergency Measures for the four spaces that make up the Matadero cultural centre attached to Madrid Destino.

The Contractor must send the signed acknowledgement of receipt to the assigned technician at the following address: seguridadprevencion@madrid-destino.com. Técnico CAE y Autoprotección, Subdirección Autoprotección y CAE, Dirección de Seguridad y Emergencias, Madrid Destino, Cultura, Turismo y Negocio, S.A., Calle Conde Duque 9-11, 1ª Planta. 28015, Madrid. Área de Gobierno de Cultura y Deportes. Madrid City Council.

DOCUMENTATION TO BE PRESENTED TO FORMALISE THE FIRST PAYMENT:

Bank ownership certificate, signed, stamped and dated during the current year.

10.- INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

MADRID DESTINO at MEDIALAB aims to foster open knowledge and promotes the free use and reuse of the works and prototypes resulting from the working groups, workshops and laboratories through the website www.medialab-matadero.es.

Texts (except where otherwise noted) are licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0

International license  which allows:

- Copy, distribute and publicly communicate the texts of the website.
- Make commercial use of the contents.
- Generate derivative works.

For this, only conditioned to:

- Acknowledgement, making explicit the source of information through the following formula in a visible place: "Information obtained from the website www.medialab-matadero.es.
- Include the same obligation of acknowledgement in the licensing terms of any derivative product that makes use of this information.
- Do not distort the meaning of the information reproduced.
- Avoid any presentational features that suggest that Madrid Destino or Madrid City Council endorses or promotes the use made of the information disseminated.

The results of the research will be published under Creative Commons By-SA in the terms established at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/es/>. However, the authors may license their contents under any other free licence, in order to guarantee a wider dissemination, and must indicate this in a notorious manner in their publication or corresponding work.

In this context, participants, by the mere fact of submitting their research project to this call, are responsible for the originality and authorship of the project submitted, and guarantee that they legitimately hold all intellectual property rights over the same and, in this sense, guarantee the peaceful use by Madrid Destino and third parties and expressly exempt them from any liability for damages and/or harm that, directly or indirectly, their failure to comply with this guarantee may cause, with a guarantee of full indemnity.

Should it be necessary, the candidates of the projects selected at the time of contracting will be required to undertake to execute, sign and sign any documents necessary for the maximum and full effectiveness of the planned transfer or assignment of rights.

11.- DATA PROTECTION

Madrid Destino guarantees researchers that their personal data will be processed in accordance with current legislation and to this end informs them that they will be included in a file owned by Madrid Destino under the following terms:

Responsible party: Madrid Destino Cultura Turismo y Negocio, S.A., with registered offices in Madrid, calle Conde Duque, 9-11, Madrid (C.P. 28015).

Data Protection Delegate: dpd@madrid-destino.com

Purposes: To manage and fulfil the established relationship (including the management of the

legal contracting file, the formalisation and filing of contracts and deeds, the management of accounts, the fulfilment of tax, invoicing, transparency and control obligations).

Conservation period: It will be limited to the period necessary to comply with the contractual relationship and during the periods of limitation of civil, criminal, administrative or any other type of action that may arise from the activity or service provided.

Addressees: Tax Agency and other public administrations, for the fulfilment of transparency and control obligations, tax authorities, as well as financial institutions for the management of collections and payments and judicial authorities. Transparency obligations entail the publication on the corresponding electronic site of the list of contracts signed by Madrid Destino, with a mention of the signatory parties, their purpose, term, modifications made, those obliged to perform the services and, where appropriate, the agreed financial obligations.

Legitimacy: Execution of a contract.

Rights: The exercise of rights of access, rectification, deletion, portability and limitation or opposition of can be requested by e-mail addressed to dpd@madrid-destino.com, with reference "Medialab/ Matadero" and identification of the applicant by means of an official document. "You can also file a complaint with the Spanish Data Protection Agency (AEPD).

12.-IMAGE RIGHTS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

By submitting their project, candidates accept that in the event that their project is selected and contracted, they may appear in images (photographs, videos, etc.) taken by MADRID DESTINO to document the research project for subsequent informative or promotional dissemination of the activity of Medialab, Matadero and/or Madrid Destino, on their respective websites and official profiles on social media, and they authorise such use.

Likewise, they accept that their image may be used in catalogues or other documents compiling the activities of Medialab, Matadero or Madrid Destino.

All of the above with the proviso and limitation of those uses or applications that may infringe their right to honour in the terms set out in Organic Law 1/1982, of 5 May, on the Civil Protection of the Right to Honour, Personal and Family Privacy and Personal Image. Any other use made outside the aforementioned scope is expressly excluded from this authorisation.

13.-ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES

The participants, by the mere fact of applying to the call, accept these rules.

14.- RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS.

For the resolution of any question or dispute arising from the call for applications, please contact Madrid Destino in writing so that both parties can reach an amicable resolution. In the event of failure to reach an amicable resolution, the parties, expressly waiving their own jurisdiction, submit to the Courts and Tribunals of the city of Madrid. If you require further details, please write to the following address: info.m@medialab-matadero.es All doubts will be resolved through this e-mail address and will be published on the web page



www.medialab-matadero.org

ANNEX 1: THEMATIC LINES OF RESEARCH MEDIALAB AT MATADERO 2022-2023

Medialab's programming for 2022-2023 will orbit around 8 transversal thematic lines of research that will mark the topics of interest for the programme over the next two years.

NEW DYNAMICS

New Dynamics uses the tools of computational social science to ask how we can better organise social, governmental and institutional structures.

The trends of new technologies bring us an increasingly automated and decentralised future: Blockchain, smart contracts, DAOs or Artificial Intelligence offer new governance mechanisms never before imagined. These new technologies have opened up a different paradigm and, thanks to them, we can glimpse ideas that break with the current order: from giving voice and legal representation to non-human entities to building more agile, transparent and fair democratic systems.

What role do these technologies play in proposing new legal, economic, political or ecological models?

This line of research will explore the potential of new technologies to build fairer and more resilient governance structures that guarantee inclusion, accessibility and equity for different social strata.

Medialab claims the role of new technological media to foster the self-composition of our social ecosystems, as well as to propose new management models applicable to communities, cities, companies and even entire nations.

SENTIENT MEDIA

Microscopes did not create bacteria, but it is as if they did. After their invention we could never conceive of the world in the same way again.

The thematic line Sentient Media is like a telescope, it focuses on making the invisible visible. Such visibility has substantial information for conceiving the world differently on issues such as health, energy and our relationship to the environment.

Covid has shown us that those societies that are able to monitor themselves and generate correct transmission and tracking models have been the best at combating the spread of the virus. Even the very concept of Climate Change would not exist without the sensitive organ - made up of a myriad of sensors - that we have deployed over the last decades around the

planet to measure with extreme granularity the consequences of alterations in weather patterns.

What new readings of the world will sensor technology deploy over the coming decades?

The aim of this line of research is to promote the creation of new computational and sensory platforms capable of deploying alternative understandings of the world, overcoming human perceptual limitations and producing new abstractions to understand the complexity of our hyper-connected reality.

The projects linked to this theme will address the invention, construction and deployment of new sensory and visualisation technologies, promoting research in both physical environments - for example, the design and engineering of sensors, hardware, or new mechanisms for health or ecological monitoring - and digital environments - simulations, geomapping, interactive models, remote sensing, or process automation - encouraging their application in a multiplicity of fields ranging from the microscopic to the planetary scale.

HYBRID ECOSYSTEMS

Cities occupy only 0.3% of the earth's surface, yet the landscapes that make the phenomenon of the city possible cover nearly 70% of the planet's surface. Today more than ever we need to be aware of the multiscalarity and polytemporality with which urban ecosystems operate. We need to transcend the physical delimitation of what we call "city", to intertwine it with a multiplicity of diverse ecologies. We believe that not only the city is a city, but everything that feeds it.

The Hybrid Ecosystems research line approaches urban design from a radical rethinking of the inherited epistemological assumptions about the natural and the synthetic. We want to redefine the term "city", giving it an important nuance that includes in its definition the set of operational landscapes on which the city depends: the energy production systems that sustain it, the geological and extractivist practices that materialise its buildings, or the logistical mechanisms that supply and feed it. Cities could not exist without them. We need to stop looking at them as something alien to the urban.

Today the city is, for better or for worse, an event of planetary dimension and scope. That is why to design the city of the future we must go beyond the design of the layout of streets or buildings. We must incorporate the design of the flows (energy, material or economic) in which the city participates and, in the context of the climate crisis, propose alternative models that are not pathological for the proper metabolisms of the planet.



Hybrid Ecosystems operates at the intersection of infrastructural design, the incorporation of new energy models, radical urbanism, or materials science to improve the relationship between natural and man-made environments, making them operate as a single hybrid system towards adequate environmental performance.

INTELLIGENT SEMIOTICS

What is communication? We talk a lot lately about interspecies communication, but not so much about inter-entity communication. Every second, all around us, millions of forbidden "conversations" take place between living and non-living systems alike. We need to understand that language as a semiotic science is intertwined with other processes of information transmission to which we are often oblivious.

The Intelligent Semiotics thematic line explores the future of communication systems between different intelligent agents, with special emphasis on the semiotics between the environment and human and non-human systems. It will seek strategies both to humanise non-human language, making it more affective and accessible, and to dehumanise our understanding of language, defining new dynamics and processes.

How can we communicate better with ecosystems, what role does artificial intelligence have in the future of communication, and what new models of communication can we establish between organic and non-organic systems?

Topics such as humanoid robotics, facial recognition, medical telemetry, deep fake, artificial intelligence, etc., are of central interest, but so are emerging technologies such as 5G, projects like Neuralink or the Internet of Things (IoT) that foresee a future in which our bodies, devices and infrastructures will be more connected than ever.

This line of research will promote multidisciplinary practices that integrate Human-Centred Design (HCD) with psychology, aesthetics and advanced computing to create technologies capable of mediating between diverse semiotic systems. The aim is to facilitate communication between diverse intelligent entities - be they animals, machines or entire ecosystems - enabling better collaboration between them.

MICRO-MACRO-TECTONICS

Sometimes big transformations start from very, very small changes.

Think for a moment of the relationship between the combustion engine and climate change, between global logistics and a cargo ship stuck in the Suez Canal, or between poor sanitary

management of a food market and a catastrophic pandemic. We live in a world of scalar interdependence, where the molecular is planetary and large-scale changes are the consequence of micro-scale decisions - deliberate or accidental.

How would the world change if engines were not powered by fossil fuels, or if our eating habits were based on different diets?

The Micro-Macro-Tectonics thematic line aims to investigate technologies capable of artificialising mechanical and biological systems to produce beneficial systemic changes on a large scale. We are at the beginning of a fascinating era, where the development of emerging disciplines - such as bioengineering, robotics, nanotechnology, or genetic engineering - will produce futures in which technological and human progress are not only compatible with the proper maintenance of ecosystems, but in which all will necessarily be interdependent.

Did you know that there is a modified algae (*Asparagopsis Taxiformes*) that if introduced into the diet of our livestock could reduce their methane production by 99%? Or that it is possible to design trees capable of absorbing up to 60% more CO₂?

This line of research will promote the development of transdisciplinary projects that, among other topics, work on the generation of new materials, energy production systems, molecular engineering, carbon capture mechanisms, biofabrication or geoengineering; all those that make use of micro-scale strategies or technologies, but with a macro-scale transforming capacity.

DISRUPTIVE TOOLS

Our ability to use and create tools is a substantial part of what makes us human. This characteristic has taken us from being small communities of hunter/gatherers to a hyper-connected planetary civilisation capable of exploring the far reaches of the universe.

We often think of politics as laying the groundwork for societal transformation, providing the soil on which new technological systems can emerge. However, the reverse is equally true. Technological change often precedes subsequent political and social change.

When did we democratically decide to have platforms like Facebook or Google?

We design our tools and they design us in return. No one ever voted for the iPhone, yet this device has changed our societies more profoundly than any democratically passed law.

These contemporary tools, as well as the emerging digital ecosystems they support - Tik Tok, Instagram, Whatsapp, Tinder or Google Maps - form a technological infrastructure that is at the same time political, economic, cultural and ecological. Interfaces whose implementation radically change the protocols of social interaction and the ways we relate to our environment.



What new interfaces, devices or systems will appear in the coming years, and how can we design them so that the structural changes they produce lead us to a better future?

The Disruptive Tools thematic line will focus on the design, development, and implementation of a wide catalogue of new media tools and applications with the potential to transform society. We want not only to explore new physical and digital interfaces, but also to analyse their implications for social, political and economic dynamics, as well as for traditional forms of artistic expression and dissemination such as music, film, literature and the visual arts.

TANGIBLE CYBERNETICS

We live in the metaverse: a multiplicity of cyber environments where diverse agents (human and non-human) interact socially and economically through a digital ecosystem.

Over the last decades we have witnessed the unstoppable growth of countless virtual worlds: gaming, social networks, teleworking or online commerce. Far from being mere substitutes for the "real world", the metaverse constitutes a media interface capable of integrating and interweaving physical and virtual dynamics in an increasingly interdependent ecosystem of worlds mistakenly considered as opposites.

Whether we attend a virtual conference or explore a hyper-realistic MMO, we must understand that rather than inhabiting a real or an online world, we inhabit a bridge between the two; whose political, economic and social structures are indebted to the technologies with which we design them.

What is the future of the metaverse beyond Minecraft communities or obsolete Facebook accounts? In what ways will cyberspace influence the way we inhabit our physical reality?

The Tangible Cybernetics Lab will foster projects that inhabit the bridge between our physical and virtual worlds, and their capacity to build dual ecosystems in which questions of identity, privacy, portability, or ownership can be rethought.

We want to change the outdated conception of cyberspace as an "unreal world". We want to foster a new vision that conceives it as a place capable of influencing the "real world", capable of designing the societies of the future.

EVENT HORIZON

The outermost layer of a black hole is called the event horizon. The one that does not allow us to see beyond it, that we cannot pass through.

There are things we know-that we know (Known Known Known), things we know-that we don't know (Known Unkown), things we don't know-that we know (Unkown Known) and finally there



are things we don't know-that we don't know (Unkonwn Unkown). Medialab should have a space dedicated to the latter.

The Event Horizon thematic line will host all those investigations that, due to their strange, alien or precursor nature, do not find their place in any of the other thematic lines. It should promote projects that explore the unknown-unknown, the unclassifiable, those things for which we don't even have a name yet, helping us to detect unexplored paths and the risks they may entail.