

SICV (Scandinavian Institute of Computational Vandalism)

The archive activists Michael Murtaugh, Nicolas Malevé and Ellef Prestsæter present the installation *The Scandinavian Institute of Computational Vandalism* in the vitrine of Constant. During the opening on Wednesday, January 27 at 18:00, you will have the opportunity to discover the treasures hidden behind its virtual scenes.

The project is inspired by the *Scandinavian Institute of Comparative Vandalism* (SICV) founded by Asger Jorn shortly after leaving the Situationist International in 1961. The SICV was an art and research association experimenting with the practice of collage, the forces of photography, image archives, and political imaginaries. Today Computational Vandalism challenges the assumptions at the basis of computer vision, the discipline that programmatically ties together the visual and the mnemonic.

Les activistes des archives Michael Murtaugh, Nicolas Malevé et Ellef Prestsæter présentent dans la vitrine de Constant l'installation *l'Institut Scandinave de Vandalisme Computational*. Pendant le vernissage, le mercredi 27 janvier à 18h00, vous aurez l'occasion de découvrir les trésors qui se cachent dans ses coulisses virtuelles.

Programmeur en mediakunstenaars Michael Murtaugh, Nicolas Malevé en Ellef Prestsæter presenteren in de vitrine van Constant de installatie *Scandinavish Instituut voor Computer Vandalisme*. Tijdens de opening op woensdag 27 januari om 18:00 kan je enkele schatten ontdekken die anders in de coulissen verborgen blijven.

Dit project is geïnspireerd op het *Scandinavian Institute for Comparative Vandalism* (SICV), opgericht door Asger Jorn kort na zijn afscheid van de Situationisten in 1961. Het was de naam van een vereniging die collage combineerde met het potentieel van fotografie, beeldarchieven en politieke ervaringen. Het *Scandinavish Instituut voor Computer Vandalisme* gebruikt dezelfde methoden om de stellingnames die aan de basis liggen van computer vision te bevragen, een discipline die visuele en mnemonische gereedschappen in software verenigt.

Image source: Leaf from Schedel's *Weltchronik*. Printed by Anton Koberger in Nuremberg, 1493. From the collection of Guttorm Guttormsgaard · Free Art License, SICV. 2015 · sicv.activearchives.org

red, green, blue

ficient color information? Human intuition, for a white image is an image in red, blue and green. To us that look the most appear most red or green, only the color values that relate to the others by a certain

black boxes

Lexicality and Texture. These layers are produced using Tesseract, a software for optical character recognition (OCR). An OCR program operates at different levels of granularity. It can detect lines, words, symbols. Lexicality shows the words detected in an image, while Texture shows the symbols detected. Texture is configured to be rather tolerant in its understanding of what a

colored contours
Edges detected on each image. In addition to tracing the outer boundaries of the image fragments, the algorithm connects the lines into a series of distinct segments represented by a different color.

magenta circles
SIFT features (scale-invariant feature transform) are *interesting* points of an image that can be extracted to provide its *feature description*. This description can then be used to identify (parts of) an image, even when rotated or changed.

