

Associate Prof. (HES) Patrick Keller

Curriculum vitae

1. Personal information

Personal details

Born: 15th May 1967, in Lausanne

Nationality: Swiss

Marital status: Married (25.08.2017), no child

Contact information

ECAL, 5 Avenue du Temple, Renens VD

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2. Education

- 12.12.1995 Postgraduate degree EPFL in Computer Visualization and Communication, School of Computer Sciences, Computer Graphics Lab, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)
- 23.04.1993 Architect diploma EPFL (equivalent: M.Sc.), School of Architecture, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). Supervisors: prof. Mario Bevilacqua, Dr Pieter Versteegh
- 31.07.1987 Maturité fédérale type C (Scientifique), Gymnase cantonal, Pully (1984-1987)

3. Employment history

- Since 09.2015 Associate Professor (HES), ECAL University of Art and Design, Lausanne (50%, until 31.08.2021)
- Since 04.1997 Co-founder, Art & Research director, fabric | ch (architecture, interaction, research)
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- 05.2014–03.2017 Senior researcher, ECAL University of Art and Design, Lausanne
- 03.2013–07.2013 Guest researcher (residency), Art & Sciences Media Laboratory, Tsinghua University, Beijing
- 07.2011–02.2012 Guest researcher (residency), EPFL+ECAL Lab, Lausanne
- 03.2005–08.2007 Researcher, ECAL University of Art and Design, Lausanne
- 09.2000–08.2014 Professor (HES), ECAL University of Art and Design, Lausanne
- 09.2000–08.2003 Head of Media & Interaction Design, ECAL/University of Art and Design, Lausanne
- 09.1996–08.2000 Scientific collaborator, DI-LIG (Computer Graphics Lab, Prof. Dr. Daniel Thalmann), EPFL, Lausanne
- 05.1993–03.1997 Self-employed, architect EPFL at Keller ++ Weber architects, Lausanne
- 03.1990–09.1990 Architect intern, Daniel Libeskind architects, Berlin

4. Institutional responsibilities

- 09.2000–08.2003 Head of Media & Interaction Design department, ECAL/University of Art and Design, Lausanne

5. Approved research projects

- 2015–2017 Strategic fund for design and visual arts, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland (RCDAV, HES-SO): “Inhabiting and Interfacing the Cloud(s)”, phase 2, senior researcher and project coordinator (main applicant)
- 2014–2015 Strategic fund for design and visual arts, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland (RCDAV, HES-SO): “Inhabiting and Interfacing the Cloud(s)”, phase 1, senior researcher and project coordinator (main applicant)
- 2009–2011 Pro Helvetia: “Globale Surveillance” & “Paranoid Shelter”. As fabric | ch (main applicant)

- 2004–2007 Strategic fund for design and visual arts, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland (RCDAV, HES-SO): “Variable_Environment/ mobility, interaction city and crossovers”, researcher and project coordinator
- 2002–2005 FP5-IST European Commission: “Spacemantix: Combining Spatial and Semantic Information in Product Data” (main applicant: prof. Dr Rainer Malkewitz). As fabric | ch (under its former name of Alternet Fabric Sàrl)

6. Supervision of junior researchers

- 2014–2017 Supervision of two junior researchers HES (Graduate), and students (BA, Mas) in the frame of the design research “Inhabiting and Interfacing the Cloud(s)”, phases 1 & 2
- 2005–2007 Supervision of two junior researchers HES (Postgraduate) and students (BA) in the frame of the design research “Variable_Environment”

7. Teaching activities

- Since 2018 Associate Professor (HES), Supervision of Master Thesis. Ma Innokick (HES-SO).
- Since 2015 Associate Professor (HES), Media & Interaction Design, ECAL University of Art and Design, Lausanne (50%). Courses: – 3D graphics (versatile use of 3d from moving images, interactive 3d, to 3d printing); – Theory and history of Media & Interaction Design; – Diploma workshop.
- 2000–2014 Professor (HES), Media & Interaction Design, ECAL University of Art and Design, Lausanne. 30%. Courses: – 3D graphics; – Interactive graphics; – Diploma workshop.

8. Memberships

- 09.2001–08.2003 Member of scientific commission, Project Sitemapping, Federal Office of Culture (BAK), Bern

9. Active memberships

- Since 09.2014 Member, Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects (SIA), Zurich
- Since 01.2013 Member of scientific commission, RCDAV, competence network in Art and Design, HES-SO

10. Organization of conferences

- 2019 Member of scientific committee, ECAL Research Day, Technology, Art and Design
- 2017 Member of scientific committee, 10+10, Research in Art and Design at ECAL

11. Prizes, Awards and Scholarships

- 2019 Department of Cultural Affairs, Vaud: grant for the development of the project Atomized (curatorial) Functioning. Presented during the exhibition Entangled Realities, HeK, Basel, 2019
- 2016 Architecture competition (invitation): Pavilion for Plateforme 10, Vaud, 1st prize and study mandate
- 2009 Pro Helvetia, City of Lausanne & Canton of Vaud: grant for the project Globale Surveillance
- 2005 Federal Office of Culture (BAK): grant for the development of the project Perpetual (Tropical) Sunshine. To be exhibited during the Festival of Lights, Lyon, 2006
- 2004 Federal Office of Culture (BAK): grant for the development of the project MIX-m. An experimental mixed museum combining the physical and digital dimensions
- 2004 Pro Helvetia: selected for Collection Cahiers d’artistes. As fabric | ch
- 2000 Golden Lasso Award (1st prize), Web3D 2000 | ACM Siggraph Conference, Monterey CA-USA

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Major scientific achievements (05.2015 – 04.2020)

1. “Atomized (curatorial) Functioning”

Exhibition, Haus der elektronischen Künste (H3K), Basel

Real-time 3D architectural assembly and software based on Machine Learning, associated to rules and live data. Scenography.

http://www.fabric.ch/pdf/65_atomized_curatorial_functioning_m.pdf

2019

Contribution

Initiator, designer, scenographer, coordinator.

For the exhibition “Entangled Realities. Living with Artificial Intelligence”, organized by Sabine Himmelsbach and Boris Magrini (curators) at the Haus der elektronischen Künste in Basel (H3K), I co-designed (as fabric | ch) the experimental software piece that created the overall scenography, based on machine learning. The work continuously produced new exhibition configurations, in real-time 3d, for the four months duration of the exhibition.

Impact

Presented at H3K during Art Basel 2019 with many feedbacks from the art scene and peers. The work was later published in the magazine Espace Art Actuel, Issue 124 (Montreal, Canada). It undergoes improvements and modifications and is susceptible to appear in new contexts of exhibition, notably in collaboration with museums or architects.

2. “Cloud of Cards”

Platform for the open source dissemination of design research deliverables.

Home cloud kit, software, prototypes, manual, publication.

<http://www.cloudofcards.org>

2018

Contribution

Initiator, researcher, coordinator, art director, editor

“Cloud of Cards” is an open source kit composed of four design and technological artifacts. It is the main result of the joint design research “Inhabiting and Interfacing the Cloud(s)” (I&IC, 2014-2017) and is released under a Creative Commons License. I initiated and supervised the setting up of the dissemination platform financed by the Strategic fund for design and visual arts, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland (RCDAV HES-SO).

Impact

The platform of open source dissemination and its means are dedicated to both peers and to a broadened community of makers and tinkerers with a strong interest in design, IT and data. By doing so, the dissemination of deliverables contribute in a concrete manner (“empowering tools”) to the debate about the ways citizens could handle their personal data and provide elements of critical answers.

3. “Environmental Devices (1997-2017)”

Monographic exhibition, “Kunsthalle Éphémère”, Renens

http://www.fabric.ch/pdf/63_environmental_devices_exhibit_m.pdf

2018

Contribution	<p>Initiator, coordinator, designer, curator</p> <p>I curated the whole 2000 sqm monographic exhibition. Together with my colleagues at fabric ch Christophe Guignard and Christian Babski, I supervised and took part in the entire installation of the experimental works, as well as the photo shoot for which it was later to be used.</p>
Impact	<p>Monographic exhibition retracing 20 years of private experiments and researches, as fabric ch. Several projects, artifacts and prototypes were exhibited at this occasion, including “Perpetual (Tropical) Sunshine”, “Paranoid Shelter”, “Satellite Daylight” and several others. Some prototypes (patents and licenses) were displayed as well and dynamically used by the “Environmental Devices”, in particular the “Datadroppers” platform.</p>

4. “Inhabiting and Interfacing the Cloud(s)”

Research project

Co-applicants: prof. Patrick Keller and prof. Dr Nicolas Nova

Co-coordinators: prof. Patrick Keller and prof. Dr Nicolas Nova

<http://www.iiclouds.org>

2017 (end)

Contribution	<p>Co-initiator, co-coordinator, researcher, editor of the open access documentary platform.</p> <p>Together with Nicolas Nova, I initiated and coordinated the research project “Inhabiting an Interfacing the Cloud(s)” (I&IC), financed by the Strategic fund for design and visual arts, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland (RCDAV, HES-SO). I also managed the survey, sampling and documentation of the full design research process on the online platform settled for the research, for which I contributed with texts and resources.</p> <p>The project involved four schools and a scientific committee composed of seven peers from the interdisciplinary fields of design, architecture, ethnography, computer sciences and art theory, for which I also coordinated the interventions and meetings.</p>
Impact	<p>Open sampling, documentation and publication of an ongoing design research process. Monitoring of the field in relation to design stakes. The temporary results of this continuous work have been exhibited in 2015 at the Haus der elektronischen Künste (H3K) in Basel and have been the subject of a talk at the Centre Culturel Suisse in Paris in 2016. Numerous talks have been given as well, in institutions such as HEAD – Genève, ECAL/University of Art and Design, Lausanne, EPFL+ECAL Lab, Lausanne and conferences such as LIFT 15 in Geneva, Renewable Futures in Riga or “Unfrozen” – Swiss Design Network conference in Giessbach.</p>