

## Common grounds between art and science

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A **Harbinger** is a forerunner. Historically linked to the idea of providing lodgments in advance, it indicates something or someone foreshadowing events in the future.

In the context of the EPS-HEP particle physics conference to be held in Ghent this summer, KASK's 2018-19 Curatorial Studies designed this series of events drawing closer lines between art and science in partnership with art@CMS, a program developed within one of the large experiments at the CERN Large Hadron Collider in Geneva. A lecture cycle, a film programme, an exhibition and a publication, **Harbinger** is an inquiry on some of the aspects that simultaneously approximate and distinguish the fields and practices in art and science. Dimensions such as prediction, intuition and foretelling play a particular role in both systems. Harbinger invites the audience to aim at the unknown through both disciplines to welcome what is next.

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### CURATED BY

Atena Abrahamia  
 Johannes de Bruycker  
 Chris Dupuis  
 Lotte Egtberts

Peter Lemmens  
 Monica Ruiz Loyola  
 Elisa Maupas  
 Laila Melchior  
 Lucie Ménard  
 Anna Stoppa

Mobina Tabar  
 Nasrin Tork  
 Gabriela Torres  
 Michiel Van Damme  
 Astrid Vereycken  
 Lenny Vervaeke

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### Free entrance for all events

Check our website for additional information: [www.harbinger.wiki](http://www.harbinger.wiki)

Please follow our social media related to the events:

Instagram:  
 Harbinger\_art\_and\_science following  
 the hashtag #harbingerartandscience

Facebook:  
 The events will be announced via  
 Curatorial Studies at KASK facebook page

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## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

(SHORT)

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### DISCOTECA CLANDESTINA (HARBINGER 0)

25 May > 11 pm

Harbinger's opening event, in the night from Saturday 25 to Sunday 26

Kunsthal Gent (Lange Steenstraat 14, 9000 Gent)

### FIRST SIGNS (HARBINGER 1)

31 May — 16 June

Lectures on Fridays, 7pm

Curated Screenings on Saturdays and Sundays, 2pm - 8pm

Kunsthal Gent (Lange Steenstraat 14, 9000 Gent)

### SUBTLE COLLISIONS (HARBINGER 2)

6 July — 17 July

6 - 17 July, 9am - 6pm

Opening Friday, 5 July, 5pm

Ugent Botanical Garden (K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35 - 9000 Ghent)

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## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

(DETAILED)

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### DISCOTECA CLANDESTINA (HARBINGER 0)

25 May > 11 pm

Kunsthal Gent (Lange Steenstraat 14, 9000 Gent)

Harbinger's opening event in the night from Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 of May

Paolo Danese (IT) and Algis Kaveckis (LT) are the audiovisual performative team of Discoteca Clandestina. The name comes from their book "Discoteca Clandestina: an Eschatological Disco Survival Strategy Plan for The End Times", which offers a detailed timeline and description of the future from the date of publication (23/9/2017) to the year 4009.

Danese and Kaveckis' psychotronic audiovisual performance will inject concepts of their book into the (un)conscious mind of the viewer-listener, using moving pictures and visual information supported by a DJ set of Ascension Disco songs. They will be joined by guest Alessandro Parisi with a special Esoteric Disco warm-up.

Kunsthall Gent (Lange Steenstraat 14, 9000 Gent)

Designed by Curatorial Studies (KASK & Conservatorium), **HARBINGER** is a programme of lectures, films and an exhibition investigating common grounds between arts and sciences. **HARBINGER I: FIRST SIGNS** brings a lineup of international speakers elaborating on themes such as the encounter between arts and sciences, the complex relations between data, debt and speculation, and the connections tying matter and consciousness together.

**31 May, at 7pm**

**Sci-art: framing arts and sciences**

- Barbara Vanderlinden  
Art critic, editor and curator
- Marjan Doom  
Director of the forthcoming Ghent University Museum, Ugent
- Mediation: Katarina Petrovic (CLEA, VUB)

**1 & 2 June, from 2pm to 8pm: curated screenings**

**7 June, at 7pm**

**Going short: prediction as debt & data tracing maps to the future**

- Liam Gillick  
New York-based artist, screening a slideshow with new reflections
- James Beacham  
Post-doctoral researcher at CERN with the ATLAS group  
(Duke University) and filmmaker
- Mediation: Jonito Aerts Arguelles (CLEA, VUB)

**8 & 9 June, from 2pm to 8pm: curated screenings**

**14 June, at 7pm**

**Beyond matter: consciousness on the horizon**

- Johan Grimonprez  
Visual artist, post-doctoral researcher (KASK) and lecturer at the  
School of Visual Arts (SVA), New York
- Karel Van Acoleyen  
Theoretical physicist, researcher and professor on relativity at Ghent University
- Mediation: Stan Bundervoet (CLEA, VUB)

**15 & 16 June, from 2pm to 8pm: curated screenings**

Ugent Botanical Garden (K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35 - 9000 Ghent)

6 - 17 July, 10am - 6pm

Opening Friday, 5 July, 5pm - 10pm

**Special opening hours:**

6 July, 6pm - 9pm

Workshop by Maria Boto & Kristel Peters - Color Biolab +  
late night opening until 10pm

12 July, 6.30pm - 8pm

Workshop by Other Women's Flowers  
+ late night opening until 10pm

Inspired by the notion of interaction used in particle physics **HARBINGER II: SUBTLE COLLISIONS** is an exhibition focusing on common grounds between arts and sciences. Rather than presenting metaphors of such an encounter, it departs from the observation that both fields use notions of prediction and intuition as tools.

The general idea that physics approaches the world through fixed concepts such as energy, force, time and space while the arts are limited to aesthetic creation, is a very simplified one. Procedures related to both practices are commonly mis-known and therefore misunderstood. A surprising example could be found on devices such as the accelerators used for particle physics experiments. Contrary to what one might imagine, these does not promote head-on collisions: approximating particles in super high speeds it allows interactions in much more subtle ways. Inside it, the smallest components of matter ever detected by humankind cross each other, break into something else and finally decay. All these steps should be traced, measured, visualized and interpreted.

Methodological procedures characterising arts and sciences are often driven by an incessant curiosity towards the world and surpass clear divisions in many ways. Scientists enable ever-new visibility devices to render invisible things tangible to the eyes. These various apparatuses imply aesthetic lines and procedures in order to approach natural and artificially-induced phenomena. Artists, in their turn, develop a variety of systematic methods organizing and classifying the world as part of their practices of creation. What about the machines and mechanisms invented in order to make scientific and artistic perceptions of the world around us tangible? What kind of affects and effects they generate? To each point are they functional or aesthetic?

Both scientists and artists reach sensible dimensions of the world. Creating as many facts as fictions through their particular inventions and interpretations, the images produced in the encounter of these two fields can teach us a lot about our present, our senses and the future. **HARBINGER II: SUBTLE COLLISIONS** is a show about matter and the universe, about energy, light, gravity and time, about circles, black holes and space, and how particles and ideas collide. It combines new works of artistic re-

searchers affiliated with KASK & Conservatorium, developed after a visit to the CERN facilities in Geneva, with works by other artists selected by the postgraduate students of Curatorial Studies.

## PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Véronique Béland  
Joris Blanckaert  
Maria Boto & Kristel Peters - Color Biolab  
Michiel De Cleene  
Edith Dekyndt  
Elias Heuinck  
Nicolas Lamas

Ives Maes  
Daan Paans  
Other Women's Flowers  
Pratchaya Phinthong  
Leticia Ramos  
Joost Rekveld  
Dominique Somers  
Todèl (Delphine Wibaux & Tom Rider)  
Chantal van Rijt  
Ian Wilson

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## SPECIAL THANKS TO

Michael Tytgat  
(Ghent University, scientific coordination/advisor)

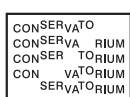
Katrien Vuylsteke Vanfleteren  
(Research Coordinator KASK & Conservatorium)

Antony Hudek  
(Coordinator Curatorial Studies, KASK & Conservatorium)

Michael Hoch  
(HEPHY Institute of High Energy Physics, art@CMS Project Manager)

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## PROJECT IN COLLABORATION WITH



art@CMS