



CRYPTOGRAPHIC BEINGS

MICHAEL SEDBON

ARTISTIC FILE



FILM



INTERVIEW

CRYPTOGRAPHIC BEINGS

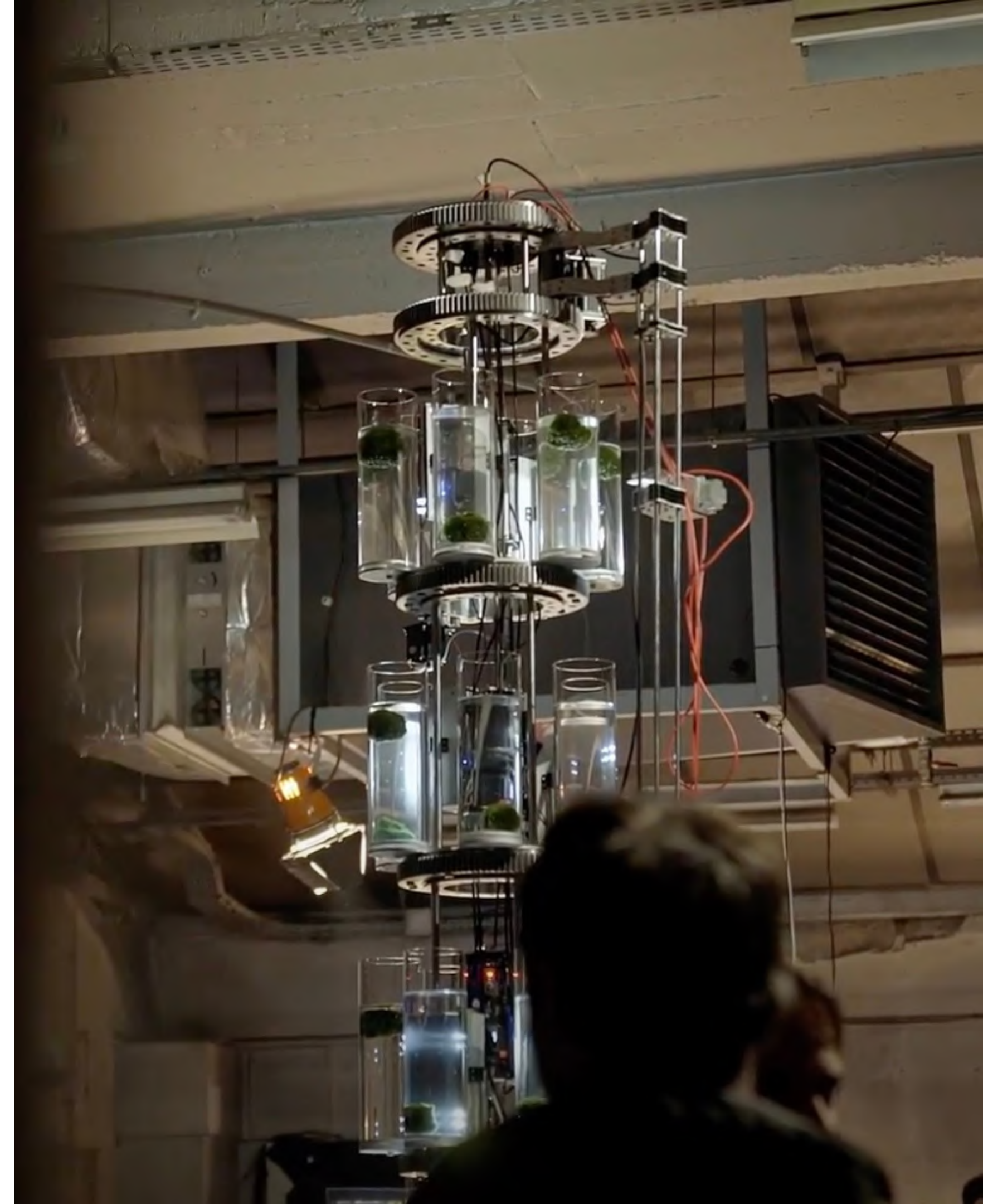
Installation, bio & robotic art, 2022

Cryptographic Beings presents a new technology for storing digital information on algae.

As data gradually takes over the raw resources of states and institutions, a critical reflection on its ecological and political impact is needed.

The increase in the amount of data produced only reflects the dependence of our societies on information processing technologies. Thus, new storage media for this digital information are emerging (such as DNA storage).

Through this installation it is possible to store 5 bytes of information (i.e. a 5 letter word).



CRYPTOGRAPHIC BEINGS

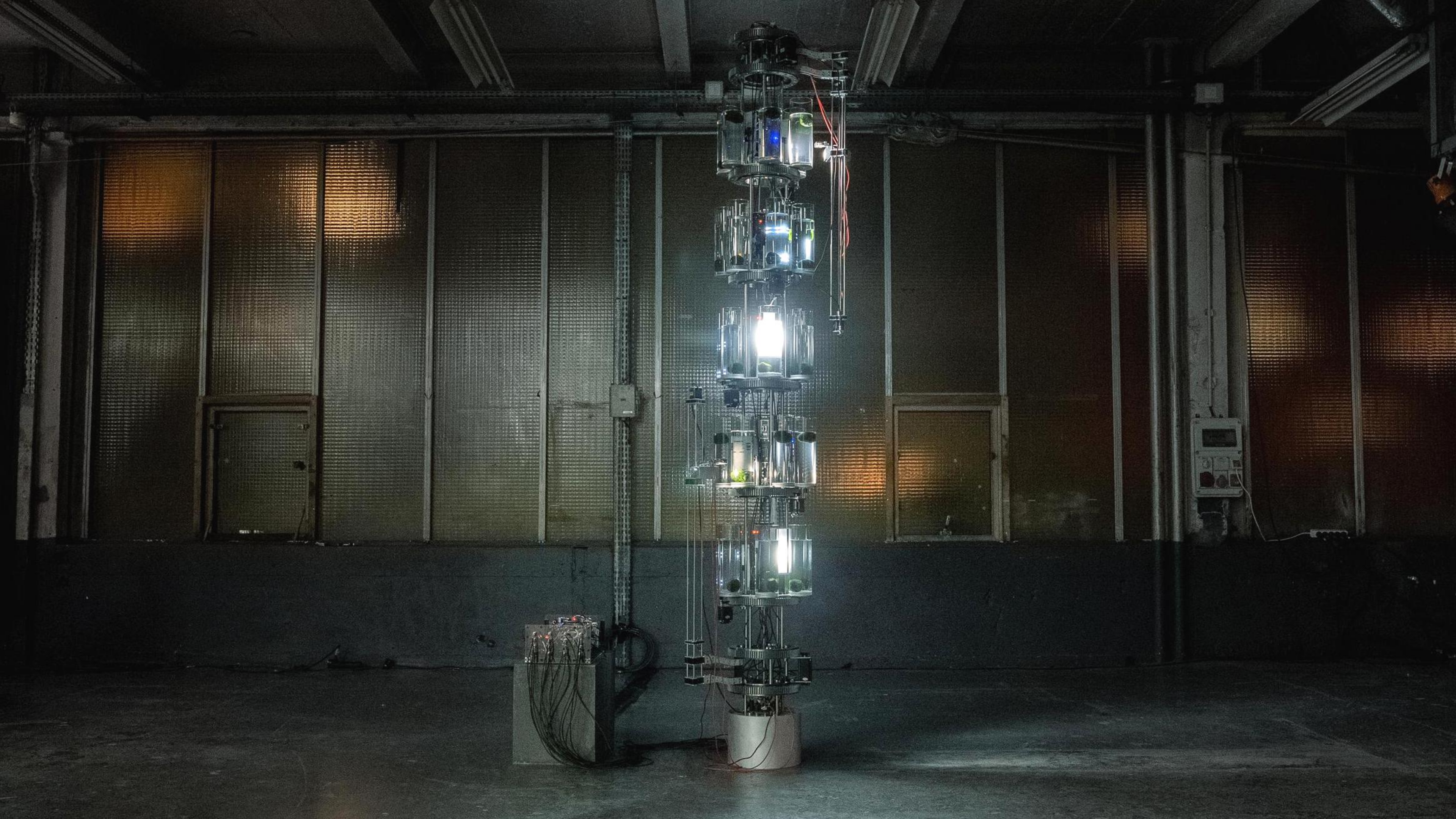
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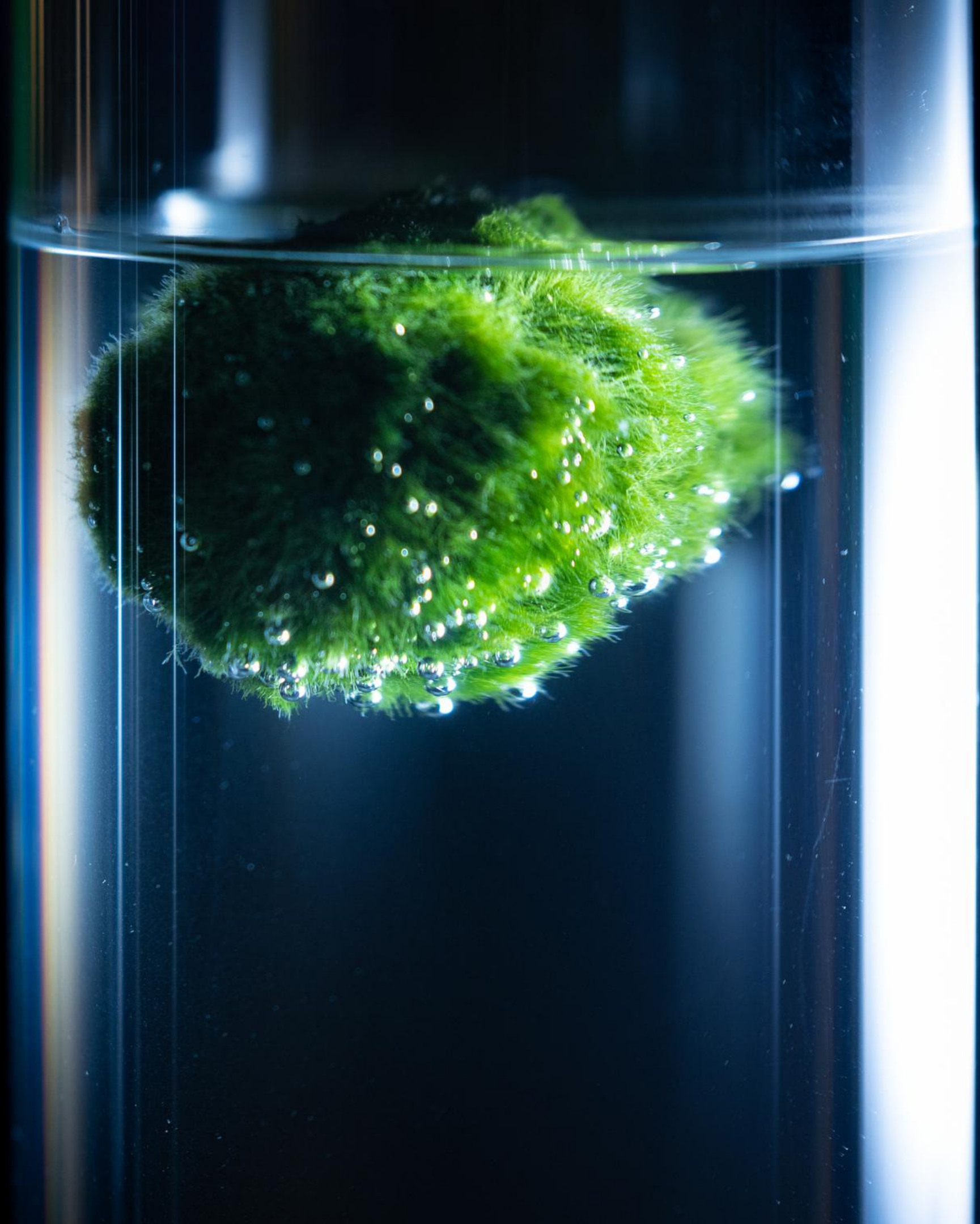
Cladophora Aegagropila is an alga endemic to the cold lakes of Japan and Northern Europe. During photosynthesis, oxygen bubbles are formed in its hairs allowing it to float on the surface.

Like a digital bit, this plant has two states (at the bottom of the container or at the surface). By controlling their access to light, it is possible to change their state and thus write bits of digital information.

The contrast between the dimensions of the installation and its storage capacity incentivise a critique of the relationship between the information produced by our society and the information supported by ecosystems. This technological proposal also serves as a support for reflection on the problems of information processing in the living world.







MICHAEL SEDBON

Michael Sedbon is a designer and artist based in Paris. He holds an MA in interaction design from the London College of Communication and is currently studying biological systems at the CRI in Paris.

His work explores networked digital technologies and systems through their convergence with non-human intelligence (plants, unicellular organisms, insects, bacteria, etc.) in relation to the problematic of the Infoscene (i.e. our current cultural era where information is the force that has the greatest impact on human societies and environments).



MICHAEL SEDBON

The artist explores the relationship between artificial intelligence and biology by building biocomputers that manipulate life forms through systems implemented in software and hardware. He examines how biology influences computer science conceptually and the impact of the implementation of computer science and computational thinking on ecosystems.

Michael has received the Bio Art & Design Awards and his work has been shortlisted for several international awards such as the European Commission's S+T+ARTS Award and the Lumens Award.



MICHAEL SEDBON

PRICES & RÉCOMPENSES

Falling Walls Art and Science Breakthrough winner, 2021
Lumen Prize Shortlist, 2020
Start Prize Nominee, 2020
Japan Media Arts Festival, Art Division's Jury Selection, 2020
Lumen Prize Shortlisted, 2019
Bio Arts and Design Award, 2019

MEDIA

Neural, 66, State of Emergency
Sci-Art Magazine, Algorythmic, June 2020
Creative Application : Cmd, Alt-C
Deutschland funk kultur
The coinspondant
Arshake
Decompose Institutes
publish0x

EXHIBITIONS

Au Delà des Pixels @ 36 degrés, Garage Amelot
CMD2.0 as part of Evolutionaries @ MU Artspace
S_HE DEVIL 12 @ MAXXI, Rome, Italy
Evolutionaries @ MU Artspace, Eindhoven, Netherlands
C t r l @ Kapelica, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Polarities @ Mu, Eindhoven, Netherlands
District 15 @ The Nate, Hong Kong, HKSAR
Sovereign Nature @ Kraftwerk, Berlin, Germany
Biodesign Here Now @ London Design Festival, London, UK
Friday Late @ Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
Discoveries @ Fuimano Clase, London, UK
Ars Electronica, Linz, Austria, 2018

RESIDENCES

Mindspaces , European Commission STARTS/Lighthouse
Hybrid form lab, 2019

DISTRIBUTION

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CREDITS

VIDEO & PHOTO : Maison Mimesis
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