

Opsin

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Hosted by: Flore Hanna Wormskamp - Graduate ArtEZ Arnhem

Project Information (EN)

In Opsin, one can explore the wonders of the octopus skin. By immersing yourself among the cells and folds of the animal's organ, you can gain a glimpse into how octopuses perceive the world. This work not only shows how the octopus skin works but also highlights the contrasting ways in which we experience life. You will find yourself in the place where the outside world and an organism come together. While humans perceive light with their eyes, octopuses sense light with their entire skin surface, transforming their whole body in response. Using spheres filled with ink and surrounded by mirrors, I recreated the basic mechanics of an octopus' ability to camouflage. By incorporating an analog circuit that mimics the light-sensitive cells called opsins, viewers can immerse themselves in the cellular experience of octopus skin. Through this work, I aim to address one of the most pressing questions of our time: Why do humans see themselves as superior beings when there is so much other beauty, intelligence and agency in the natural world?

Sieger White Aanmoedigingsprijs

I was honored to win the Sieger White Aanmoedigingsprijs, awarded to support young graduating talent from ArtEZ University of the Arts Arnhem. The jury noted: "The artist has translated a natural phenomenon—the cellular behavior of octopus skin—into a stunning technical installation that allows viewers to become an integral part of the work. The interplay of light, shadow, and movement results in an immersive and thought-provoking experience."

Image List

Filename	Caption	Credit
bc-02525-23_1727709078.jpg	Opsin Flore Hanna Wormskamp	Françoise Bolechowski
bc-02525-22_1727709084.jpg	Opsin Flore Hanna Wormskamp	Françoise Bolechowski
bc-02525-21_1727709137.jpg	Opsin Flore Hanna Wormskamp	Françoise Bolechowski
opsin-5_1726579371.JPG	Opsin Flore Hanna Wormskamp	

The images above are included in the ZIP under /images.