

# Everything Happens Once 2020

Broken Symmetries, Kumu Museum, Tallinn, Estonia,

30th October 2020 - 21st February 2021.

## Project Outline:

One of the principle ongoing experiments at CERN is CLOUD, Cosmics Leaving Outdoor Droplets, led by physicist Jasper Kirkby, which investigates and tests how cosmic rays affect the climate, by re-creating specific atmospheres under controlled conditions.. This, like many of the experiments at CERN, embodies unperceivable extremes of scale, everything you physically see, is too large and what is analysed is invisible, or too small, behind steel, tin foil and tape and has happened in the recent past.

During her several visits as guest artist at CERN, Neudecker has taken extensive video tracking-shots around the CLOUD experiment to develop **Everything Happens Once**, 2020. The work consists of a set of two self-propelling programmed computer monitors independently running on wall-mounted 7m long tracks, each with a charging dock on the same end. Once charged, each monitor moves horizontally up and down of its own accord, displaying 14 tracking shots programmed in random sequence and moving at the speed it was filmed, creating the illusion of 'virtual windows' into the reality of the CLOUD experiment. In reference to the elusive nature of time and space, the same tracking shot will never appear at the same point on the track more than once, always in a different place, possibly moving in a different direction and in a different combination with the other monitor's footage. It can never be perceived in the same way and also can never be repeated. Interpretation remains subjective, informed by a collision of shifting circumstances, that might be psychological, physical, and socio-political.

The use of camera tracking shots tests our perceptions, engaging our imagination and both enabling and limiting our understanding, as what we see is both essential and irrelevant, the mundane materiality of scientific research is masking groundbreaking discoveries into the origins of existence.

Commissioned by the PRIMAT Foundation as the first piece for the CERN Art Collection, **Everything Happens Once**, 2020 was exhibited as part of *Broken Symmetries*, at the Kumu Art Museum in Tallinn, Estonia. Curated by Monica Bello, Head of Arts at CERN, *Broken Symmetries*, brings together 11 international artists, exhibiting 12 artworks that resulted from their residencies at CERN laboratories and deal with the complex language of physics, and experiments designed to understand nature and matter. This touring exhibition was adapted for 4 different museums worldwide, featuring different combinations of artists and titled either, *Broken Symmetries* or *Quantum*. *Everything Happens Once*, 2020 was scheduled for 2 museums, including Kumu, but due to the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic, *Quantum*, at Le Lieu Unique in Nantes has been cancelled.

The exhibition was co-produced by ScANNER, composed of CERN, FACT, CCCB, iMAL, and Le Lieu Unique, Nantes.