

Press release | January 2026

UNSTABLE MEDIA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Highlights from the Centre Pompidou New Media Collection

20 November 2026 to 2 May 2027

Press conference: Wednesday, 18 November 2026, 11 a.m.

Opening: Thursday, 19 November 2026, 7 p.m.

UNSTABLE MEDIA IN THE 21ST CENTURY examines some of the most radical voices in media art today based on some 40 key works from the Centre Pompidou's pioneering New Media Collection.

Ever since the 1980s, the uncertain future of emerging technologies has challenged any stable notion of »new media« as an art form, with one technology rapidly replacing the next. These technologies have nevertheless become embedded in our sensory memory and form what could be called our »subskin«. Through countless interfaces and persistent resonances, media culture is embodied and enacted daily as an entangled substrate of human life, questioning the possibility of a critical stance. The exhibition brings together a variety of different art forms and situations in order to explore how artists have appropriated and reinvented various media in recent decades, simultaneously recognising and altering them. The show is divided into eight chapters, unfolding along a series of selected paths that propose potential new stories and histories.

The Centre Pompidou is closed until 2030 for extensive renovation work. This presents a special opportunity to experience selected works as part of a cooperative exhibition by the Hamburger Kunsthalle and the Centre Pompidou.

Curators: Dr. Marcella Lista (Head of New Media, Musée national d'art moderne, Centre Pompidou); Dr. Corinne Diserens (Director & Exhibition Curator for Contemporary Art) | Assistant Curator: Jana Pfort

Sponsored by:



Pauline Boudry / Renate Lorenz
Salomania, 2009

HD projection, 12 palm tree sculptures made of painted wooden flowers and ostrich feathers, 13 digital prints (texts and images) and a fanzine. Running time: 17 min.

Acquired in 2023
Collection Centre Pompidou, Paris
Musée national d'art moderne – Centre de création industrielle
Inventory no: AM 2023-832
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