

TECHNO HUMANITIES

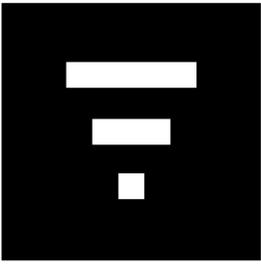
2021–2023

TECHNO HUMANITIES is a three-year multidisciplinary research project consisting of exhibitions, publications, and public programs. Conceived by Museion director Bart van der Heide, it is the young museum's most extensive experiment to date, involving all staff members and regional stakeholder communities. It permeates every part of the institution with an atmosphere of creative dialogue and debate. *TECHNO HUMANITIES* explores the urgent, existential questions of human existence that arise amidst the present-day dependency between ecology, technology, and economy.

The first chapter of *TECHNO HUMANITIES*, entitled *TECHNO*, was on view from September 9, 2021, to March 18, 2022, and addressed the themes of freedom, exhaustion, and compression. It was the first exhibition of its kind to reflect on the techno club as a practical model for solidarity and coexistence of different realities and to explore their meaning outside the subcultural domain. The second chapter, *Kingdom of the III*, ran between September 30, 2022, and March 5, 2023, and addressed the power dynamics that constitute a healthy or unhealthy body. *HOPE* concludes the exhibition trilogy in the fall of 2023 with a reorientation of the humanities toward the spaces between science and fiction. It focuses on the artistic, poetic, and speculative practices of collecting, archiving, researching, preserving, and writing history from alternative perspectives of the Xeno (foreign).

Each chapter of *TECHNO HUMANITIES* is accompanied by an individual critical anthology edited by Bart van der Heide, guest editors and co-curators, and published by Hatje Cantz. They include *TECHNO*, *GLOBALIZATION, PANDEMIC* (2021), *Kingdom of the III* (2022), and *HOPE* (to be published in 2023).

TECHNO HUMANITIES is not just an exhibition series but a think tank and an institutional manifestation of a practice of ethics. An international team of thinkers and practitioners develops and deepens the topics of *TECHNO HUMANITIES* and connects the chapters with alternating research teams. At the same time, projects feature active constituency building, regional representation, and partnerships. *TECHNO HUMANITIES* positions Museion as a global civic institution that promotes and fosters perspectives on knowledge production, responsibility, and engagement that are globally significant as well as regionally relevant.



Bart van der Heide: “Museion is still a young organization and has the opportunity to create new structures faster than more established institutions can. The project *TECHNO HUMANITIES* requires a re-tooling of the institution within a global landscape affected by ecologic, technologic, and economic change. For Museion this is not a theoretical or philosophical discussion alone. As museums for modern and contemporary art have always operated within the power relations that constitute civic institutions, they can investigate and change these relations from within. ‘Practice what you preach,’ for me, is at the heart of the identity crisis that museums are currently experiencing.”

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