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Digital Art Museum [DAM]

The Digital Art Museum [DAM] is the organiser and initiator of the prize. The Digital Art Museum was founded in 1998 by Wolf Lieser, who remains its director to this day, and went online in 2000 as a virtual museum.

The first exhibition rooms of the [DAM] were opened in 2003 and are today established internationally as the [DAM] Berlin. By now, the online museum is one of the world's leading sources for Digital Art and is visited regularly by interested parties from different cultural spheres and from all continents. Apart from classic exhibition work in Berlin-Mitte, the transmission and archivisation of information are the museum's primary fields of work. The goal of its activity is to garner the appropriate amount of attention and appreciation for the fifty-year long history of digital art and its demand for experimentation and a spirit of innovation. During the ART COLOGNE (28.10.–1.11.2005), the [DAM] Berlin will present a comprehensive special exhibition on the history of digital art. The roughly fifty-year long history of the development of digital art can be separated into three phases. In the period between 1956-1986 the first pioneering works were produced, usually on the basis of self-created programs and not always by persons originally working in the field of art. From drawing programs to the media-support of scanner and film camera: The following ten years were strongly shaped by the development of software and its increasing capacities. The period up to today is dominated by the unstoppable rise of multi-media networks – the internet as well as interactive forms of presentation have taken centre stage. The expansion of the digital archive thus belongs to the primary tasks of a museum for digital art. Apart from the works of important computer artists from 1956 onward, background information such as biographies, reviews, bibliographies, and interviews are made available here. A theoretical and historical area allows for deeper immersion into the subject.