

Shapes Symposium: Encounters Between Art and Science

12 February 2025

SG Foyer, EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

09:00–09:15
Welcome & café

09:15–10:45

Panel 1

Archetypes in Art and Mathematics

An archetype is a fundamental and recurring model that embodies universal forms or structures: the sphere can be viewed as an instance of archetype traversing both art and mathematics. What other examples illustrate the influence of archetypes in these fields? How do such archetypes inspire research and creation in art and mathematics? Finally, what are the commonalities and divergences in the way art and mathematics approach and interpret these archetypes?

With the participation of:

Marc Troyanov | Paul Turner | Indira Chatterji
Etienne Krähenbühl | Louis de Saussure | Valérie Felix

11:00–12:30

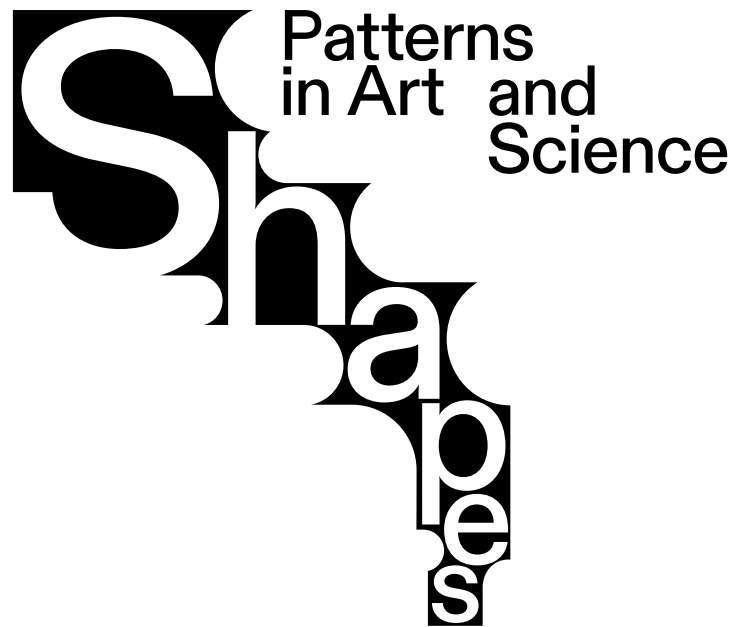
Panel 2

Art, math, and the art of mathematical mediation

Visualized mathematics has always been a part of mathematical mediation. But is it art? More generally, how important are aesthetics in mediation? While mathematics and abstract art share a similar problem of conveying complex messages, is there a way of bringing these two worlds together which is beneficial to both?

With the participation of:

Hugo Parlier | Bruno Teheux | Nina Gasking
Olga Paris-Romaskevich | Kirsi Peltonen
Ulysse Lacoste



12:30–13:30

Lunch buffet

13:30–14:15

Guided Tour of the exhibition *Shapes: Patterns in Art and Science* at Pavilion A with the curators (optional)

14:30–16:00

Panel 3

Shapes in nature

Is nature inherently geometric? Does geometry imitate nature? Is it just us humans who like to see regularity in the world around us? And if we depict nature to communicate science, can or should this have an artistic value?

With the participation of:

Michael Herbst | Gregor Jotzu and more to TBC.

Free admission

Upon registration

→ Registration

Map of EPFL

→ SG Foyer

→ Pavilion A

Provisory programme, subject to modification