PRESS RELEASE

Premiere: PLAYING THE SPACE in Fraunhofer HHI’s mobile TiME Lab

On February 10th, the documentary film PLAYING THE SPACE will celebrate its premiere at the Avant Première Music + Media Market Berlin. The film will be premiered in the Fraunhofer Heinrich Hertz Institute’s mobile TiME Lab. PLAYING THE SPACE is an interdisciplinary project: research, technology and creativity worked closely together as development and film team. Initiator of the film is the Fraunhofer HHI.

The film analyzes a fundamental question, which is of importance to all, who explore music in-depth: How a specific space influences music – its composition, its sound, its recording and its perception? Musicians and composers comment on the significance of the space for their music and for the musical experience.

The documentary PLAYING THE SPACE was produce in 180° panorama format and is a spatial as well as a musical experience. You can encounter not only different music styles but also acoustic spaces and realms of experience, through this innovative technology. The sets, which were developed specifically for their respective location, have a strong influence on the perception and effect of the piece and therefore required innovative solutions for image and audio recording.
Panorama recording with the OmniCam-360

The film uses 360° recordings of the OmniCam-360. Fraunhofer HHI’s compact OmniCam consists of ten HD cameras mounted on a mirror rig. Fed-in single shots are corrected in real-time and stitched together in a parallax-free video panorama boasting a resolution of approx. 2,000 x 10,000 pixels.

Furthermore, the special approach to audio ensures a high sound quality, which considerably exceeds the quality of traditional recordings. When scenes are played back over the 3D audio loudspeaker setups, an immersive, more realistic sound impression can be produced throughout the entire listening space.

Fraunhofer HHI’s mobile TiME Lab, which since 2012, can be installed anywhere in the world, represents the current and highest, technically feasible level for the improvement of the media experience quality. For this reason, Fraunhofer HHI developed a technology, based on the model from Immersive Media, which provided the recipients with a completely new visual and sound impression.

Supporter of this extraordinary film project is the Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg. Partners are the Berliner Philharmoniker, the Rundfunkchor Berlin and the Andromeda Mega Express Orchestra. In addition, the Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits, Sennheiser, Neumann, Yasta Frankreich, Deutschlandradio Kultur as well as Barco/IOSONO are also supporters of the documentary film PLAYING THE SPACE.

Film Facts:
Color / 23 minutes / HD / 180° panorama film
Production period: 2013-2015 | Premiere: 10.2.2015
Direction and screenplay: Marianne Wendt
Production development and production output: Corinna Volkmann
Producer and editor: Matthias Behrens | Camera: Hans Rombach
Sound: Thomas Koch | Sound design and mixing: Bernhard Albrecht
Production: Fraunhofer Heinrich Hertz Institute / wave-line GmbH

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The Fraunhofer Heinrich Hertz Institute is a world leader in the development of mobile and fixed broadband communication networks and multimedia systems. From photonic components and systems through fiber optic sensor systems to video coding and transmission, the Fraunhofer HHI works together with its international partners from research and industry. www.hhi.fraunhofer.de

The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is the leading organization for applied research in Europe. Its research activities are conducted by 67 institutes and research units at locations throughout Germany. The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft employs a staff of more than 23,000, who work with an annual research budget totaling 2 billion euros. Of this sum, more than 1.7 billion euros is generated through contract research. More than 70 percent of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft’s contract research revenue is derived from contracts with industry and from publicly financed research projects. International collaborations with excellent research partners and innovative companies around the world ensure direct access to regions of the greatest importance to present and future scientific progress and economic development.

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