

CLARA MAÏDA

(A)UTOM@TON

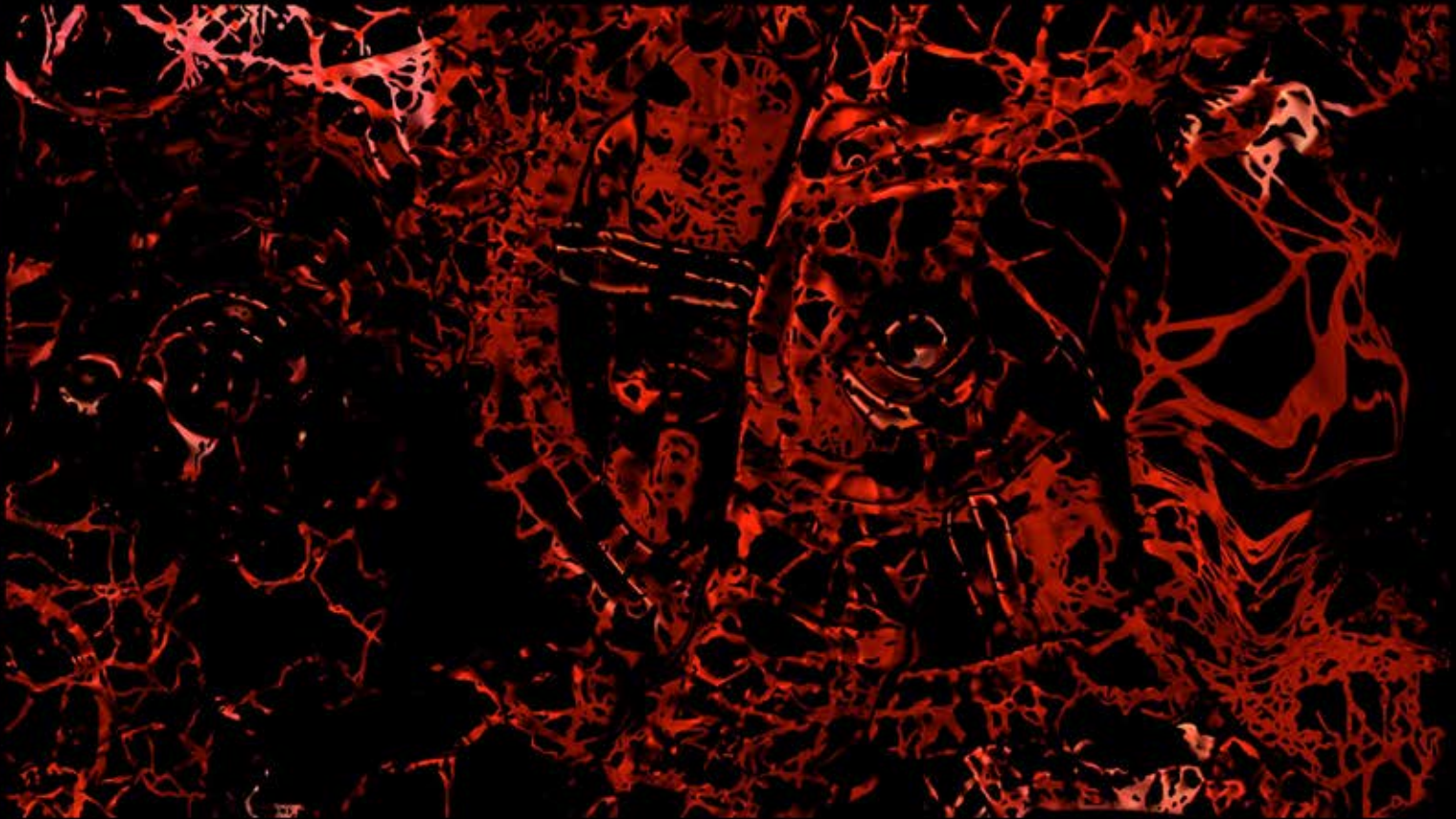
AN AUDIOVISUAL WORK (2024)

ELECTROACOUSTIC MUSIC AND ABSTRACT ANIMATED VIDEO

LAUREATE OF IMPULS NEUE MUSIK 2024

World premiere - MÀD festival (Bordeaux-FR), November, 21 2024

[SEE THE AUDIOVISUAL WORK](#)



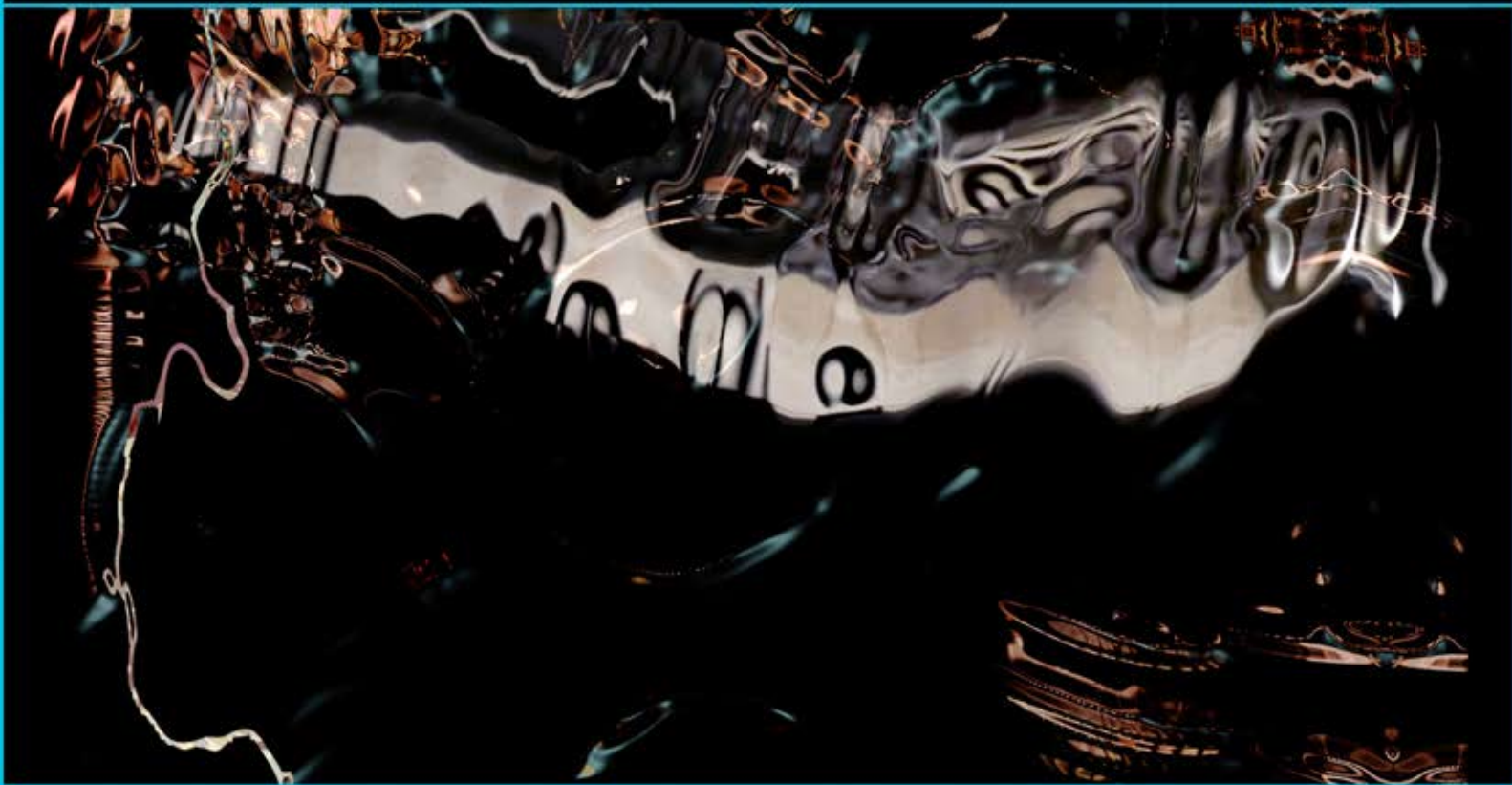
Screenshot of the animated video - © Clara Maïda

AKADEMIE DER KÜNSTE (Berlin-DE), November 5, 2025

(a)utom@ton refers to the term "automaton" which names an autonomous being-machine that acts on its own account.

The work questions the relationship between humans and machines (particularly robotic ones), the boundary between a machinic *automaton* (algorithms, robotics, AI) and a psychic *automaton*, a term used by psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan to describe the compulsion to repeat of unconscious processes.

(a) alludes to the *little a* object defined by Lacan as the elusive, unidentifiable object of desire which can take very various shapes for each individual. @ evokes the Wi-Fi connected robotic objects.



The animated video explores a moving and hybrid territory, with the merging and superimposition of images, such as machinic cogwheels, robotic circuits, an Arduino board, neural networks or brain connections, interweaving their textures and developing metamorphic pathways.

The visual animation has been realised in synchronisation with the musical work whose material contrasts mechanical and repetitive sound motifs to more organic sonorities, hoarse or strident, akin to a scream or a death rattle.



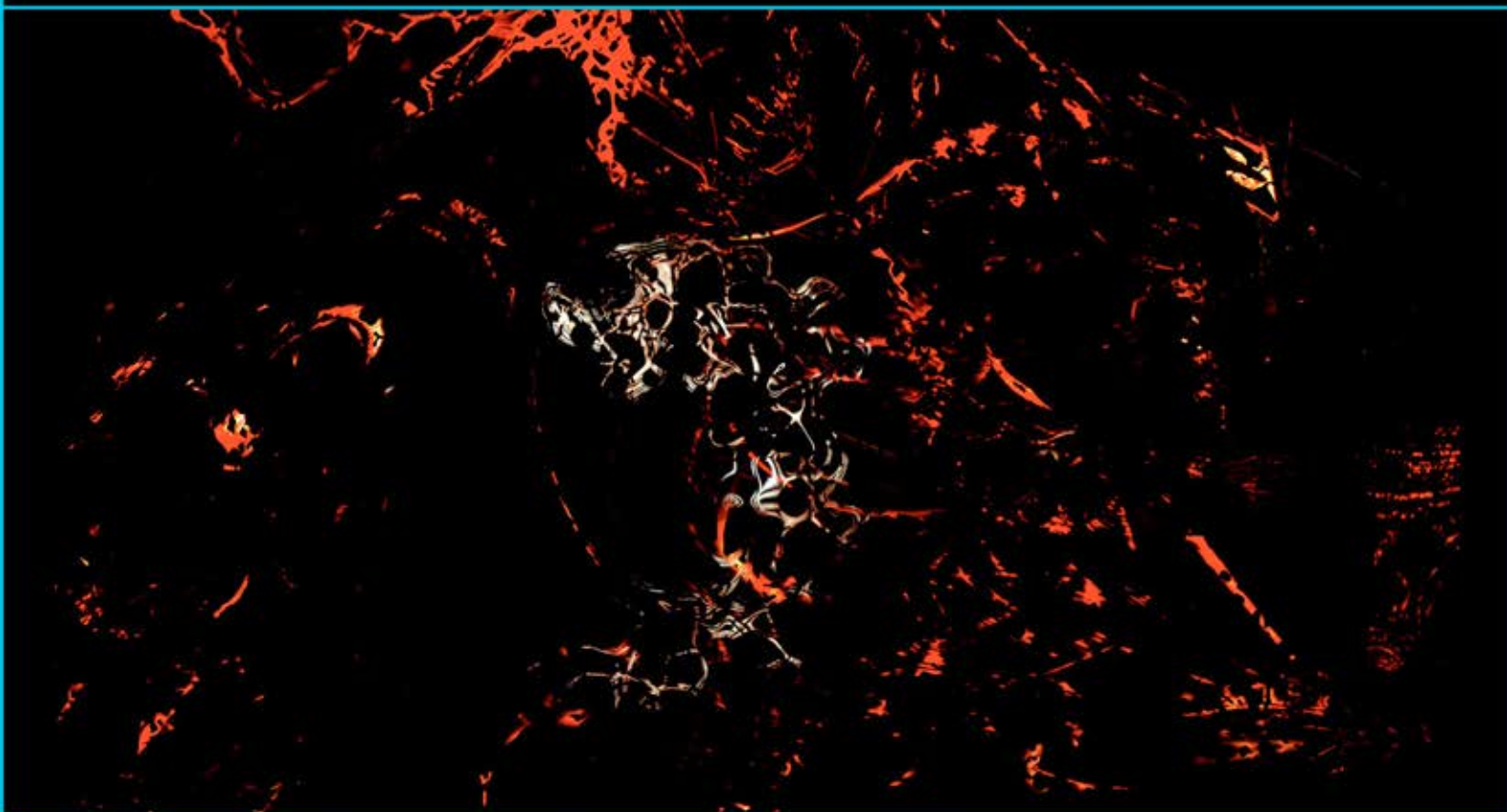
IMAGES - Network of brain connections; neuron; Arduino board; robotic circuit; machinic cogwheels; videos of reflections in water

AUDIO files: recording of instrumental and machinic sounds

SEE THE FULL DESCRIPTION OF (A)UTOM@TON

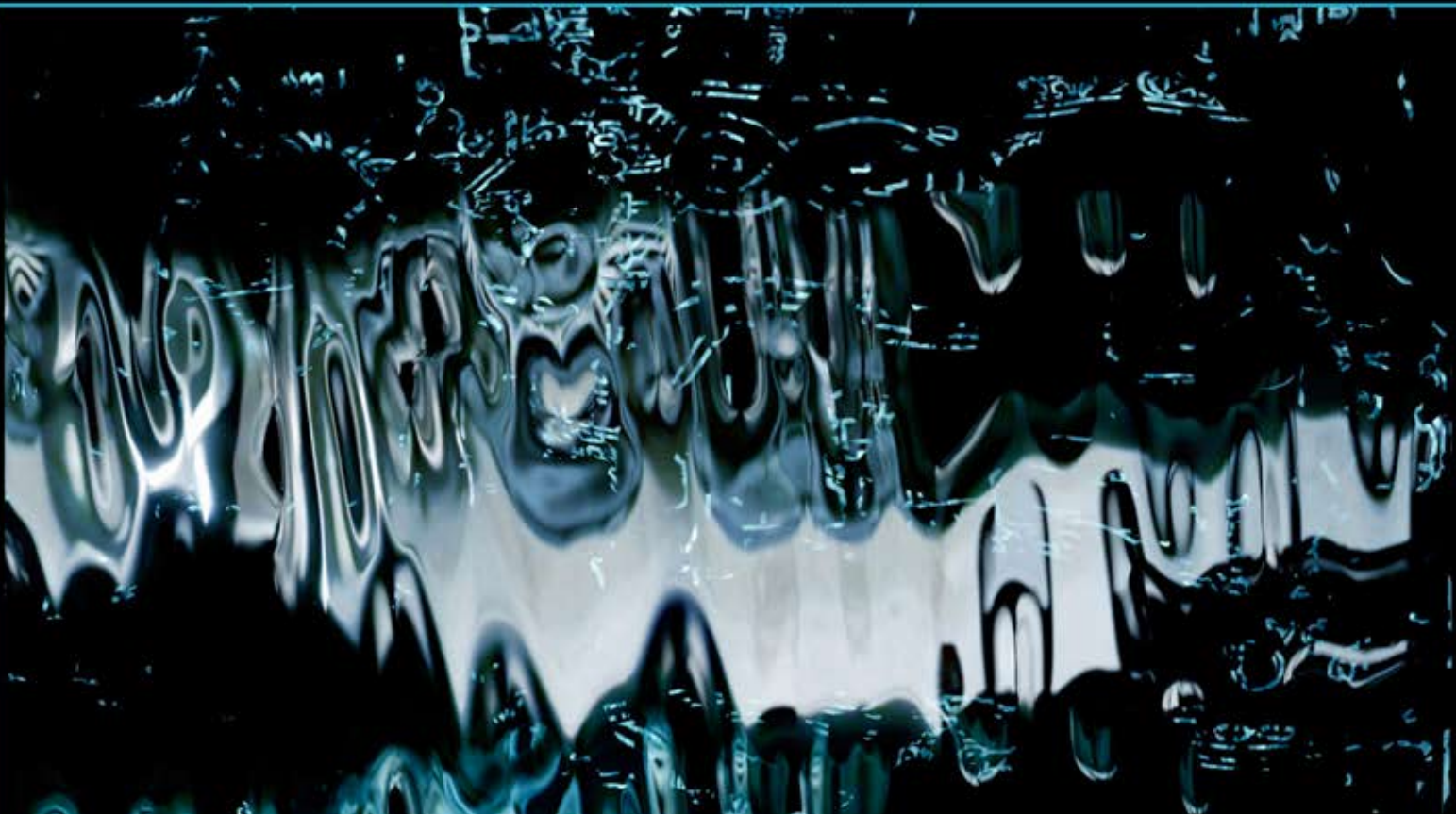


Two screenshots of the animated video - © Clara Maïda

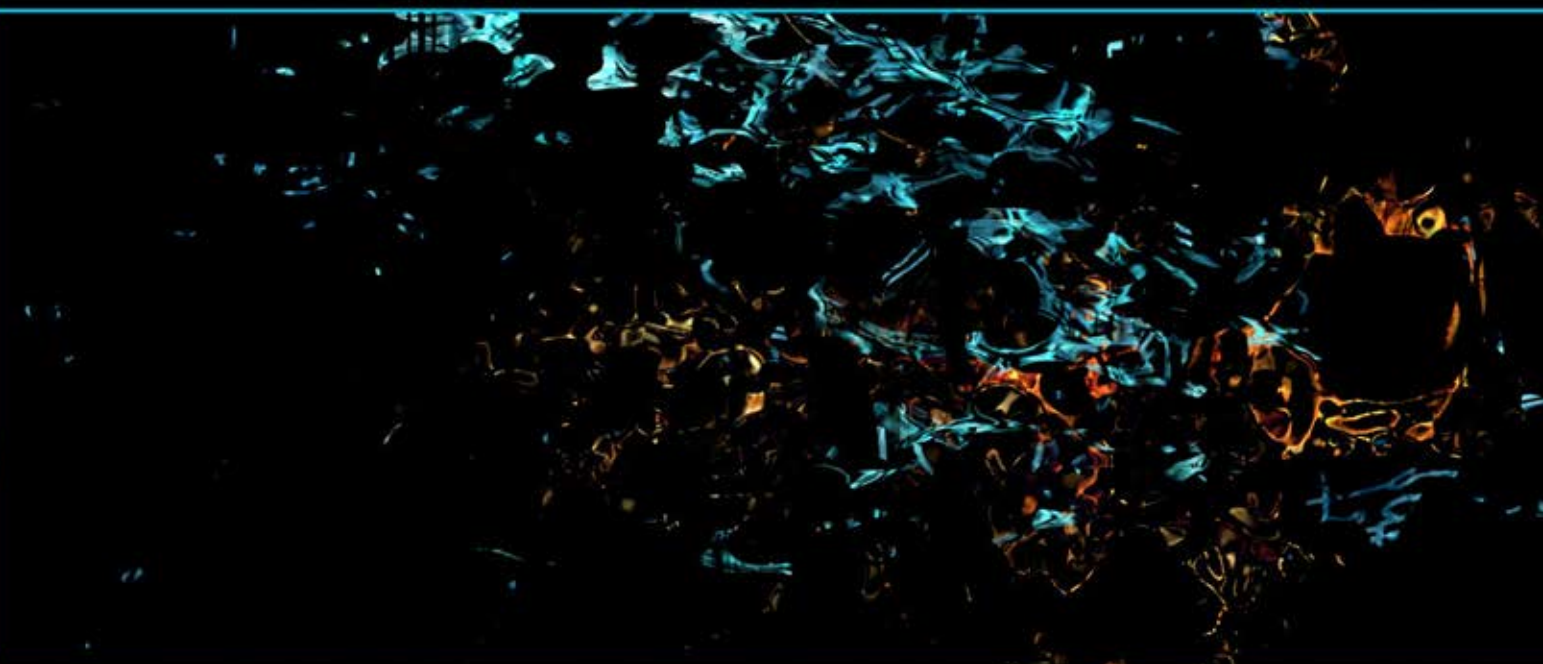


Whether the individuals are governed by one or the other *automaton*, what is their degree of free will, how can they free themselves from ever possible alienation?

Where does the tipping point lie between humans whose actions can become mechanised and robotic machines programmed to mimic human behaviour?



Two screenshots of the animated video - © Clara Maïda



CLARA MAÏDA - Music composition and realisation of the animated video

VIDEO CREATION

Realised with Adobe Photoshop (digital editing of the images) and Adobe After Effects (animation of the images)

MUSICAL CREATION

Realised with ProTools (editing, mix, sound processing), GRM Tools and ASAP IRCAM (sound processing)

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WEBSITE

IMAGES AND MUSIC - © CLARA MAÏDA

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All the musical creations are protected by the **SACEM**