

Press release

Pakui Hardware | *Breed*

Art Basel Parcours

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Located in the visitor center of the Novartis Campus, *Breed* transforms the site into a breeding ground for new forms of life. Curtains on circular rail enclose the three sculpture groups, the fabric's color and tactile quality reminiscent of a kind of skin, giving the sculptures a translucent corporeality. Pakui Hardware have installed in each of the groups an incubator and research station for artificial life that might grow in the organically shaped, large, fiery red and dark grey glass vessels. It is a laboratory for the new materiality of artificially created life, but also a hospital situation where the defective organic substance can be supplemented by inorganic spare parts. *Breed* invites to speculate what new forms of life can be and would be growing in the large amorphous glass vessels, reminiscent of human limbs.

In the absence of a clear dividing line between the real and the artificial body, Pakui Hardware are interested in the in-between state, which has only become more blurred as science progresses.

The Lithuanian duo **Pakui Hardware**, formed in 2014 in New York, are interested in the way the post-natural process of scientific research fuels modern bio-capitalism and the new materialism of artificial life. Their most recent works focus on the removal of the body from health care – on how the digitalization and quantification of health has resulted in telemedicine, telehealth, and robotic surgery, culminating in the notion of 'virtual care.' While still requiring real bodies to model the virtual ones, the new technologies are more and more removed from our direct comprehension. The artists live and work in Vilnius and Berlin.

Pakui Hardware (1977 and 1984, Lithuania) live and work between Berlin and Vilnius. Recent solo exhibitions include East Contemporary, Milan; BALTIC Art Center, Newcastle. Past solo exhibitions include Leopold-Hoesch-Museum, Düren; Future Gallery Mexico, Museum der bildenden Künste Leipzig (MdbK), Bielefelder Kunstverein, EXILE, Museum of Modern Art Ludwig Foundation Vienna (MUMOK). Past group exhibitions include MOCO La Panacée, Montpellier; Liverpool biennial; Istanbul Biennial; CCA Tel Aviv; MAXXI, Rome; Musée d'Orsay, Paris; Kunsthalle Basel; Kunstverein Braunschweig.