

CAPTURING THE SENSES

Summer School
21–26.07.2025

Justinas Žuklys dipl. Msc Arch. ETH
Ieva Žuklytė MA Visual Communication

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INTRODUCTION

In the summer of 2024, Ieva Žuklytė and Justinas Žuklys organised and ran a summer school at the in:dépendance artist residency in Switzerland. Students from various design disciplines were invited to explore their sensory experience of the surroundings and translate the unique landscape of the Furka Pass into objects. The summer school was divided into several parts.

A theoretical input on the basics of psychology helped to understand how our brain perceives our surroundings. In addition, tools were shown how to use psychology to find solutions to creative questions. In addition, guest tutors sharpened the senses through input and small exercises.

For most of the week, the students translated their perceptions of the environment into objects, with Ieva Žuklytė and Justinas Žuklys as supervisors guiding the process and facilitating the exchange. Over the course of a week, the group of students focused on their surroundings, distanced themselves from the everyday and found time to translate their subjective view of the area into objects. The results of the interdisciplinary work were presented in the digital off-space sigma_space, initiated by Σ Summe in Basel, Switzerland.

For the second edition of the summer school, Ieva Žuklytė and Justinas Žuklys are eager to discover what objects will be created in the urban landscape of Vilnius.



Summer School 2024, Furkapass, Switzerland

CONCEPT 2025

As creatives in busy environments, we are exposed to all kinds of noise. The result is an overstimulated brain that struggles to filter and focus. This poses a challenge to creative work: How can we stay connected to our environment and its needs without being overwhelmed?

We have developed strategies to calm our minds and distance ourselves from these noises. Apps, habits and behaviours such as seeking nature help us to reset our minds and sensory systems. While we need to distance ourselves from the noise of the city, we also need to look at what is in front of us to understand how it affects our creative output. In this summer school we ask: Can we use the noise of the city as a source of creative stimulation? How do we perceive the environment when we are given time to focus on our senses? What ways can we find to understand and translate these observations in an interdisciplinary setting? How can we combine the knowledge of psychology, neuro-art and creative strategies to capture the sensory output of the surroundings?

Over the course of a week, Swiss and Lithuanian students from various creative backgrounds will focus on their perceptions. They will distance themselves from everyday habits, the digital world and translate their observations of the urban setting of Vilnius into objects.

Their personal perceptions will be supported by interdisciplinary input from the fields of psychology, art and architecture. In addition, tutors from different design disciplines will sharpen the students' senses. This theoretical framework will help them to understand and categorise what they have experienced. With



Isamu Noguchi - Fence with Branches

CONCEPT 2025

the accumulated knowledge, the students will be asked to translate the observations into a visual artefact using a variety of materials.

The aim is to give students the opportunity to explore their senses, experience working in interdisciplinary groups and learn creative strategies that they can apply in their everyday lives.

This year's Capturing the Senses Summer School will take place at the SODAS 2123 Cultural Centre in Vilnius, Lithuania. Students of design, architecture and fine arts are invited to work in interdisciplinary groups and pursue individual projects. In order to foster a transnational discussion, students from Switzerland and Lithuania will be invited to participate in the summer school. In addition, tutors from each country will be selected for further transnational exchange.

The results of the week will be documented, exhibited in SODAS 2321 and published on the "Capturing the Senses" website.



Mandy Roos - Moon Crawler

METHOD

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Summer School 2025

«Capturing the Senses»

EXPLORE

In the first two days, students will explore the urban landscape of Vilnius through sketching, writing, and photography to document its characteristics. Group discussions with input from psychology, art, and architecture will deepen their understanding and provide an overview.

EXPERIENCE

Four tutors, two from Lithuania and two from Switzerland, will help students sharpen their senses through practical exercises during the exploration phase. With additional input on perception psychology and creativity techniques, students will gain tools to understand and process their experiences, facilitating the transition from exploration to translation.

TRANSLATE

In the main part of the week, students translate their impressions into objects that reflect their surroundings. Using collected materials, they work in interdisciplinary groups to explore how sensations can be expressed through material and form. Throughout the process, they consider how their creations relate to architecture, design, and art, developing works that embody their perception of the urban landscape.

TRANSMIT

A final feedback session with the tutors will bring the project to an official end. The objects are exhibited in SODAS 2123 and a closing event invites the public to experience the work of the past week. Once the Summer School is over, the results will be presented on the Capturing the Senses website.



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Summer School 2025

«Capturing the Senses»

PROGRAM SUMMER SCHOOL 2025

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Morning	Arrival Input Psychology I	Input Psychology II Experience	Experience Explore	Translate Input Psychology III	Translate	Translate	Departure
Lunch	Together	Together	Together	Together	Together	Together	
Afternoon	Experience Explore	Experience Explore	Explore	Translate	Translate Input Architecture	Transmit Apéro	
Dinner	Together	Individual	Individual	Together	Individual	Together	
Evening	<i>voluntary</i> Movie and Discussion	Individual	Individual	<i>voluntary</i> Movie and Discussion	Individual	Last Evening DJ Set	

WORKSHOPS

VIBRATIONS CROSS SENSORIAL THRESHOLDS.

At their origin, vibrations are linked to sound and frequency, yet they can also be silent and visible. More often, they are felt but remain invisible. This elusive nature has made vibrations a compelling subject of interest across disciplines, inspiring attempts to measure, represent, understand, and capture them.

After gaining an understanding of vibrations—their historical background and associated concerns—In the workshop we investigate the city of Vilnius in search of them. Where can vibrations be felt, heard, or seen? And once we've identified them, how can we capture or respond to them?

We will conduct a short walk through the city to detect vibrations in the urban environment. After this exploration, we will return to the atelier to create quick prototypes aimed at capturing, canceling, or enhancing these vibrations.

Workshop by Helena Bosch Vidal

EVERYTHING IS SINGING: TRANSMITTING TEA AROMA

During the workshop “Everything is singing” by Tata Frenkel, we will explore intersection of two unseen arts: radio art and smells. Known to be an untransmittable sense, smell is capturing through memory, associative thinking, it sticks to body or just fades away.

During the workshop, we will learn about aroma profiles, methods of smelling and further work with smell through tea as our main base material. Participants of the workshop will explore live radio broadcast, concept of radio bodies, storytelling through ethereal and other practical elements of radio art. Transmitting smell compositions is an artistic experiment based on exploratory engaging communication, as well as sharing invisible senses for the knowledge and perception of others.

Workshop by Tata Frenkel

WORKSHOPS

AI'S STRETCHING AND YAWNING, THEN LOOKING UP

In Exercises d'observation (2022), design ethnographer Nicolas Nova proposes a series of exercises for observing the city. Drawing on figures like Georges Perec—particularly Species of Spaces (1982), in which Perec meticulously categorises everyday surroundings—Nova invites us to re-learn the art of noticing, cataloguing holes and cavities, the overlooked details of the urban mundane.

Artificial intelligence is often hailed as a tool for revealing patterns and nuances beyond human perception. This is a corporate promise. Data-hungry, platform-scale AIs take on various aspects of the world as yet another dataset to crunch, devouring vast amounts of resources. There are millions of different AIs by now. Some are small, slow, sleepy. They stretch and yawn.

One of these is Cats. A tiny AI narrator that interprets the surrounding world with modest means. Cats seeks out the ordinary. Translating snapshots from a camera into basic spoken texts, the AI emulates a cat. In this workshop, participants split into four teams, will share four Cats devices and use them to explore the city.

Workshop by Vytautas Jankauskas

THE DISEMBODIED VOICE — SENSING THE ACOUSMATIC

This intensive workshop invites participants to explore the disembodied voice as a sensorial, spatial, and conceptual phenomenon in film and sound art. Drawing from Michel Chion's key ideas — acousmètre, synchresis, and vococentrism — we'll investigate how voices that are heard but not seen shape the way we perceive narrative, space, and emotion.

Through listening sessions, practical exercises in recording and spatial audio, and collaborative critique, participants will produce short experimental works where the voice becomes an instrument of presence, absence, and atmosphere.

Workshop by William Davis

PARAMETERS 2025

DATE

21—26.07.2025

WORKSHOP TUTORS

Justinas Žuklys, Architect Msc ETH,
Ieva Žuklytė, Visual Communication and Iconic
Research MA HGK, Student BSc applied
Psychology

GUEST TUTORS

Helena Bosch Vidal
Tata Frenkel
Vytautas Jankauskas
William Davis

APPLICANTS

Maximum of four people from each field of
architecture, design and fine arts

TOTAL PEOPLE

19 People

FEE

100€ per student

APPLICATION

Applicants will be requested to send a small
portfolio that describes their work

DEADLINE + NOTICE

8th of June + 13th of June

PLACE AND ACCOMMODATION

Sodas2123, Accommodation tbd

MEALS

Lunch and three dinners are included

DOCUMENTATION

Photographic documentation by Ieva Žuklytė

PUBLICITY

Website, Instagram

INSURANCE

All participants are responsible for their own
insurance

SODAS 2123

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Summer School 2025

«Capturing the Senses»

Sodas 2123 is a vibrant cultural center and creative hub located in Vilnius, Lithuania. It serves as a dynamic space for contemporary art, innovation, and interdisciplinary collaboration, bringing together artists, researchers, technologists, and thinkers to explore new ideas and push the boundaries of creativity. The name “Sodas 2123” reflects its forward-looking vision, imagining a future where art, technology, and society intersect in meaningful ways.

The center hosts a wide range of activities, including exhibitions, workshops, performances, and residencies, fostering a community of experimentation and dialogue. It is a place where emerging and established artists can connect, share knowledge, and create groundbreaking work that challenges conventional norms. Sodas 2123 is not just a physical space but a platform for cultural exchange, encouraging collaboration across disciplines and cultures.

With its focus on innovation and inclusivity, Sodas 2123 plays a key role in Lithuania’s cultural landscape, contributing to the global conversation about the future of art and society. It is a space where creativity thrives, and where the possibilities of tomorrow are imagined and shaped today.

We share the values of interdisciplinary collaboration in our work. In this respect, SODAS 2123 is a very suitable partner and we are happy to collaborate with SODAS2123 in the upcoming summer school. They will provide accommodation for the visiting students, workspace, lunches and the venue for the workshops and the exhibition of the results of the week.



Sodas 2123 (image retrieved from their website)

ABOUT THE ORGANISATORS

Justinas Žuklys and Ieva Žuklytė are siblings, both born in Vilnius, Lithuania. Growing up in Switzerland and becoming an architect and graphic designer, they first came together when they won a competition to design and execute a mini golf course. This was the beginning of their collaborative journey. Coming from different design backgrounds has taught them the importance of sharing knowledge across disciplines. Justinas is a teaching assistant at ETH Zurich for Jan de Vylder's chair, teaching the second year of the Bachelor in Design at the Department of Architecture. Ieva holds a master in visual communication and is currently studying applied psychology. In addition to their professional experience in interdisciplinary collaboration, their interest in education and research led them to initiate the summer school series "Capturing the senses" to foster an interdisciplinary design environment and give space to the thinking and making process.

Born in Lithuania, they have a deep connection to Vilnius, a city that has shaped their cultural identity. As individuals who have experienced both Lithuanian and Swiss culture, they are interested in bridging the gap between these two worlds. Lithuania's rich cultural heritage, resilience and creativity inspire them, while Switzerland's precision, innovation and commitment to sustainability influence their work.



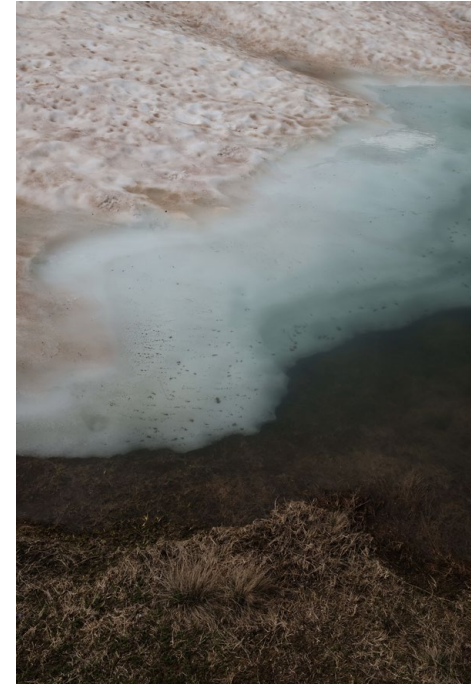
Justinas Žuklys



Ieva Žuklytė

CAPTURING THE SENSES

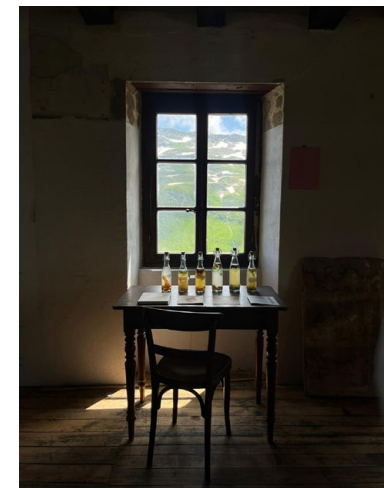
RECAP 2024



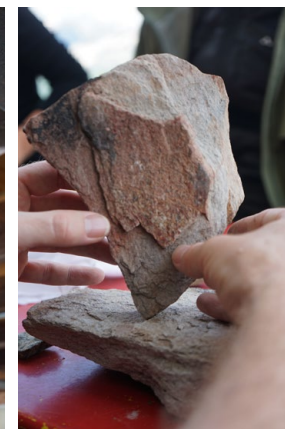
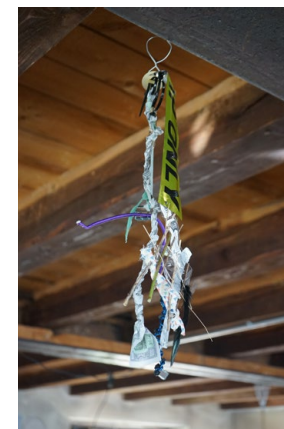
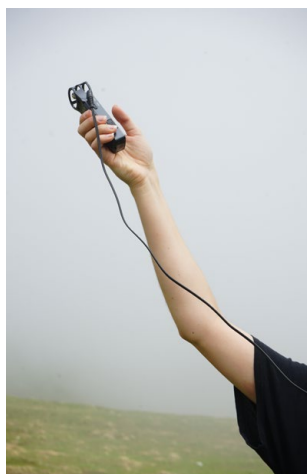
In the summer of 2024, for the third and final time, in:dépendance has invited students and professionals to inhabit the former dépendance building of the Hotel Furkablick in Furka, canton of Uri. The in:dépendance was initiated by Prof. Jan DeVlyder and led by Alesia Bertini and David Moser as part of his Studio "share of architecture an(d) attitude" at the ETH Zürich.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2024

Workshops by Laurie Mlodzik, Till Langschied and Martin Reck



Till Langschied, Laure Mlodzik and Martin Reck sharpened the students' senses with approaches from their practice for one day. The students experienced their surroundings by sharpening the sense of movement, taste and smell, haptics and their hearing. Inputs by Ieva Žuklytė helped to make the connection between the experience and theory of psychology. Justinas Žuklys accompanied the week with inputs from architecture and design. Ieva and Justinas supervised the week, helping the students to develop and implement their ideas.



SUMMER SCHOOL 2024

Translation by Charlotte,
Yannis, Delia and Danu

Charlotte Elisabeth Mellbye created the “Bloom Boom”, a vase that can adapt easily to the surrounding topographie.

Yannis Hotz created seating from the local granite stone. Small tools, that can also be used “to go” allow stones to be transformed into balanced seating opportunities.

“It is weeks like this that open up new perspectives and connections—where knowledge and experiences are shared in an informal, effortless way, surrounded by breathtaking landscapes and inspiring people. A truly wonderful and invaluable way of learning, exchanging, and growing together.”
- Yannis

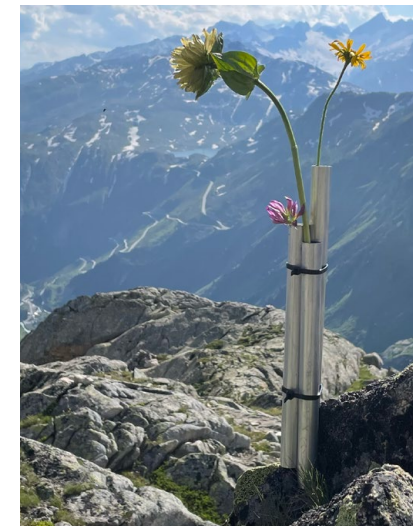
Delia Matthys collected memories, senses and experiences and layered them in a “candle to be continued” which allows new experiences to be added due to its continuous candle wick and form-work.

“Up in the mountains, far away and disconnected from the fast living globalized world, the summerschool could focus on the intuitive way of working. Capturing sounds, flavours and drawing memories and impressions made us dive in directly into the surrounding nature. Without exactly knowing the outcome, we got into making things, and testing out a lot. This experience was very fruitful to me, as it made me explore beyond from what i got taught at university so far.”
- Delia

Danuka Ana Tomas created an alter ego, the “Cyber Heidi.” Imagining Swiss folklore in a contemporary context.



Yannis Hotz



Charlotte Mellbye



Delia Matthys



Danuka Ana Tomas