



Jury report DA4GA 2011

Susane Camara Leret & Mike Thompson + Netherlands Metabolomics Center

Aqua Vita

Camara Leret, Thompson and the Netherlands Metabolomics Centre propose chronobiological metabolic paintings – visualisations of personal metabolism in which health is linked to life style and diet as they form a dynamic system together.

Aqua Vita offers an interesting way to change our perception of our own urine. Urine, in the early days of medicine, was the only diagnostic instrument available. Both the designers and the Metabolomics Centre re-value this specific fact along notions of Chinese traditional health principles and no longer see urine as solely a bodily waste.

The link between personal and personalised health and diet which the project proposes to research by means of a data visualisation, speculative design objects and personal physical involvement is interesting and of importance too.

Yet, the project lacks some clarity in artistic articulation – how will the visualisation look and how will it function, will it be interactive like an external health organ? However, the jury is eager to see the outcomes of the metabolic paintings and their possible function as critical design objects that playfully inform the audience about the relation between genomics, metabolomics and their own diet and behaviour.

The jury is also curious whether the metabolic paintings offer the potential to be prototyped and to become personalised health applications.

As both the designers and the involved Genomics Centre are very experienced and skilled the jury has great confidence in the positive outcomes of *Aqua Vita*.