

Title/

THE PIRATE CINEMA | Act 3
From March 4 to 28, 2015 at Link Cabinet
<http://linkcabinet.eu/>
a project by Nicolas Maigret

"Listen to hundreds of users currently pirating Metallica's songs"

Specific presentation/

At Link Cabinet, Nicolas Maigret presents THE PIRATE CINEMA | Act 3, an online piece that monitors hundreds of users currently pirating Metallica's songs.

This work focuses on the emblematic "Metallica versus Napster" case in the early 2000's: the first law suit that involved artists suing a peer-to-peer file sharing company.

15 years later, this symbolic art project reveals the long-lasting dynamics of file sharing, that manifests the futility of attempting to restrain such a profound cultural shift.

Main presentation/*The Pirate Cinema* is a live streaming of file sharing activities on networks using the BitTorrent protocol. In this project Nicolas Maigret depicts the restless hidden activity of file sharing online while giving shape to a visual representation of the peer-to-peer systems. The sharing activity of audio-visual materials is monitored in real time and transformed into an online streaming that represents the way files are sent among users: every file is split into several small samples transferred randomly and re-assembled following the correct order only once the file reaches the final user. *The Pirate Cinema* shows the precise moment in which the files are still in the process of being transferred, still messy and completely mixed up, giving birth to an hectic and glitchy file streaming. BitTorrent network users are thus transformed into unaware performers contributing to an endless audio-visual composition.

Short Bio/

[Nicolas Maigret](#) exposes the internal workings of media, through an exploration of their dysfunctions, limitations or failure thresholds which he develops as sensory and immersive audio visual experiences. As a curator, he initiated the [disnovation.net](#) research, a critique of the innovation propaganda. Nicolas teaches at Parsons Paris and cofounded the Art of Failure collective in 2006. His work has been presented in international exhibitions and festivals: Transmediale (Berlin), File (Sao Paulo), Museum of Art and Design (New York), 30th Chaos Communication Congress (Hamburg), Palais de Tokyo (Paris), Gli.tc/h (Birmingham).



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Supports and credits/*The Pirate Cinema* has been presented as an installation, a live performance and more recently as a live online piece, originally commissioned by Abandon Normal Devices (UK), Aksioma - Institute for Contemporary Art (SLO) and Kunsthall Aarhus (DK) in the framework of the project *Masters & Servers*. With the support of <http://mur.at> and <http://creacast.com>

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