

## Shared Knowledge:

# The Art of Collecting Media Art

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## Perspectives from Museums & Collections

**werkleitz – centre for media art**

Halle, Germany / [werkleitz.de](http://werkleitz.de)



Co-funded by the  
Creative Europe Programme  
of the European Union

# Introduction

How do museums collect media art? Where do private collectors find potential exhibits? What challenges accompany new technologies in the collection and preservation of art? What role do current socio-political developments play for media art collections? And what is the effect of the increasing fusion of art and science?

The capacity building workshop “The Art of Collecting Media Art – Perspectives from Museums and Collections”, hosted by Werkleitz Centre for Media Art, sought to highlight diverse positions, key areas, and theses from the field of media art.

This handout is intended to provide an initial overview – without claiming to be exhaustive – of private and public, large and small collections worldwide that deal with the collection of media art. The list is complemented by 3 short video inputs from the following participants of the digital EMAP capacity building workshop, moderated by **Attilia Fattori Franchini** ([Writer and Curator](#)):

- **Alain Servais**, [Media Art Collector](#)
- **Jenny Starick**, [Collections and Archives, ZKM – Center for Art & Media](#)
- **Ivo Wessel**, [Software Developer and Media Art Collector](#)

In the section “Shared Knowledge” EMAP publishes results from internal conferences and workshops to share them with other cultural organisations and artists. The aim is to exchange and gain knowledge within the sector of media art.

Do you want to share knowledge?  
Contact us: [pr@emare.eu](mailto:pr@emare.eu)

# Overview of Collections

## 1. A selection of some of the most important private collections and foundations in the field of Media Art

- **Beep Collection:** Reus, Spain  
[beepcollection.art](http://beepcollection.art)
- **Carl and Marilynn Thoma Foundation:** Chicago & Santa Fe, USA  
[thomafoundation.org](http://thomafoundation.org)
- **Ivo Wessel:** Berlin, Germany  
[ivo-wessel.de](http://ivo-wessel.de)  
(please find detailed information and a short video input below)
- **Julia Stoscheck Collection:** Düsseldorf / Berlin, Germany  
[jsc.art](http://jsc.art)
- **Kramlich Collection:** California, USA  
[kramlichcollection.org](http://kramlichcollection.org)
- **Kunsthalle Praha:** Prague, Czech Republic  
[kunsthallepraha.org](http://kunsthallepraha.org)
- **Ogut+Cumbusyan Collection:** New York, USA / Istanbul, Turkey / Zurich, Switzerland  
[larryslist.com](http://larryslist.com)
- **Phi Center:** Montreal, Canada  
[phi.ca](http://phi.ca)
- **Sammlung Goetz:** Munich, Germany  
[sammlung-goetz.de](http://sammlung-goetz.de)
- **Servais Family Collection:**  
(please find detailed information and a short video input below)
- **Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary (TBA21):** Madrid, Spain / Vienna, Austria  
[tba21.org](http://tba21.org)
- **Verbeke Foundation:** Kemzeke, Belgium  
[verbekefoundation.com](http://verbekefoundation.com)



### 1.1 Excursion: Input from the private collectors Ivo Wessel & Alain Servais

Even as a pupil, **Ivo Wessel** was enthusiastic about electronics, computers, contemporary art and literature. After his studies in computer science and psychology in Braunschweig, he worked as a software and iOS app developer, especially in the field of art. Since 2008, together with Olaf Stüber, he has presented the event series "Videoart at Midnight", video art screenings in the cinema Babylon in Berlin – once a month on a Friday, always at midnight. Currently, he is developing with Mario von Kelterborn a social media platform for the art scene – a digital place where people can show art. Moreover, he is also a private collector and his collection includes conceptual art, concrete painting, photography, media and video art. Set within the Berlin art scene, it can be visited by appointment, except during Gallery Weekend and Berlin Art Week. As a collector, he is especially interested in dealing with media/video art, its handling, maintenance, communication and presentation inside and outside the collection.

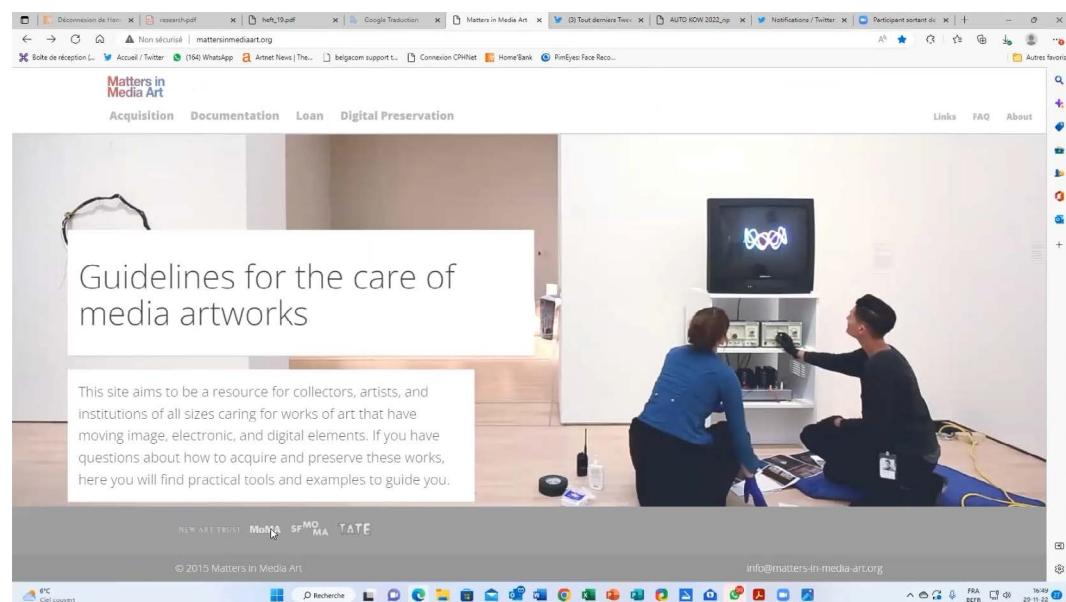
Find the link to his video presentation in the framework of the EMAP Capacity Building Workshop "The Art of Collecting Media Art – Perspectives from Museums and Collections":

[>>> Ivo Wessel](#)

Additional Links:

[Archie's Nose app](#)

[videoart-at-midnight.de](#)



**Alain Servais** is an art collector in the international contemporary art field with a background in investment banking and a strong interest in video art and new media. For more than twenty years, the Servais Family Collection has focused on underrepresented and museum-quality art. Looking for both, core fundamentals and the emergent, the collection strengthens artistic positions that raise difficult questions about identity, materiality, corporeality, violence, racism, and death. Since 2000, The Servais Family Collection has occupied a 900-square-metre industrial space known as The Loft, where it is reimagined in a carefully-considered annual exhibition. Alain also runs an artist residency in Schaerbeek, a diverse neighborhood in Brussels. He also addresses the major hurdles and challenges of preserving, exhibiting and reproducing digital art as a collector and calls for all stakeholders in video art to collaborate with lawyers in setting meaningful international standards for the sale of digital art.

Find the link to his video presentation in the framework of the EMAP Capacity Building Workshop “The Art of Collecting Media Art – Perspectives from Museums and Collections”:

[>>> Alain Servais](#)

Additional Links:

[mattersinmediaart.org](http://mattersinmediaart.org)

[The Right Time To Rethink The Structure](http://www.servaisfamilycollection.be)

## 2. A selection of some important museums with Media Art collections:

- **Centre Pompidou:** Paris, France  
[centrepompidou.fr](http://centrepompidou.fr)
- **Hamburger Kunsthalle:** Hamburg, Germany  
[hamburger-kunsthalle.de](http://hamburger-kunsthalle.de)
- **Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen:** Düsseldorf, Germany  
[kunstsammlung.de](http://kunstsammlung.de)
- **MAAT Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology:** Lisbon, Portugal  
[maat.pt](http://maat.pt)
- **MoMa:** New York, USA  
[www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org)
- **Museum Ludwig:** Cologne, Germany  
[museum-ludwig.de](http://museum-ludwig.de)
- **Tate Modern:** London, United Kingdom  
[tate.org.uk](http://tate.org.uk)
- **ZKM – Center for Art and Media:** Karlsruhe, Germany  
[zkm.de](http://zkm.de)  
(please find detailed information and a short video input below)

Please find an wide overview of Media Art institutions, festivals, galleries and spaces in our EMAP-Partnerlist:  
[emare.eu/partners](http://emare.eu/partners)



## 2.1 Excursion: Input from Jenny Starick, ZKM Collection

**Jenny Starick** is an art historian and assistant to the Head of Department at the ZKM Collection in Karlsruhe. For the collection, which has a globally unique stock of computer-based installations, video tapes and video installations, Jenny Starick is involved in the current collection exhibition in Karlsruhe and at the Gwangju Museum of Art in South Korea. She is part of the team developing a chatbot for art education and mediation, and is involved in the “digilog@bw” project linking science and art to advance a fruitful dialogue on digitality and digitisation. She is also working on the Web Residencies by Akademie Schloss Solitude and ZKM, which is dedicated to fostering young talent from the international digital scene as well as artists from all disciplines who engage with web-based practices. Today, she also highlights the work and projects of her colleagues from the Knowledge Department.

Find the link to his video presentation in the framework of the EMAP Capacity Building Workshop “The Art of Collecting Media Art – Perspectives from Museums and Collections”:

[>>> Jenny Starick](#)

## **European Media Art Platform**

he European Media Art Platform (EMAP), initiated by werkleitz and co- funded by Creative Europe since 2018, is a consortium of leading European media art organisations specialised in Digital and Media Art, Bio Art and Robotic Art.

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