

> TOPIC 2005. CONSCIOUSNESS AND TELEPORTATION.

The former Lucerne Symposium has evolved into the **Swiss Biennial on Science, Technics + Aesthetics** and has reached its 10 year anniversary. The upcoming Symposium relates to the 2001 Symposium «The Enigma of Consciousness» at which the topic of quantum teleportation (also called «remote transmission» or «the first small step to beaming à la Star Trek») was discussed along with questions like **What is Information?** and **What is Reality?** Will it soon be possible to copy parts of the human body and transport them over distances? What is the role of «information» in our understanding of the world? Are there connections between brain functions, mental phenomena and quantum physics? What role does consciousness play in the universe (or the universe in consciousness)?

Albert Einstein described entanglement – the paradoxical connectedness of quantum-physical systems over large distances (e.g. from one end to the galaxy to the other) – as «spooky action at a distance». It has been suggested that teleportation, which utilizes the strange phenomenon of quantum entanglement, plays a role in consciousness. Today, phe-

nomena such as quantum entanglement are experimentally confirmed, and from, as Anton Zeilinger showed in Lucerne four years ago, the basis for a new information technology including quantum cryptography, quantum teleportation and quantum computers. What does the new knowledge tell us about ourselves and the existence of the human species on the blue planet? What is its future social use implying for existing threats of catastrophes related to bio-, nano-technology and nuclear energy?

The Biennial is looking for answers to these questions at the frontiers and the interface among the (natural) sciences, philosophy, art and aesthetics. I wish you two exciting and mentally energizing days in the Swiss Museum of Transport and Communication which hosts the Biennial.

René Stettler

