

On 18 January 2020 renowned scientists such as the American star philosopher **Owen Flanagan**, the British biologist and telepathy researcher **Rupert Sheldrake** and the British hallucinogen researcher **Rosalind Watts**, the American anesthesia specialist **Travis J. A. Craddock** as well as the German physicist and neurobiologist **Christoph von der Malsburg**, will give public talks at the Swiss Museum of Transport on the occasion of the **13th Swiss Biennial on Science, Technics + Aesthetics**. The subject they will be addressing is

## The Mystery of Consciousness – Das Mysterium des Bewusstseins

In 2020, the Swiss Biennial on Science, Technics and Aesthetics, founded by **René Stettler** in 1995, will celebrate the 25th anniversary. Every two years since its inception, leading researchers from neuroscience, philosophy of mind, Buddhism, environmental philosophy, cosmology, physics, and artificial intelligence research as well as from research fields concerned with the effects of consciousness-expanding substances have been invited to Lucerne for interdisciplinary discussions. This time, the speakers come from Germany, Japan, Switzerland, the UK and USA.

The 13th Swiss Biennial on Science, Technics and Aesthetics opens up new ways to a fresh understanding of consciousness. New insights about **altered states of consciousness, anesthesia, dreams, meditation, spirituality, AI, brain injuries and disorders of consciousness such as coma as well as our “self”** raise questions about the image we have of ourselves, and of our consciousness.

Star guest is the British biologist **Rupert Sheldrake**. With his controversial studies on dogs, pigeons and humans he postulates telepathic abilities in both humans and animals. The opening speaker will be the American star philosopher **Owen Flanagan**, who draws on Buddhist and Hindu conceptions for a general theory of consciousness. The American philosopher **William Edelglass** will speak in Lucerne about the relationship between Buddhism and ecological consciousness. The panel discussion will be conducted by the well-known American radio moderator **Steve Paulson**, Executive Producer of *To the Best of Our Knowledge* at Wisconsin Public Radio. The programme can be downloaded via [www.neugalu.ch](http://www.neugalu.ch)

The Biennial is an exceptional platform for science in Switzerland and Europe. Visitors receive first-hand knowledge from an extraordinary gathering of speakers. All lectures are simultaneously translated from English into German or vice versa. Further information about the event, registration and discounted admission via [www.neugalu.ch](http://www.neugalu.ch)

## Information for media representatives is provided by:

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### The Swiss Biennial on Science, Technics + Aesthetics

The Swiss Biennial on Science, Technics and Aesthetics (since 1995) is a platform for science and culture with an international appeal. For the City of Lucerne and its university, it constitutes an important educational element. It offers visitors from Switzerland and 4 continents an in-depth view on science dialogue and research, and at the same time it creates spaces for interdisciplinary discussion. For 25 years, the Canton and City of Lucerne, private foundations, enterprises, and numerous donors have been supporting the Biennial. Its early detection of socially relevant topics has generated scientific resonance far beyond Switzerland as far as in both Europe and the US.

#### Patronage 2020

- **Beat Züsli**, Mayor of the City of Lucerne
- **Marcel Schwerzmann**, Head of the Department of Education and Culture, Canton of Lucerne
- **Ruedi Bechtler**, Artist, dipl. Ing. ETH, Herrliberg
- **Hanspeter Fischer**, Architect HTL, Ennetbürgen
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