

A few words about [Robert Praxmarer](#) (1976 – 2021), our collaboration/our collective [1n0ut](#), and also about Futurelab. *By Reinhold Bidner*



Robert (on the left) and me after an audiovisual performance in Paris, 2007.

I joined Futurelab in August 2001 (and I was member of the team until around 2009). Moving from "big" Berlin to "small" Linz felt quite strange at the beginning. But from Day1 I realized that Futurelab was (and I guess still is) quite unique especially because of its people. And one of those very unique/special people was Robert Praxmarer (he joined Futurelab in the very early days) who sadly/tragically passed away this January 1st. Sort of from Day1 of my Futurelab-Time Robert became a friend (and quite soon a close friend) and from around 2003 a close collaborator as well: we created tons of projects in the context of our collective called 1n0ut (<http://1n0ut.com/>). Here 2 examples:

<https://vimeo.com/9042974> (Ars Electronica 2006 concert visualisation)

<https://vimeo.com/15957004> ("CPU" - a 3D-stereoscopic Media Performance from 2009)

I guess at a certain point of time (around 2004 or 2005?) Robert and me developed a certain pride that we can create interesting and professional media art projects on our own, so step by step our small collective 1n0ut became our most important "project" and we started to act more "independently" from Futurelab. But nevertheless Futurelab always stayed quite essential as a reason that our collaboration did happen at all and some of Futurelabs unique members stayed friends and an important influence on us as well.

I guess Robert and me learned a lot during our longtime 1n0ut-collaboration, at least I definitely can say that for myself. It was not always easy and starting our own "business" (or whatsoever) we worked quite hard and made a lot of mistakes, but nevertheless for me everyday it was a fantastic chance to collaborate with such an intelligent, humorous, talented, unique and (sometimes

radically) honest person such as Robert. From my point of view we complemented each other quite well and some of our audiovisual performance projects from those times (hopefully) speak for themselves.

At a specific point of time Robert moved on to new challenges (and me as well): he founded his company [Polycular](#) which was on the one hand (I guess) more business-oriented but also more social-driven than our collective 1n0ut ever was. Robert was a constant explorer and it became more and more important to him to try to help others also in the context of his projects.

@ Robert: wherever you may be now, I am quite sure you keep up your spirit, your creativity, your special humor and your unique talents! And thanks for so many exceptional artistic endeavors and a long time friendship!

And @ Futurelab: congrats to 25 years and thanks for giving me the chance to be heavily involved in quite a few of those, and thanks for giving me the chance to meet so special people such as Robert... Keep up the good work in the next 25 years ;) Futurelab!

Reinhold Bidner (August 22nd 2021)