

# Toasters

Collective inter-connected behavioral objects and passive interaction

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## ABSTRACT



Figure 1: **Olivain Porry, Toasters, event “Nous ne sommes pas le nombre que nous croyons être”, La Cité internationale des Arts, Paris, 2018.**

*Toasters* is a work about the collective use of behavioral objects[1] in interactive art installation. Its purpose is to set up a variable-geometry art-installation made of toasters[2] in order to experiment with ways such objects can behave collectively. What kind of collective behavior does it make appears ? In what situation is the spectator put in ? According to which modalities of aesthetic and practical experiences ?

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## CCS CONCEPTS

- Computer systems organization → Robotics

## KEYWORDS

Behavioral objects, Internet of things, interaction

## ACM Reference format:

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## 1. INTERACTIVE COLLECTIVE TOASTERS

The installation is made of five toasters sharing data they each take from their temperature sensor and arising those exchanges in movements and undetermined choreography. The movement sequences reflect the perceived degrees, and are modulated according to the number of viewer around the installation. The five toasters all lost their utilitarian function. They do not toast bread anymore, but hit the ground one after the others in a way they seems to be talking together using some kind of drummed language. By hitting the ground, they produce loud noises and slowly slips on the floor. he paper, and generate the layout, in different clips.

People enters the room, and as the number of viewer increase in the exhibition space, the movements of the toasters are getting slower, the beats are getting softer and the intervention of each of them takes longer. As peoples leaves the room,

the toasters' beating is getting stronger, their discussion is getting more and more dynamic, as well as their moves.

## **2. PASSIVE INTERACTION AND COLLECTIVE BEHAVIORS**

Through their individual and collective behavior, the toasters evoke various complex relationships between them. As each one is pulling away from the others or gently joining the others, they can act as a discussion as well as a herd.

The passive interaction modality work toward requiring a more intimate experience from the spectator to make appear a more individually-specific behavior for each toaster. They then seems to react and organize relatively to each others. When many viewers are around the installation, the toasters express more to be in a collective decision-making process in which hierarchical relationships are less apparent.

## **3. CONCLUSION**

*Toasters* create a situation that engage viewers in a distributed relationships along with focusing on objects reactivity. It avoid human center interaction and strive to a more network-based interaction to create perceivable behaviors and aesthetic experiences.

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