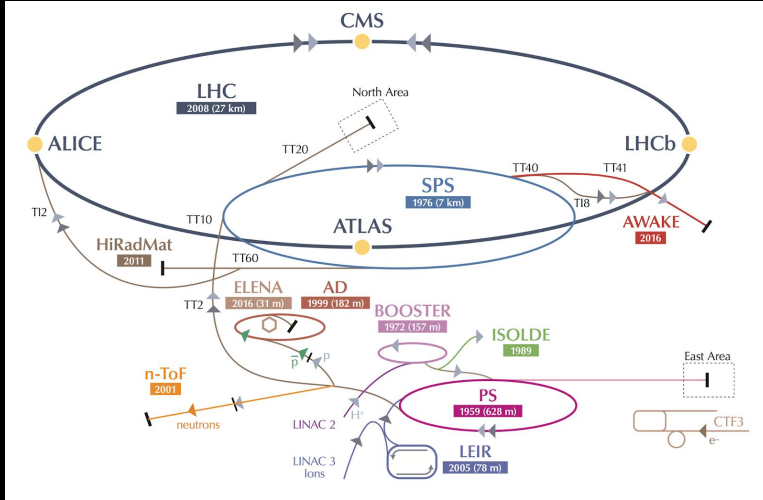




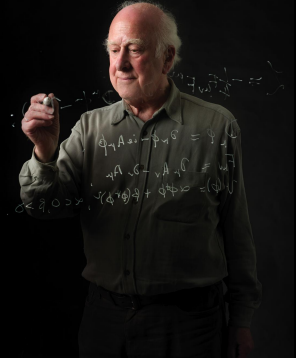
# When bad archiving results in good art Setting the scene



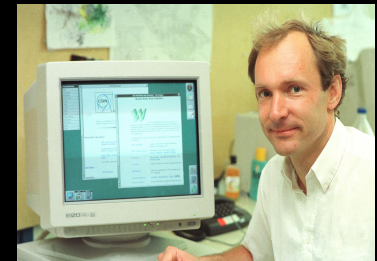
## CERN (1954 -)



LHC: 100 m underground



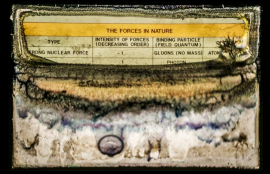
P. Higgs, Nobel Prize 2013



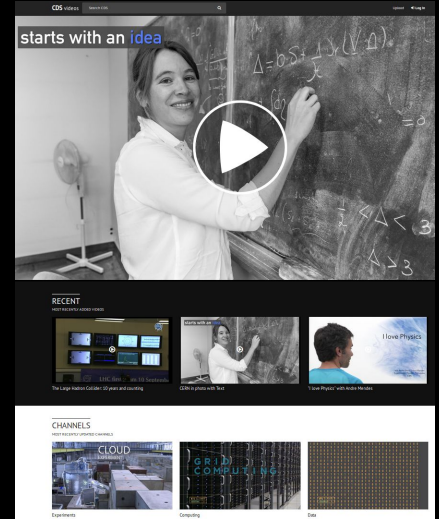
T. Berners-Lee, Alan Turing Prize 2018

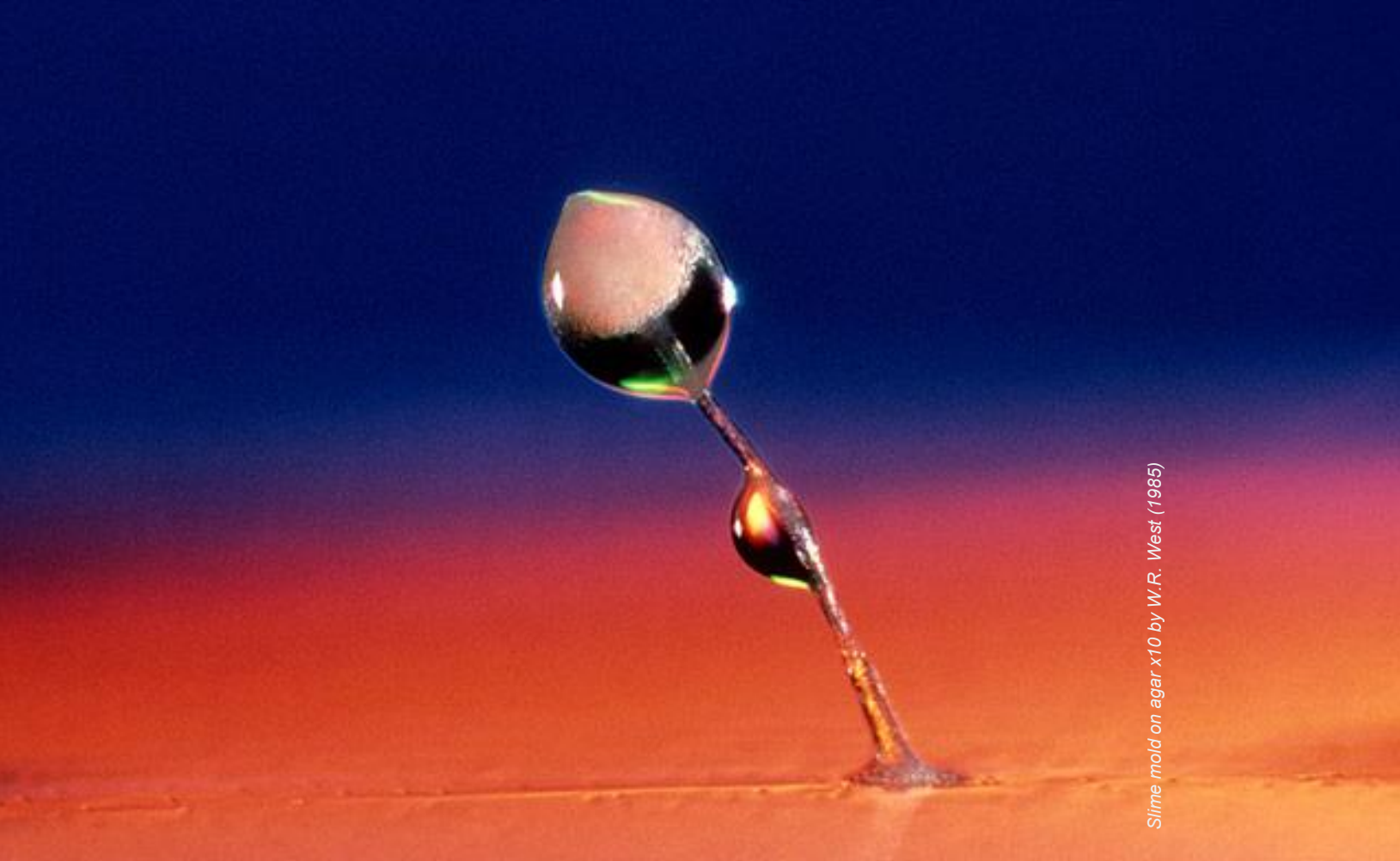


# When bad archiving results in good art The Multimedia Digitization



- 1'740 Kg of audio tapes!
- 6'000 video tapes & films
- 420'000 images:  
negatives, medium & large formats, **Slides**





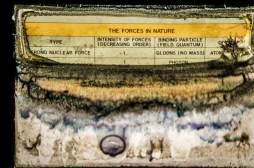
*Slime mold on agar x10 by W.R. West (1985)*

Microorganism looking for proteins food... with an artistic mood





# When bad archiving results in good art Candidates to the trash bin



The mysterious Desk

Among 420K images, a few hundreds suffered - **severely**.

“Stories of failures are the most popular – they show that it does matter.”

Archivemata Camp on digital preservation, Amsterdam 2018



*collisions of colors*





Well  
preserved





Eaten by  
mould







## Breaking the mould

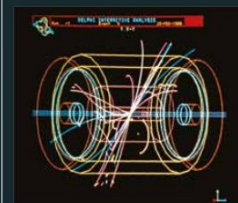
AT THE Large Hadron Collider near Geneva, Switzerland, physicists are used to looking for signs of particle decay in the detectors. But as they were digitising archival photos of particle collisions, Matteo Volpi and Jean-Yves LeMeur came across a different kind of decay: mould.

For 30 years, this slide was exposed to a mould that marched across the image, eating through the protein in the gelatin-based emulsion.

The resulting chemical reactions left a chaotic swirl of colours and textures reminiscent of an abstract painting. To save the corroded image as it is now, Volpi and LeMeur shone a light through the slide and then photographed the projection.

Volpi is a photographer himself, and has tried to recreate the effect: "I've tried burning and freezing, and I use yeast and beer to create mould. It makes a nice effect, but I can't reproduce these colours and textures. I don't have 30 years to wait, like this mould did."

The slide was unearthed in a dusty desk drawer in a corridor of the experimental physics department at CERN. Like its better-preserved companion slide below, it showed a simulation of an electron-positron collision at DELPHI, one of four detectors at the LHC's predecessor, the Large Electron-Positron Collider. The blue horizontal lines represent the beams of particles that meet head on in the detector's cylindrical cavity, and the spray of arcs extending from the middle track the particles born in the smash-up. Chelsea Whyte



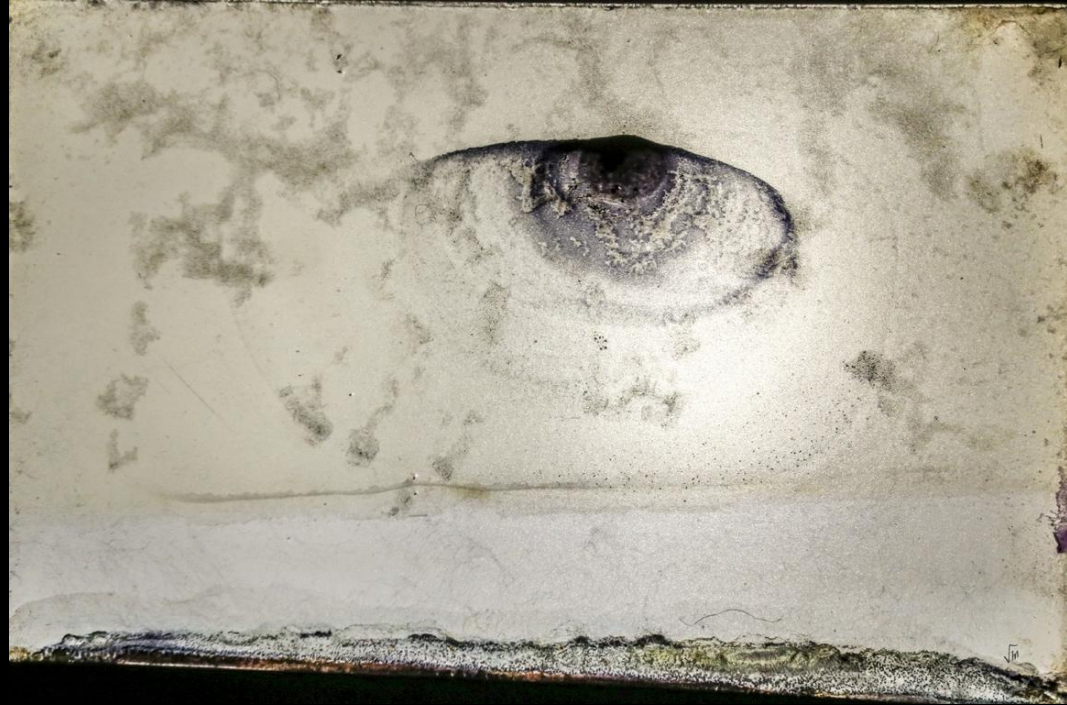
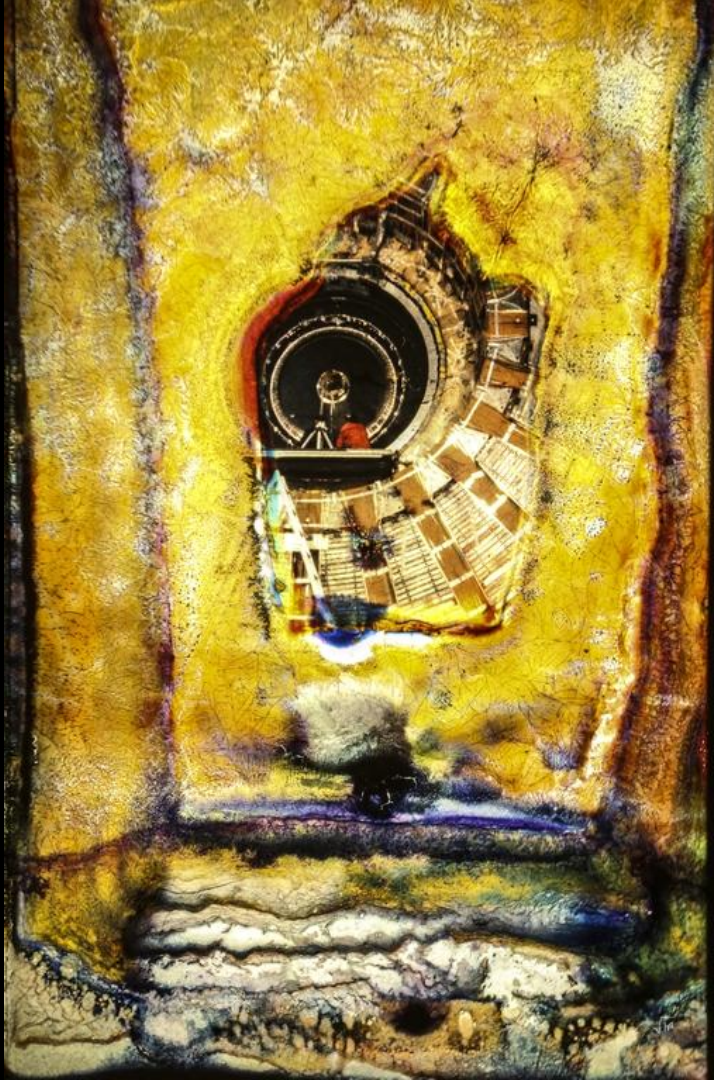
**Photographer**  
Volpi © 2017 CERN







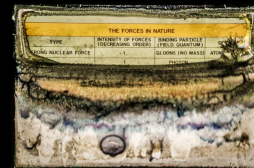
<http://volmeur.com>





# When bad archiving results in good art

## The VolMeur collection



<http://volmeur.com>

Exhibition 7 Nov-7 Dec 2018



Matteo Volpi & Jean-Yves Le Meur

images de marque  
STUDIO PHOTO LABO

With a special evening on  
Time-based art with NYC  
MFTA dir of Education

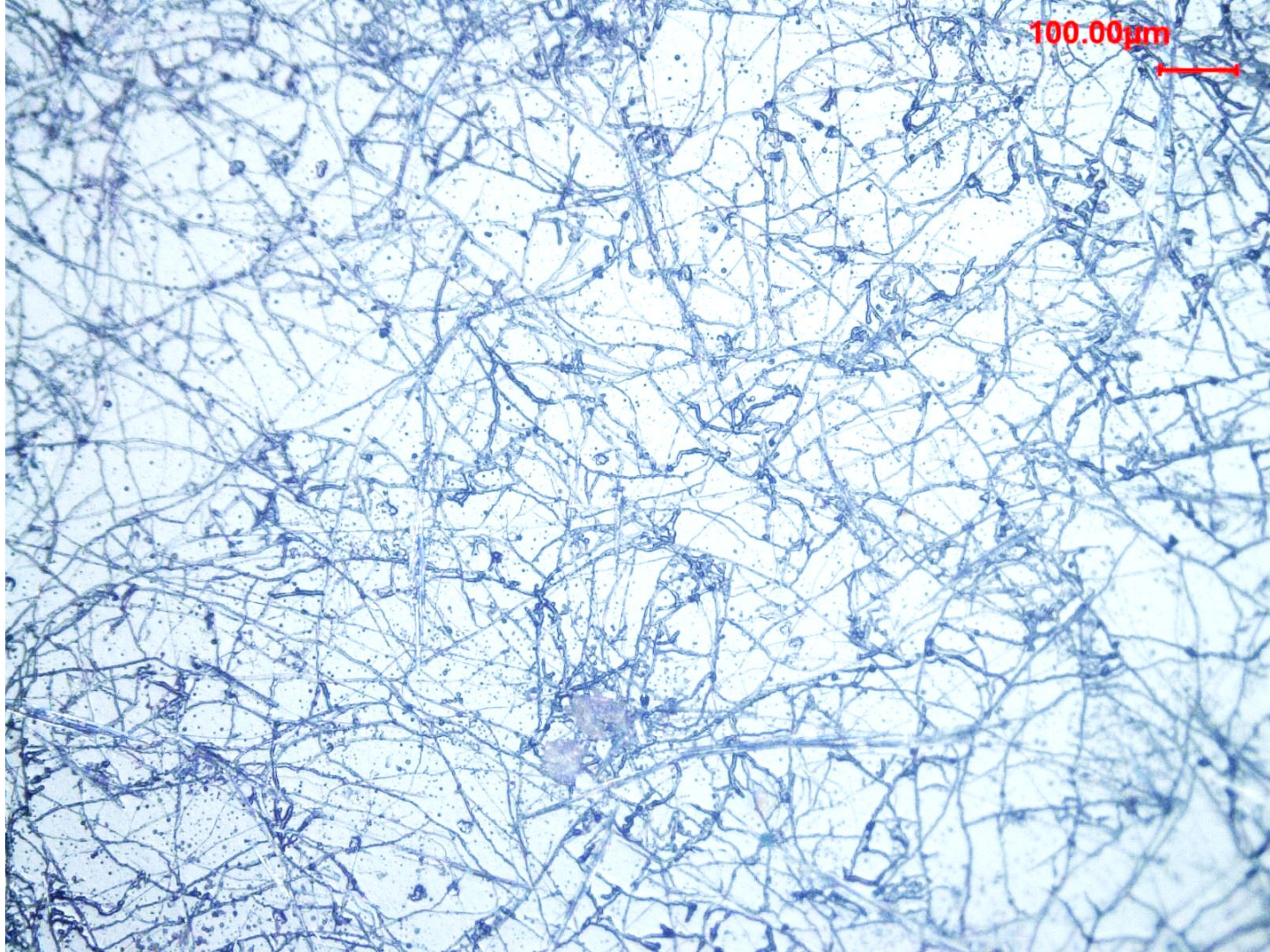
Sales on

SUBLI<sup>GRAPHIE</sup>  
GRAPHIE

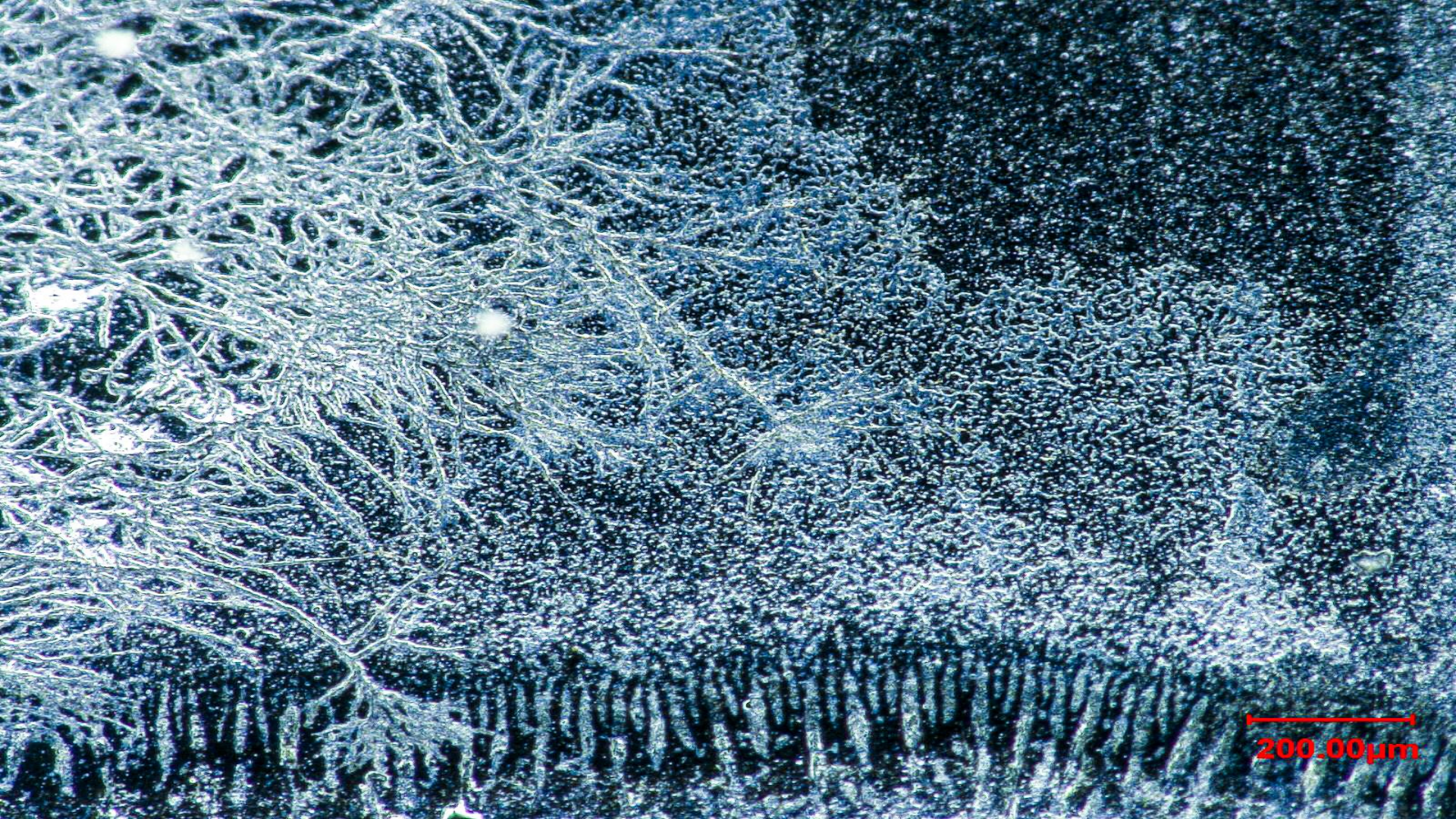
SUBLI<sup>GRAPHIE</sup>  
GRAPHIE



Some backup slides







200.00µm







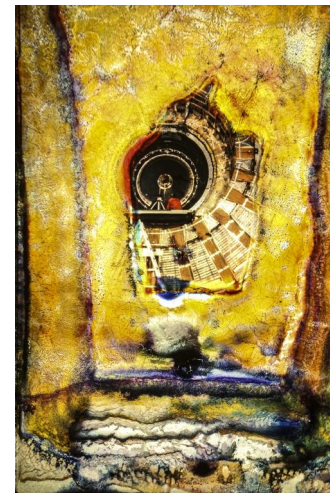
# Programme: 7 Nov-7 Dec

Vernissages et clôture dès 17h30

Soirées de 18h à 21h

Trente cinq œuvres inédites seront révélées à la galerie *Images de Marque* du 7 Novembre au 7 Décembre 2018. Des expériences créatives, mix de science et d'art, seront proposées durant l'exposition ainsi que le programme de conférences ci-dessous.

- **7 Nov:** Vernissage VIP avec projection "*trésors de la mémoire du CERN*", par Jean-Yves Le Meur et Matteo Volpi (alias VolMeur)
- **8 Nov:** Vernissage public
- **14 Nov:** "*L'Histoire derrière les oeuvres, le CERN à la fin des années 80*" par Horst Wenninger, ex-directeur du Département des Accélérateurs
- **21 Nov:** "**Materials for the Arts and the Art of Materials**" by John Cloud Kaiser, Director of Education, Materials for the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs
- **28 Nov:** "*Understanding VolMeur artwork with Electron Microscopy*" by Elisa Garcia-Tabares Valdivieso, CERN R&D Engineer in material analysis
- **7 Déc:** Soirée de clôture avec "*réflexions méta-physiques sur les œuvres périssables*" par Rosario Principe



DELPHI détecteur en construction



Matteo Volpi & Jean-Yves Le Meur

Photo M. Hoehn