

Nile Koetting
powerhouse
21.Sep - 20 Nov 2025

notes

Last year, I received a small gift from my father in Japan. Inside a tiny pill case he normally uses for his medication, I found a small red pin—nostalgic in style. A note accompanied it:

*Happy Birthday, Nile.
Here is a pin badge from your grandfather's workplace
—the Milwaukee Valley Power Plant.
I think you should have it.*

The character on the badge was Reddy Kilowatt—a cartoon figure created in the 1920s to personify electricity, with a body made of lightning bolts and a glowing bulb for a nose. Since then, he has taken a place on my desk.

When I was first invited to exhibit at a former power station, I began to wonder why so many of these buildings in Europe have been transformed into art and cultural venues. It feels as if electrical energy has, in our time, been converted into creative energy. Creating, speaking, expressing—these have become a new energy model. We are expected to be efficient, productive, powerful.

As Reddy Kilowatt once sang: “I wash and dry your clothes, play your radios, I can heat your coffee pot, I am always there, with lots of power to spare...” I sometimes feel that working for myself demands the same—constant multitasking, endless efficiency, aided by the many tools and applications that allow me to do everything alone. I become a powerhouse.

But then burnout comes. I burn myself like overheated fuel. It consumes everything. Friends and family tell me: you were out of control. And still, I find myself repeating the cycle again and again.

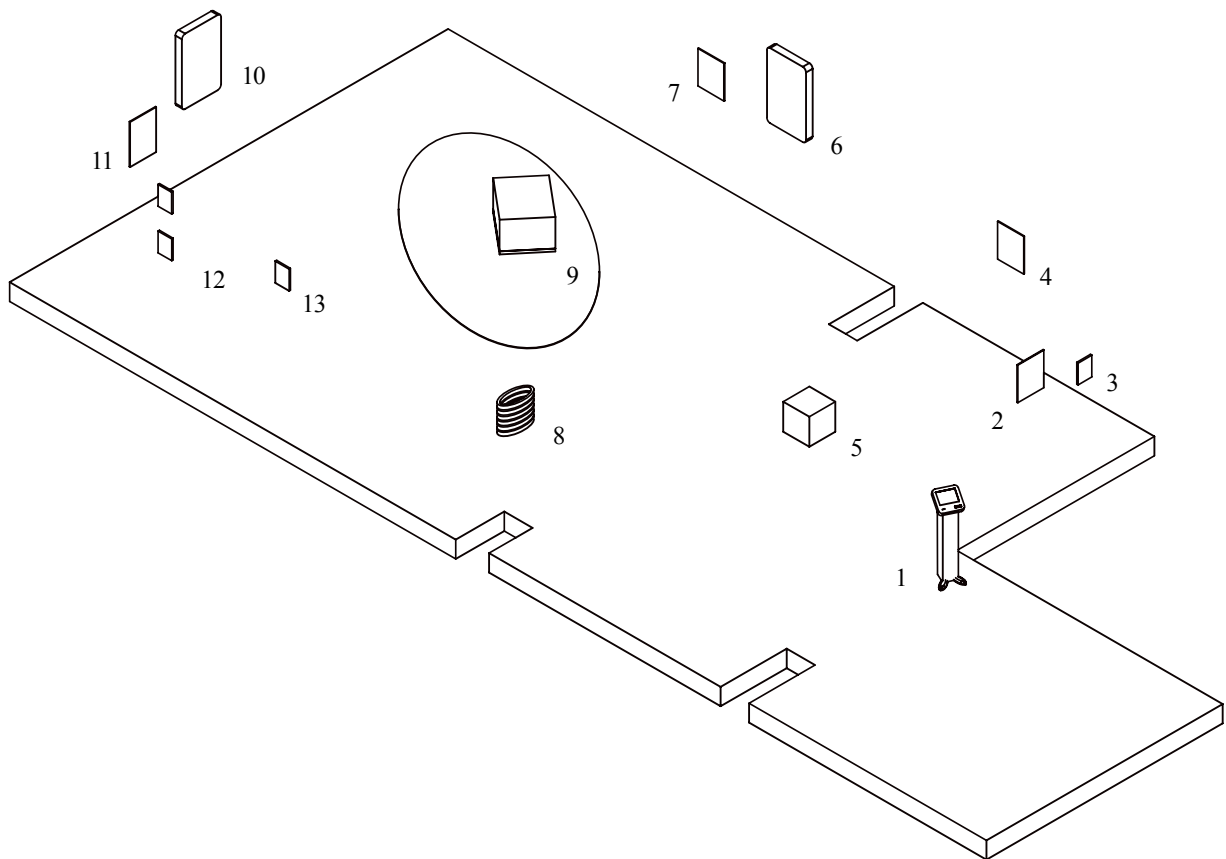
Until I pause, and ask: Has life itself ever truly become “powerful,” or is it simply that I have not?

POWERHOUSE



Gallery 1

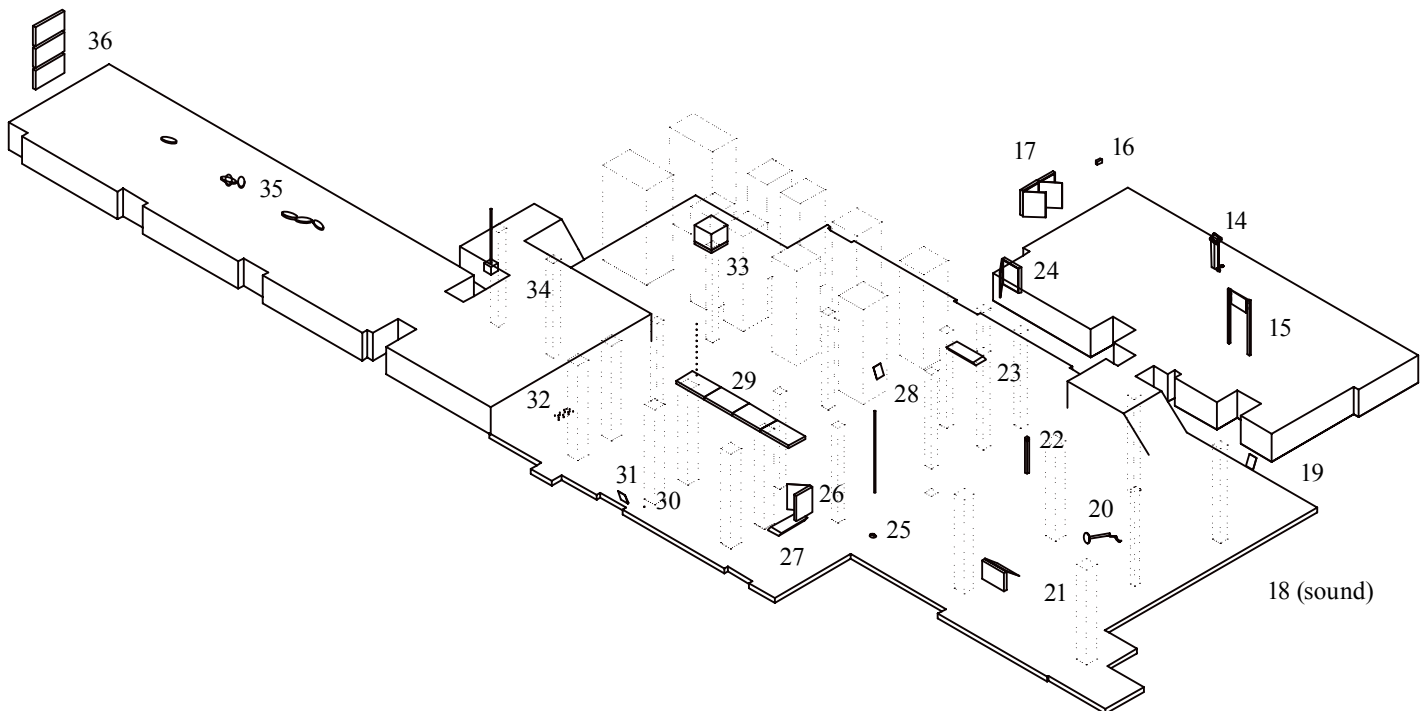
- 1 self optimization (2025) video, wood, LCD monitor
- 2 kiosk (2025) Pastel and plotted ink on paper
- 3 reddy 1 (2025) crystalized CO² on coloring book from 1966
- 4 reddy 2 (2025) crystalized CO² on coloring book from 1966
- 5 wrong focus (2025) acrylic glass and resin, photo from Rolf Disch
- Solar Architect archive
- 6 interior 1 (2025) crystalized CO² and plotted ink on Japanese paper
- 7 Self check in (2025) pastel and plotted ink on paper
- 8 element (2025) plastic
- 9 Solar settlement architecture model Architecture model archive from Rolf Disch
- SolarArchitektur
- 10 interior 2 (2025) crystalized CO² and plotted ink on Japanese paper
- 11 reddy 3 (2025) crystalized CO² on coloring book from 1966
- 12 CO2 study in mineralization:
 $\text{CaCl}_2 (\text{aq}) + \text{H}_2\text{CO}_3 (\text{aq}) \rightarrow \text{CaCO}_3 (\text{s}) + 2 \text{H}^+ + 2 \text{Cl}^-$ (1), (2) (2025)
crystalized CO² on paper
- 13 tree (2025) pastel and plotted ink on paper



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Gallery 2

- 14 world tour (2025) video, wood, LCD monitor
- 15 reddy 4 (2025) crystalized CO² on coloring book from 1966, LED, metal
- 16 insert card for power (2025) Resin, plastic, LED
- 17 air (氣) 1, 2 (2025) aluminium, UV print on acrylic, digital print of Rolf Disch
- Solar Architect archive photo paper
- 18 powerhouse sound design for string trio, percussion & sine notes (2025)
4-channel sound, 25 min, loop
Strings recorded by Halvcirkel, Composed by MK Velsorf
- 19 reddy 5 (2025) crystalized CO² on coloring book from 1966
- 20 unhinged (2025) stainless steel, motor, electronics
- 21 air (氣) 3 (2025) aluminium, UV print on acrylic, digital print of Rolf Disch
- Solar Architect archive photo paper
- 22 time to time(2025) acrylic glass, metal pin from ca.1955
- 23 sky (dawn) (2025) artificial sky panel, led, aluminium
- 24 air (氣) 4 (2025) aluminium, UV print on acrylic, digital print of Rolf Disch
- Solar Architect archive photo paper
- 25 tamago (2025) Glass beads, resin, led electronic cable
- 26 air (氣) 5 (2025) aluminium, UV print on acrylic, digital print of Rolf Disch
- Solar Architect archive photo paper
- 27 sky (morning) (2025) artificial sky panel, led, aluminium
- 28 reddy6 (2025) crystalized CO² on coloring book from 1966, LED, metal
- 29 control panel (2025) 4ch video with glass
- 30 overflow (2025) led
- 31 reddy 7 (2025) crystalized CO² on coloring book from 1966, LED, metal
- 32 illumination (2025) metal, led
- 33 Heliotrope Architecture model wood architecture model By Rolf Disch
- 34 artist and turbin (2025) acrylic glass, resin, paint, motor, led
- 35 element (2025) plastic
- 36 multitasking mirage (2025) 3ch video
with reconstructed typeface created by Ashton Collins in 1938, projection, glass

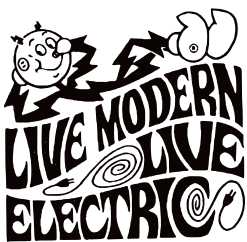


Nile Koetting

(b. Kamakura, Japan, 1989) Nile Koetting is an artist based in Tokyo and Berlin. His artistic practice explores a new perception of dramaturgy in a biodiverse atmosphere of performative time and space. Having grown up in Japan, his work reflects the complex contradictions and transformations of its contemporary culture, its rapid technological developments within a society deeply rooted in an animistic worldview. By creating environments that resonate with all five senses, his work dissolves the divide between viewer and exhibition space, continually forging experiential forms that evade conventional frameworks. His projects have been presented internationally at institutions such as the Centro de Arte Moderna Gulbenkian (Lisbon), Palais de Tokyo (Paris), Sharjah Art Foundation (Sharjah), Centre Pompidou × West Bund Museum (Shanghai), 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art (Kanazawa), CAPC Musée d'art Contemporain de (Bordeaux), Taikwun Contemporary (Hongkong), Volksbühne Roter Salon (Berlin), Fondation d'entreprise Hermès (Tokyo), and Mori Art Museum (Tokyo). His works are held in major collections including the Centre Pompidou (Paris) and the Ryutaro Takahashi Collection (Tokyo).

MK Velsorf

(b. Silkeborg, Denmark, 1991) MK Velsorf is a Danish composer and artist based in Los Angeles, who works with sound, music, installation and video. He studied visual art at Malmö Art Academy and Cooper Union School of Art in New York; and composition with Michael Pisaro-Liu at CalArts. He currently serves as the musical director of New Theater Hollywood, and has an ongoing collaboration with its directors, artists Calla Henkel and Max Pitegoff, for whom he composed the soundtracks for their two series Paradise (2022) and THEATER (2025). He is part of the experimental music ensemble TLF Trio, with whom he released the albums Sweet Harmony (Latency, 2022) and Desire (15 love, 2025); and the composer duo MK Velsorf & Aase Nielsen, with whom he released the album Opening Night (Awe, 2025). His video, installation and photographic work has been exhibited at Inter Arts Center, Malmö, and Galleri Arnstedt, Sweden and Shower, Seoul; and he has performed at venues, institutions and galleries like New Theater Hollywood, Berlin Atonal, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Marian Goodman Galerie, Paris, and Cafe OTO, London.



Nile Koetting
powerhouse
21.09.– 9.11.2025
E-werk Gegenwartskunst Galerie 1+2

Team powerhouse

Concept and Artwork: Nile Koetting
Sound composition: MK Velsorf
Video design: Yoshihiro Inada
VFX design: Rina Cho
Research: Jade Bargett
Future workshop guide: Carlo Ropa
Co2 Mineralization and technical support: Prof. Easan Sivaniah, Kyoto University
Production support: Anna Kato
Design: Minami Shimakage
Archive support: Dr. Tobias Bube
Architecture model and archive photo: Rolf Disch Solar Architect
Construction: Ronald Dörfler
Technical team: Stephan Anton, Jan Hucklenbroich, Johannes Männer
Curatorial assistant: Katharina Grün

Curated by: Heidi Brunnschweiler

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