Café des Sciences #96: "Innovation and product design"

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- **When** : **Tuesday, February 12**
- **Where** : Swissnex Boston, 420 Broadway, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
- **Registration**
- **Presentation in French**

Guest

Christophe Guberan, Swiss industrial designer based in Lausanne, is currently teaching product design at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, one of the most prestigious universities in the world. The buzzing and innovative ecosystem of the Greater Boston Area allows him to augment his practice while experimenting with new research and technological development.

Having graduated from ECAL/Ecole cantonale d'art de Lausanne in 2012 in industrial design, Christophe Guberan is the recipient of significant prizes such as the Hublot Design Prize in 2017. Very early on he started traveling the world, from Japan to South Africa, from China to Mexico, to participate in exhibitions and present his work. His unique and successful approach to product design lies at the intersection of experimentation, novel technologies and a rigorous sense of aesthetics.

Starting his professional career with an apprenticeship in architecture, Guberan's interests have always been beyond the objects themselves. He began to rethink the production processes, playing with materials and textures, hacking existing technologies. It eventually led to Hydro-Fold, the first project that propelled him to the forefront of the Milan Design Fair in 2012. Later, Erik Demaine, Professor of Computer Science at MIT, invited Guberan as a visiting researcher at MIT, discerning his potential to explore new territories.

2014 was a turning point in Christophe Guberan's career path: he started to **collaborate with the Self-Assembly Lab at MIT**, co-founded and directed by Skylar Tibbits, who pioneered 4D printing, which echoed Guberan's Hydro-Fold project. There, he continued his exploration of material interactions, digital manufacturing and self-assembly processes. **Their most recent collaboration is on Rapid Liquid Printing, a technology that revolutionizes current 3D printing techniques by tackling some of its challenges such as speed, scale, and quality**. By overcoming gravity with a gel suspension, it can print large-scale objects in a matter of minutes while using resistant industrial materials such as silicon.

Program

6:00pm : Welcome
6:15pm : Présentation + Q&A
7:00pm : Networking

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