

**PIONEERS'18**

MAY 24 & 25

HOFBURG · VIENNA

BLURRED



FRONTIERS

## Media Release

### Lightning Labs & Lilium Founders Speak at Pioneers'18

Vienna, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - We're excited to announce that Lightning Labs Co-Founder and CEO Elizabeth Stark and Lilium Co-Founder and Head of Calculation & Design Patrick Nathen will feature as speakers at Pioneers'18 on May 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. Lightning Labs, aiming to make cryptocurrency transfers faster and easier, just announced a \$2.5m seed funding round. Lilium, the world's first electric vertical take-off and landing jet, could also become the first on-demand air taxi.

With Lightning Labs impressing investors including Twitter Co-Founder Jack Dorsey, as well as significant cryptocurrency player and Litecoin creator Charlie Lee, Elizabeth's credentials in the field are remarkable. She has taught at Stanford and Yale, and is an active contributor to the Bitcoin community, advising startups in areas ranging from cryptocurrency to decentralized technology to AI.

Elizabeth will take part in a fireside chat with Laura Grimmelmann, a Vice-President investor from Accel, as a part of the *Changing Landscapes* topic.

Turning to our *Future of Mobility* topic and Lilium, the company Nathen co-founded. Patrick Nathen is a self-declared technology maniac dedicated to changing the way individuals get around, particularly in sustainable and scalable ways.

Nathen's talk will look at the future of personal transportation, and how innovation and tech can change lives in this area. Apart from founding one of the world's most exciting tech companies, he has a Master's Degree in Aerospace Engineering and a PhD in fluid dynamics, and has worked in Oxford and Stanford.

"I never wanted to be just a small gear in a big company, in which decisions are always made from a profit point of view and the context of social and political impact gets negligible," says Nathen. "Lilium started as a crazy idea that would change the way everyone approaches transportation. For me, everybody really does mean everybody. It's not only for the richest of the rich.

"For me as an entrepreneur, it's extremely important to take the chance I have to improve everyone's life in both a sustainable and scalable way."



**PIONEERS '18**  
MAY 24 & 25  
HOFBURG · VIENNA



The Lilium Jet is not only proving an inspiration in the innovation space, but it's also attracting some serious investor money. In an investment round led by Chinese investment giant Tencent, Lilium raise \$90m in autumn last year. With an agile machine well-suited to crowded urban areas, the company is working towards its vision of an on-demand air taxi service.

The Lilium Jet has an impressive range of 300 kilometres, yet can also reach mighty speeds of 300km/h. And it does all of this with electric power, meaning limited noise and air pollution.

- Ends -

#### Note to the Editors

Media Contact: For further information contact: [media@pioneers.io](mailto:media@pioneers.io). For more news from the world of Pioneers, visit our blog (<http://pioneers.io/blog>) or follow us on social media:



@pioneers.io



@pioneers



pioneers.io



Pioneers.io

#### About Pioneers:

Founded in 2009 in Vienna, Pioneers establishes and facilitates direct, meaningful business relationships between startups, corporate executives, and investors to foster growth and innovation. It is the ultimate One-Stop-Hub for global tech innovators to access high-value, curated and qualified data of early and Series A European startups. Pioneers offers various platforms to help redefine industries, develop future technologies and introduce cutting-edge solutions. Its services include digital services, consultancy, ventures services, events and inspirational, tailor-made offline experiences. Its flagship event takes place annually in the 500-year-old Hofburg Imperial Palace in Vienna and brings together a community of 2,500 founders, investors, executives and public sector representatives from over 100 nations. Of all future tech events globally, Pioneers has unparalleled access to European tech leaders. The 2017 edition was awarded with the bea World 'Best Conference/Congress' Award.

