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SYNTHETIC

FILMS

BIOLOGY

BIO-FICTION Science Art Film Festival
23 - 25.10.2014 - Vienna, Austria



BIO·FICTION
SCIENCE ART FILMFESTIVAL



Film still from 'Quasi Objects / Cinematic Environment #8' by Lorenzo Oggiano (film 46)

“**Three years** after the inaugural BIOFICTION Festival, we are back celebrating the second Science, Art and Film Festival about synthetic biology. Once again our call for short film submissions triggered a lot of interest. Artists and designers, filmmakers as well as scientists sent us their ideas, visions and thoughts about synthetic biology and its societal ramifications as audio-visual content. While watching the **100 film entries from 17 countries and four continents**, our jury of nine was confronted with a spectacular diversity. It became quite clear that our award categories for “Fiction”, “Animation” and “Documentary” were by far not precise enough to label this wealth of reflections in an adequate manner. From mockumentary to pre-product placement, from affirmation to gamification, from gastronomic speciesism to economic autophagy, or from naïve de-extinction to planned bio-obsolescence, the final selection of 60 films in BIOFICTION 2014 will remain a unique resource in providing narratives for possible futures.”

Markus SCHMIDT & Camillo MEINHART

Creators of BIOFICTION



100 films submitted – 60 short-listed!

Awards categories and prize money:

- A. BIO-FICTION Award – Fiction – € 2000
- B. BIO-FICTION Award – Documentary – € 2000
- C. BIO-FICTION Award – Animation – € 2000
- D. BIO-FICTION Special Prize of the Jury – € 500

Winners will be announced during the [BIO-FICTION Gala and Award Ceremony](#) which will take place on Saturday October 25th 2014 at 8pm at the Museum of Natural History, Vienna (see program for details).

We are proud to announce that 100 films from [17 countries in 4 continents](#) were submitted to the BIO-FICTION Science Art and Film Festival! In a first selection phase those entries were selected that fit the topic of the festival and fulfilled minimal technical requirements.

Finally, 60 films were shortlisted and reviewed by an international jury who selected winners in 4 award categories (A-D).

BIO-FICTION Film Jury:

- Erich Berger (Curator and artist, Finland)
- Sebastian Harrer (Film director and festival organizer, Germany)
- Jens Hauser (Curator and researcher, Denmark)
- David Kirby (Researcher and book author, UK)
- Philippe Marlière (Bio-entrepreneur, France)
- Vitor Martins dos Santos (Researcher and film aficionado, Netherlands)
- Robert Styblo (Film producer and director, Austria)
- Huib de Vriend (Social scientist and film aficionado, Netherlands)
- Katherina T. Zakravsky (Independent scholar of science and society, writer, performance and concept artist, developer, Austria)

THUR

23/10/14

15:45 - 17:00 / Natural History Museum

► FILM: BIOART

Film / Director	Country/Year	Duration	Film nr.
BioArt, Art from the Laboratory / Robert W. K. Styblo	AT, 2011	55:00	1

20:00 to 21:00 / Bellaria Cinema

► FICTION VISION

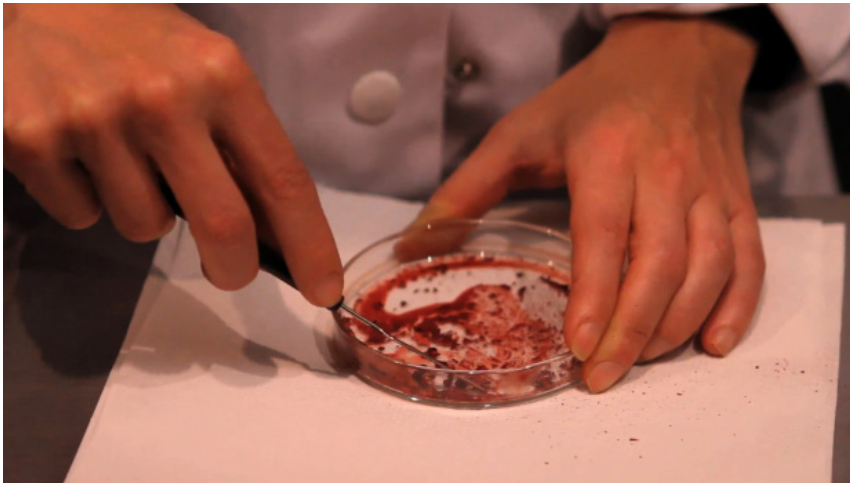
Film / Director	Country/Year	Duration	Film nr.
Electrostabilis Cardium / Agi Haines	UK, 2013	03:27	2
Synbio Ads London / Benedikt Groß	DE, 2012	01:36	3
Synbio Ads Mintel / Benedikt Groß	DE, 2012	01:20	4
The Culturists / David Benqué	UK, 2014	02:09	5
The Outline of Paradise / Ursula Damm	DE, 2012	04:06	6
Black Gold / Tim Clark & Frank Kolkman	UK, 2014	03:49	7
Quanticare / Amy Congdon, Jenny Lee, Ann-Kristin Abel	UK, 2012	02:23	8
Aflatoxin Biosensor / Ari Dwijayanti & Dimas Dwi Adiguna	INO, 2013	03:09	9
Exploring Indonesia / Ari Dwijayanti	INO, 2013	02:50	10

Film / Director	Country/Year	Duration	Film nr.
Consultation Ping Lu	DE, 2013	03:50	11
System Synthetics / Maurizio Montalti	NL, 2011	05:55	12
Bacteria to the Future / Sam Ireland	UK, 2014	03:59	13
Bacteria Compass / Howard Boland, C-LAB	UK, 2012	02:08	14
Travelling Research Kit / The Extrapolation Factory	US, 2014	05:40	15
Protocell Technology / Shamees Aden & Sam J Bond	UK, 2012	01:49	16
Preparing for Tomorrow / Nathan Burr	UK, 2014	06:29	17
I Wanna Deliver a Dolphin / Ai Hasegawa	JP, 2013	02:35	18
Bio Flaneur / Aleks Cicha	UK, 2014	02:20	19

21:15 to 22:30 / Bellaria Cinema

► FICTION DESIGN

Film / Director	Country/Year	Duration	Film nr.
Living Food / Minsu Kim	UK, 2013	00:55	20
Streichhölzer / David Hochgatterer	AT, 2011	01:44	21
Alien Fanfare / Jonathan Monaghan	US, 2014	12:50	22
Bioplastic Fantastic / Johanna Schmeer	UK, 2014	03:51	23
Uncolour Me Courious / Georgia Bondy	UK, 2014	03:07	24
A new way in Evolution / Uwe Sleytr	AT, 2014	03:41	25
Expanded Self / Sonja Baumel	AT, 2012	03:28	26
Chlorotherapy / Marie-Sarah Adenis & Hugo Kreit	FR, 2014	03:58	27



1

BioArt. Art from the laboratory

Robert W. K. Styblo / UK, 2011 / 55:00

Including discussion after the screening.

The relationship between art and science has always been multifarious. It comes as no surprise that in the age of techno-sciences many artists have traded working in the studio for research in the lab, creating new and exciting art forms in the process. "BioArt: Art from the Laboratory" is a groundbreaking documentary about the BioArt movement, its technical aspects, new visions and a new approach to mankind's great philosophical questions.

2

Electrostabilis Cardium

Agi Haines / UK, 2013 / 03:27

The ability to replicate and print cells in complex structures could mean different cells with various functions could be put together to create new organs that we would take millions of years to evolve naturally - if ever. Frankenstein-esque hybrid organs could be created using cells from different body parts or even different species. This film shows the surgical procedure for having such a futuristic organ fitted: Electrostabilis Cardium is a defibrillating organ using parts from an electric eel that can discharge an electric current to the heart when it recognizes it's going into a heart attack.



3

Synbio Ads London

Benedikt Groß / DE, 2012 / 01:36

"Syn Bio Ads" is a speculative project around unsolved questions of Synthetic Biology like: Who owns Nature? Who has the right to alter life? How much is nature worth? What happens if we treat DNA like pixels, and a swarm of birds becomes suddenly just an efficient display for advertising? Two short clips aim to show the implications of these high-level questions on everyday life.



4

Synbio Ads Mintel

Benedikt Groß / DE, 2012 / 01:20

"Syn Bio Ads" is a speculative project around unsolved questions of Synthetic Biology like: Who owns Nature? Who has the right to alter life? How much is nature worth? What happens if we treat DNA like pixels, and a swarm of birds becomes suddenly just an efficient display for advertising? Two short clips aim to show the implications of these high-level questions on everyday life.





David Benqué / UK,2014 / 02:09

6 The Outline of Paradise



7
Black Gold



A photograph showing a person's forearm with a hexagonal, textured patch being applied. The patch is white and has a rough, crystalline appearance. A hand is holding the patch against the skin. The person is wearing a grey t-shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Ari Dwijayanti & Dimas Dwi Adiguna /
INO, 2013 / 03:09

10 Exploring Indonesia

11 Consultation

Ping Lu / DE, 2013 / 03:50

In a world where synthetic biology seems to promise a sustainable future by constructing and using living machines, this film asks whether we are embracing a “brave new world”. “Consultation” presents two speculative bacteria-based devices, which serve to prophesy future events and to indicate current situations, in short, living machines which end-users can simply consult in place of I Qing practitioners, health experts and mathematicians.

12 System Synthetics

Maurizio Montalti / NL, 2011 / 05:55

What if we could collaborate with micro-organisms to allow our man-made materials, our waste, to become part of the natural cycle? “System Synthetics” is a reaction to our modern world’s strong dependence on the production and development of synthetic/toxic materials which cannot degrade and subsequently affect every aspect of our ecosystem. The film proposes a vision for reversing the consequences of our plastic-addicted lives, by ingeniously encouraging a new symbiosis between different fungal organisms.

13 Bacteria to the Future

Sam Ireland / UK, 2014 / 03:59

What if artificially intelligent bacteria could be connected to build communicating populations? Could we make bacterial computers? In this charming animation, Brian the Bacterium provides a possible answer.

14 Bacteria Compass

Howard Boland, C-LAB / UK, 2012 / 02:08

“Bacteria Compass” illustrates a novel way of interacting with bacteria in real-time. The use of magnetic nano particles enables E.coli bacteria to react in a similar way as a compass to a magnet. This ability of influencing cells in real-time not only suggests a fascinating array of applications, but also invokes a sense of wonder: a way of interacting with something that is not readily visible and seeing it as living matter.

15 Travelling Research Kit

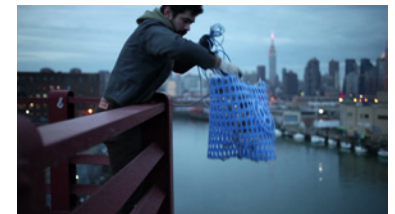
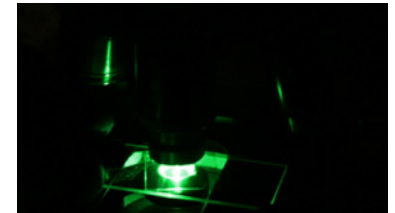
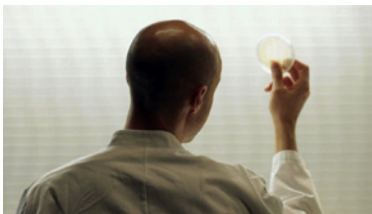
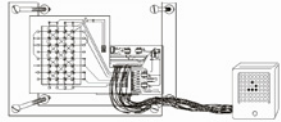
The Extrapolation Factory / US, 2014 / 05:40

Being a virtual design studio, the “Extrapolation Factory” seeks to extrapolate present technical developments into realistic future applications. The “Travelling Research Kit” is one of them: DIY Immunology, out of the box, for everybody - especially for those bodies who need it most.

16 Protocell Technology

Shamees Aden & Sam J Bond / UK, 2012 / 01:49

The study of protocells could dramatically change our understanding of the nature of materials. Protocells blur the gap between the non-living and the living, and can therefore, when used as material, integrate the dynamic properties that living organisms offer.





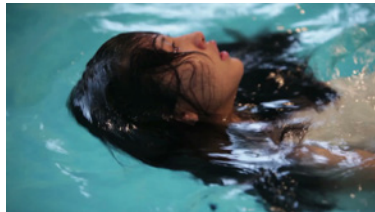
17 Preparing for Tomorrow

Nathan Burr / UK, 2014 / 06:29

Preparing for Tomorrow speculates on the impact that synthetic biology will have on our everyday lives 25 years from now, such as harnessing photosynthetic plant properties. Towards that end, the movie explores what we can do today to prepare: including an easy recipe for creating lichen and step-by-step instructions on how to propagate them.

18 I Wanna Deliver a Dolphin

Ai Hasegawa / JP, 2013 / 02:35



Rapid developments in life sciences could enable us to break the borders between species. In times of human overpopulation, transspecicism becomes a game changer for species conservation.

19 BioFlaneur

Aleks Cicha / UK, 2014 / 02:20



The Parisian flaneur of the 19th century is an urban explorer who wanders around the city, discovering new relationships and stories. The "BioFlaneur" is his modern equivalent, set in the future, who uncovers modern stories through bacteria sample scans taken on the city's surfaces. This short film is inspired by the fields of microbiology and synthetic biology and speculates about a future where invisible biological data of spaces and humans is uncovered. Will anything change in our understanding of privacy in public spheres when what's invisible becomes visible?

20 Living Food

Minsu Kim / UK, 2013 / 00:55

What if food were consumed alive, as a fictional character? What if food was able to play with our cutlery or create hyper-sensations in our mouth? In this film, dishes are living, moving, created things, beautiful and stomach-churning at the same time.



21 Streichhölzer

David Hochgatterer / AT, 2011 / 01:44

There are entire worlds of interpretation in these two deceptively simple clips: Flameless burning matches, monochromatic in black and white, are used to simulate plants, once withering and once blooming. Instead of the flames, the soundtrack provides the animation with distorted tones, nervous and dissonant and then again tonal.



22 Alien Fanfare

Jonathan Monaghan / US, 2014 / 12:50

"Alien Fanfare" chronicles the majestic invasion of a fantastical spacecraft. Part flesh, part baroque architecture, the alien vessel contains multiple levels of historical and cultural meanings: from science fiction to contemporary consumer culture. Flying ATMs and surreal new forms of life are incorporated seamlessly into this slick, graceful and yet also witty animation.





23 Bioplastic Fantastic

Johanna Schmeer / UK, 2014 / 03:51

"Bioplastic Fantastic" imagines the future of sustenance, in a world where access to traditional food sources may soon become problematic. The film presents seven products that replace or complement the current food system by producing all nutrients needed to survive. The items produce water, vitamins, fibre, sugar, fat, protein and minerals through biological processes and are powered by artificial photosynthesis.



24 Uncolour Me Curious

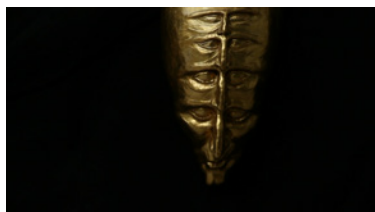
Georgia Bondy / UK, 2014 / 03:07

"Uncolour me Curious" is an experimental film, which utilizes vivid images and performances in order to conceptualise the dangers of Azo Dye Waste products to humans. The short also explores the role of synthetic biology in the creation of genetically modified bacteria, which can deal with that toxic danger.

25 A new way in Evolution

Uwe Sleytr / AT, 2014 / 03:41

Whereas retracing the evolution of life forms by using fossils has become increasingly possible, predicting the future development of living organisms is hardly conceivable, even more with the capacities synthetic biology brings towards the creation of entirely new species. This clip is an experimental piece, which explores an evolution that is sped up by synthetic biology, by utilizing sculptures which are presented as fossils from the future. While it tries to imagine the future of human development, the film also underlines that such an evolution is entirely unforeseeable.



26 Expanded Self

Sonja Bäuml / AT, 2012 / 03:28

The subject of Sonja Bäuml's film "Expanded Self" is the human skin and the invisible universe of bacteria living on the surface of the human body. Here, Bäuml has used her own body in order to explore the bacteria from an aesthetic point of view, which at the same time is an attempt to challenge our perception of the human skin and who we are.



27 Chlorotherapy

Marie-Sarah Adenis & Hugo Kreit / FR, 2014 / 03:58

"Chlorotherapy" explores a new type of utopian medicine based on a realistic technology: DNA transistors. Because access to care will become a major issue in the future, easy to access biotechnologies become highly interesting. Plants, historically related to the medical world, will be the ideal support of this exploration. Through genetic modifications, plants become able to diagnose diseases and to deliver appropriate therapeutic substances. The film offers sensual interpretations, which anchor synthetic biology in a reality that is compatible with the momentum of human life.

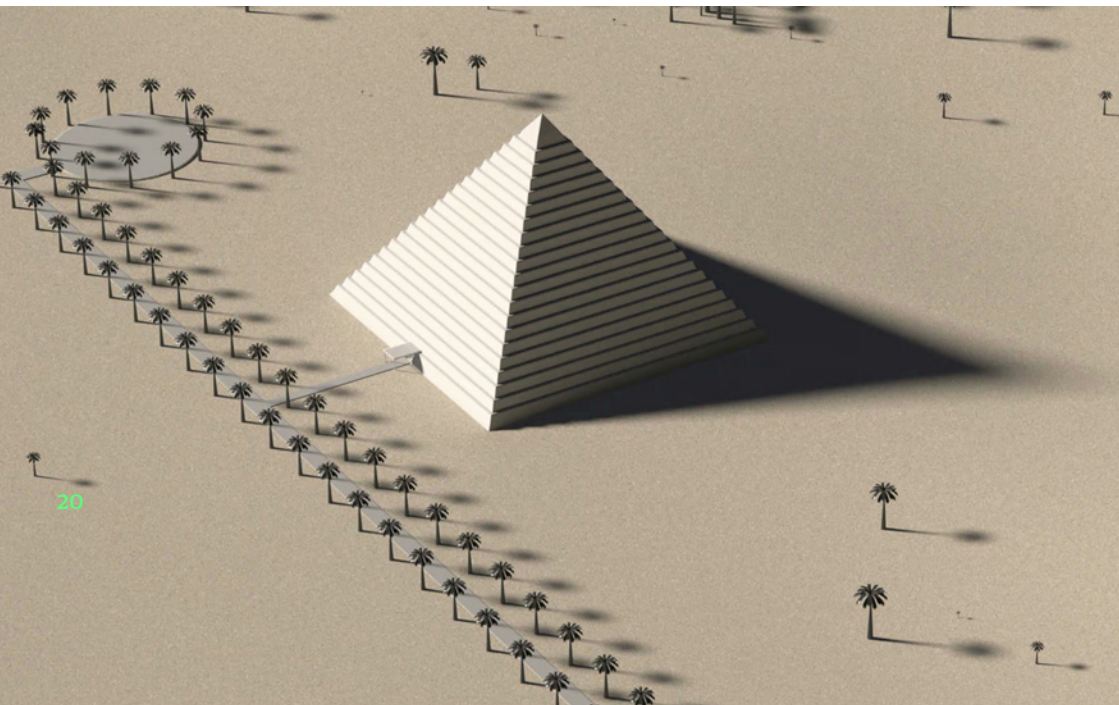




Film still from 'Uncolour Me Courious' by Georgia Bondy (Film No 24)



Film still from 'The Culturists' by David Benqué (Film No 5)



Film still from 'I Wanna Deliver a Dolphin' by Ai Hasegawa (Film No 18)



Film still from 'Protocell Technology' by Shamees Aden & Sam J Bond (Film No 16)



FRI

24/10/14



20:00 to 21:30 / Bellaria Cinema



FICTION NARRATIVE

Film

/ Director Country/Year Duration Film nr.

Decapoda Shock

/ Javier Chillón ES, 2011 09:11 28

I wish my life

/ Joachim Huveneers BE, 2014 15:05 29

Eugene

/ Catalina Hoyos-Restrepo US, 2014 16:05 30

Vermin

/ Adi Gelbart DE, 2011 23:09 31

Talking Life

/ Bàr Tyrmi & Rafael Linares ES, 2012 10:21 32

Hybris

/ Arjan Brentjes NL, 2014 06:22 33

The Arsehole Gene

/ Eric Romero UK, 2013 06:48 34

21:45 to 22:30 / Bellaria Cinema



ANIMATION

Film

/ Director Country/Year Duration Film nr.

Macrostructure

/ Eric Schockmel UK, 2013 04:58 35

Bioluminescent Streetlamps

/ Steven van Eekelen NL, 2013 02:22 36

Reinventing the Dodo

/ Steven van Eekelen NL, 2013 03:08 37

Copy & Clone

/ Louis Rigaud FR, 2010 03:15 38

Beastliness

/ Deborah Kelly AU, 2011 04:30 39

Cytoplasmic Playgrounds

/ Markos Kay UK, 2013 01:10 40

Pet Genesis

/ Ingrid Hulskamp, Pras Gunasekera, Ting Lin, Amy Chin UK, 2011 02:35 41

Bio-Logic

/ Maurizio Montalti NL, 2014 05:44 42

KATERED

/ Howard Boland, C-LAB UK, 2011 00:55 43

Proteo

/ Johanna Hoffmann-Dietrich DE, 2013 07:10 44

Life Spectrum

/ Paloma Dawkins CA, 2014 01:00 45

Quasi-Objects / Cinematic Environment #8

/ Lorenzo Oggiano IT, 2012 04:32 46



28 Decapoda Shock

Javier Chillón / ES, 2011 / 09:11

"An astronaut returns to Earth after a fatal accident on a distant planet," states the official synopsis of this short film, which describes nothing and suggests everything. Science-fiction in 70s b-movie style, with comic-book elements, a revenge plot, and wailing guitars, your clue word is "decapoda" an order of crustaceans. Prepare yourself for a hilarious, gripping and unexpected 9 minutes!



29 I wish my life

Joachim Huveneers / BE, 2014 / 15:05

Sara, a beautiful young woman, lives together with an older man. Weekly, two mysterious men come by to monitor her behaviour and characteristics as compared to the the week before, and whether there has been any progress. But when Sara is alone in her old-fashioned room, filled with retro objects, she always listens to the same song that calms her. She's dreaming about another life.



30 Eugene

Catalina Hoyos-Restrepo / US, 2014 / 16:05

Eugene Bennett is a geneticist who has an obsession with the strength of his genetic family tree. He counsels couples on whether it's safe to reproduce while trying to protect his own bloodline from incompatible genetic material. That is until his younger brother brings a girl to Thanksgiving dinner hoping to build up the courage to propose to her before Eugene scares her away with his attempts to collect her DNA.

31 Vermin

Adi Gelbart / DE, 2011 / 23:09

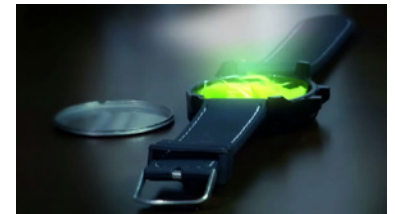
Three creatures mysteriously appear on earth. At first they harmlessly wander the fields. But then they start using giant vegetables as components in enormous organic machines. What is the purpose of these machines, and what do the creatures want from us? In "Vermin", Gelbart takes us on a fun and dissonant, psychedelic Sci Fi B-movie trip.



32 Talking Life

Bär Tyrmí & Rafael Linares / ES, 2012 / 10:21

In an indeterminate future, the elderly can be monitored via living devices containing genetically modified bacteria. Wrapped in a watch like device, they serve to monitor and warn their patients in every day life: reminding them to take any pills they may have forgotten and watching over their health status. Supplied by a company with a monopoly, it will not be easy to get rid of the device.



33 Hybris

Arjan Brentjes / NL, 2014 / 06:22

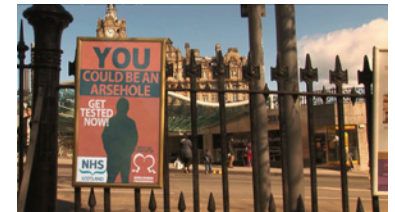
In a 1960s talk show a scientist discusses the future possibility of indefinite human life. In the meantime we see his memories of a short love affair. Creating a mixture of animation, photorealism and visual aesthetics from the 60s, Brentjes takes us on a nostalgic journey into the past to explore our future.

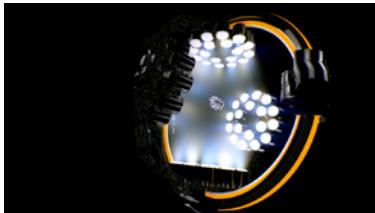


34 The Arsehole Gene

Eric Romero / UK, 2013 / 06:48

After years of investigation, a group of European scientists have discovered that the vulgarly called "arseholes" are actually people suffering from a genetic mutation that conditions their behaviour. This discovery has opened a door that allows us to end the unfair stigmatization this group of patients have been subjected to. Because arseholes... are just sick people.





35 Macrostructure

Eric Schockmel / UK, 2013 / 04:58

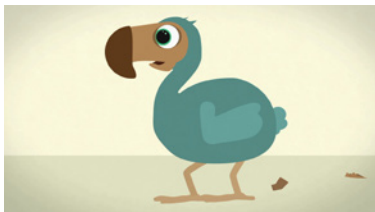
Inspired by science and video games, Macrostructure is the first episode in a micro-series entitled "What If You Created Artificial Life And It Started Worshipping You". We are taken on a 3D animated journey through a world inhabited by synthetic life forms and the self-aware machines who manufacture, control, and recycle them.



36 Bioluminescent Streetlamps

Steven van Eekelen / NL, 2013 / 02:22

"Her husband thought the shining trees were spooky. Awful christmas days now seemed to last the whole summer." Synthetic biology will offer a world of possibilities. One of these is developing light emitting trees that could serve as a sustainable alternative for street lamps. This animation paints a picture of what a future with bioluminescent street lamps could look like.



37 Reinventing the Dodo

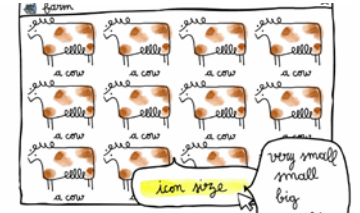
Steven van Eekelen / NL, 2013 / 03:08

The last accepted sighting of a Dodo was in 1662. Gone for over 350 years, its extinction is generally viewed as a flagship example of human-induced extinctions. What if we recreated the Dodo again? Could it be the start of a moral redemption of sorts, after centuries of destroying biodiversity in uncountable ways? This highly entertaining animation explores what could happen if the Dodo were to be resurrected.

38 Copy & Clone

Louis Rigaud / FR, 2010 / 03:15

The development of biotechnologies, will also lead to a fundamental change in industrial production. "Copy and Clone" discusses an extremely serious subject with a side order of humour: the animation displays the effects of biotechnologies on animal food industries through the window of a computer. What happens when the "copy and paste" commands of our devices step into real life?



39 Beastliness

Deborah Kelly / AU, 2011 / 04:30

Beastliness synthesises traditional handmade photomontage with digital animation into a dalliance with predatory, reckless sirens. The film wants to witness horizonless, post-species-specific possibilities, as we tango into the farfetched future, propelled by unchecked hungers. Miraculous conceptions are ordinary, death is deferred, biology is no longer destiny. Gender imperatives mate, proliferate and mutate.



40 Cytoplasmic Playgrounds

Markos Kay / UK, 2013 / 01:10

In the incredibly dense yet invisible world of the cytoplasm in biological cells, complex interactions can be thought of as a playful dance between macromolecules, minerals, ions and proteins. Leaving behind traditional scientific imagery, this animation interprets actual complex molecular events as forms and movement in a playground.



41

Pet Genesis

Ingrid Hulskamp, Pras Gunasekera, Ting Lin, Amy Chin / UK, 2011 / 02:35

"Pet Genesis" deals with the future of synthetic biology in the pet market. Given the extremely common practice of pet breeding, would pet synthesis present only one logical step forward? Would the ability to pick and choose certain features or characteristics lead to the creation of a perfect pet? With its subtitle, "a dystopian view on synthetic selection", the film takes a cautious approach.



42

Bio-Logic

Maurizio Montalti / NL, 2014 / 05:44

How do biological entities and digital algorithms relate to each other? How could the study of such interaction be visualised? And what would be the applications and the implications which could derive from such a study? "Bio-Logic" is the product of a two-day workshop, utilising a fascinating living protagonist: Physarum polycephalum, commonly known as slime-mold - a hybrid living organism that are neither plants, animals nor fungi.



43

KATERED

Howard Boland, C-LAB / UK, 2011 / 00:55

Is it possible to grow large bacterial colonies and then use them to illustrate biological states such as stress caused by food scarcity? As part of a larger project, in which Howard Boland and C-LAB explore this question, "katERed" purposefully introduces red fluorescence in order to align cultural understanding of colours with the concept of stress, such as flushed skin in stress situations, or red as an "official" alert colour.

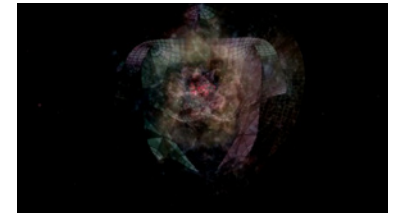


44

Proteo

Johanna Hoffmann-Dietrich / DE, 2013 / 07:10

"Proteo" is inspired by proteins' complex geometry and beauty as well as their origin. In this piece, a burst of particles forms a mini-universe, which gives rise to a convoluted molecule of protein. Its dynamic, molecular "dance of life" fitting ends the way it began: in a chaotic cloud of atoms.



45

Life Spectrum

Paloma Dawkins / CA, 2014 / 01:00

"Life Spectrum" is a journey through a beautiful and strange living landscape. As an abstract animation, it relies only on shapes and colours to take us on this adventure. Colorful and kaleidoscopic, its fluidity of movement manages to evoke a sense of wonder.



46

Quasi-Objects / Cinematic Environment #8

Lorenzo Oggiano / IT, 2012 / 04:32

"Quasi-Objects" is an on-going art project consisting of 3D generated videos and prints, a practice of "organic re-design" that aims to contribute to the debate of an up-coming post-natural ecosystem: Life as something that is not exclusively located within a body, but rather immanent in any complex system, human or non-human.



THUR 23/10/14
21:15 to 22:30 / Bellaria Cinema
FICTION: DESIGN



Film still from 'Living Food' by Minsu Kim (Film No 20)



Film still from 'Bioplastic Fantastic' by Johanna Schmeer (Film No 23)

Film still from 'Travelling Research Kit' by The Extrapolation Factory (Film No 15)



30

Film still from 'Decapoda Shock' by Javier Chillón (Film No 28)



31

SAT

25/10/14



09:00 to 09:55 / Bellaria Cinema

DOCUMENTARY I

Film
/ Director Country/Year Duration Film nr.

Tracked Down by Our Genes

/ Gilbert Charles & Philippe Borrel FR, 2007 54:22 47

10:00 to 11:00 / Bellaria Cinema

DOCUMENTARY II

Film
/ Director Country/Year Duration Film nr.

The Perfect Humus

/ Marcello Mercado DE, 2010 16:26 48

Stress-O-Stat

/ Howard Bolland, C-LAB UK, 2011 03:22 49

Simply Complex

/ Duguid Cameron UK, 2013 09:34 50

East End Journey

/ Lindsay Goodall UK, 2013 09:17 51

Inorganica

/ Valerie Mellon UK, 2013 15:48 52

New Mumbai

/ Tobias Revell UK, 2012 09:17 53

11:30 to 13:00 / Bellaria Cinema

DOCUMENTARY III

Film
/ Director Country/Year Duration Film nr.

Zero Park

/ Sascha Pohflepp DE, 2013 11:22 54

Public Misunderstanding of Science

/ Bruce Gilchrist UK, 2011 06:20 55

Daughter Cell

/ Kristina Korsholm US, 2014 04:33 56

DIYSECT: Learning in Public

/ Mary Tsang & Benjamin Welmond US, 2013 15:32 57

Soluble Structures

/ Yuki Yoshioka JP, 2014 14:32 58

History of the Automobile

/ Scott Dorsey US, 2011 05:02 59

Puppet Earth

/ Laurens Roorda & Thijs Molenaar NL, 2012 07:28 60



47 Tracked Down by Our Genes

Gilbert Charles & Philippe Borrel /
FR, 2007 / 54:22

After the human genome was mapped in 2003, scientists began trying to crack the deepest secrets of our identity. On the basis of the analysis of one hair or one cigarette butt, geneticists claim that they are able to tell if a person is of Jewish, African or Asian heritage; to know his skin colour, his risk for cancer... Now, private laboratories offer genetic tests for individuals curious to know about their distant ancestry or their predisposition for certain illnesses. This new field also attracts police interest: genetics is becoming an investigation tool for profiling. Is our freedom in danger?



48 The Perfect Humus

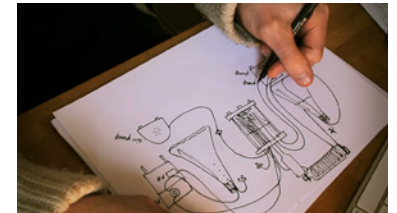
Marcello Mercado / DE, 2010 / 16:26

Information culled from digital archives, such as the human genome DNA code, satellite feeds, and various data banks, comprise the cultural fertilizer that "The Perfect Humus" proposes in a series of installations and clips. Speakers which blare parts of the human genome to trees and plants, worms bedded on and fed with a QR Code of a Ronald Reagan speech, strange sounds and bewildering information. Mercado approaches evolution in a novel way, almost from a direction of alchemy or cargo cult, thus questioning the meaning of and connections between information stored in a variety of media.

49 Stress-O-Stat

Howard Boland, C-LAB / UK, 2011 / 03:22

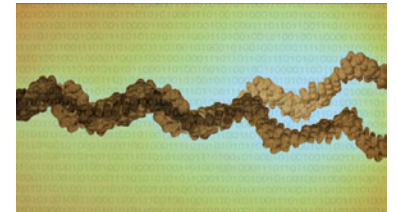
"Stress-o-stat" is a living artwork that visually captures stress in bacteria as light. While synthetic biology tends to postulate a machine-like language onto the living, as something programmable, paradoxically this short film explores a more complex convergence between life and machine: the machine controlling the bacteria becomes life-like and the bacteria, engineered through synthetic biology, machine-like.



50 Simply Complex

Duguid Cameron / UK, 2013 / 09:34

The attempt to grasp the complexity of the genome goes hand in hand with the technology we can use for it. What can now fit on a memory stick would once have been too much for thousands of computers. Can we deal with the data and what does it tell us about ourselves? "Simply Complex" makes clever use of beautiful stop motion, creating a film that is just as its title suggests, both simple and complex.



51 East End Journey

Lindsay Goodall / UK, 2013 / 09:17

A journey across Glasgow's life expectancy statistics to the East End, where the city is blighted by some of the lowest life expectancies in the world. Could the cause for it lie in our genes? Or is it perhaps much simpler than that? "East End Journey" presents a touching and sensitive look at the ways in which social inequalities are played out in our health and life expectancy.





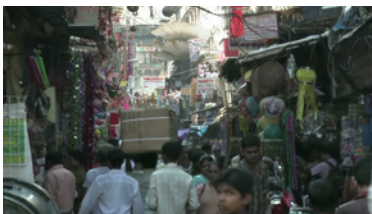
52 Inorganica

Valerie Mellon / UK, 2013 / 15:48

Evolution of life on earth took billions of years. Now a Glasgow scientist is trying to create a new type of life from rocks and metals. If he succeeds he will have answered two of sciences biggest questions: how did life on earth start? And could there be life on other planets?

53 New Mumbai

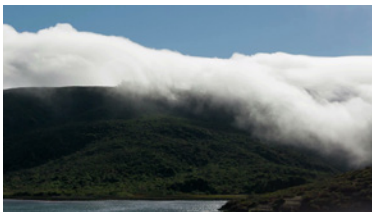
Tobias Revell / UK, 2012 / 09:17



"New Mumbai" chronicles the fictional journey of a documentary filmmaker to the Dharavi slums of India, to film a strange phenomenon involving genetically engineered mushrooms. Created in Amsterdam, the mushrooms were taken to India by a gang, in the vain hope that they could be used as narcotics. The collective drive and expertise of the refugees managed to turn these fungal samples into a new type of infrastructure providing heat, light and building material for the refugees. Dharavi rapidly evolved its own micro-economy based around the mushrooms.

54 Zero Park

Sascha Pohflepp / DE, 2013 / 11:22

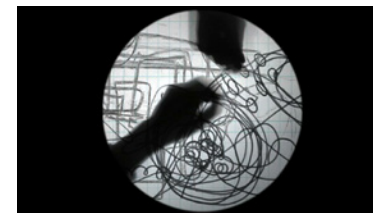


"Zero Park" is a narrative film that focuses on a fictitious landscape in northern California. Here, the flora and fauna have been restored to their natural state of wilderness, and the viewer is faced with nature's beauty. Yet, the longer one listens to the voice of the narrator, the more it becomes apparent that what on first glance looks like a natural landscape, may in fact be artificial.

55 Public Misunderstanding of Science

Bruce Gilchrist / UK, 2011 / 06:20

For nine intense days "Laboratory Life", an open laboratory project, opened its doors to the general public. As part of this project, visitors were invited to draw, doodle or notate freely while listening to a scientific discourse on synthetic biology. The product is "Public Misunderstanding of Science": an animated film, which illustrates poignantly how well (or not) a general public can connect with specialised scientific information, language and protocol.



56 Daughter Cell

Kristina Korsholm / US, 2014 / 04:33

"Daughter Cell" looks at the developments in protocell research and its impact on society. International model and actress Kristina Korsholm does not merely present the work of a scientist in this documentary. She also takes us on a journey to her father, Steen Rasmussen, who abandoned her at a tender age to pursue his life's work: The creation of life.



57 DIYSECT: Learning in Public

Mary Tsang & Benjamin Welmond / US, 2013 / 15:32

"Learning in Public" features several community biolabs, members of the do-it-yourself biology movement as well as performance artists across the US and Canada. What these groups have in common is the notion of public amateurism: hacking not only hardware, but also ideas and life; open experimentation and learning together.





58 Soluble Structures

Yuki Yoshioka / JP, 2014 / 14:32

During her investigations of the basic mechanisms of life, a scientist is confronted with irregular samples of radioactive water from the Fukushima area. To her surprise she discovers that the water not only has memory, but a defined, hereditary structure. Can water be alive? And what could this mean to us?



59 History of the Automobile

Scott Dorsey / US, 2011 / 05:02

In this alternative Universe, which seems to be quite close to ours, black and white classic footage explores the history of the automobile. But reality is, even if only by a few degrees, slightly different.



60 Puppet Earth

Laurens Roorda & Thijs Molenaar /
NL, 2012 / 07:28

We set out with a small team of biologists, naturalists and filmmakers and ventured deep into the forest of Little Barrier Island, New Zealand. What we found was beyond our expectations. A secluded valley inhabited by a distinctive biodiversity of animal, fungal and plant life, never before seen.

NOTES:

BIO-FICTION FESTIVAL TEAM:

Dr. Markus Schmidt (Producer)

Camillo Meinhart (Co-producer)

Jens Hauser (Curatorial advisor)

Sonja Schachinger (Production assistance)

Sandra Youssef MA (Hosting)

Birgit Marie Schmidt MA (Communication)

Producer:

Biofaction

Sponsor:





Film still from 'Quasi Objects / Cinematic Environment #8' by Lorenzo Oggiano (film 46)



www.bio-fiction.com