TWO DAYS OF SCI-FI



WORKSHOPS, TALK AND A FILM PROGRAMME

Friday June 4th, 14:00 - 18:00 Pleasurable Technologies workshop by Rachel Rumai Diaz

Friday June 4th, 20:00 - 21:15 Talk by Dr. Dan Hassler-Forest

Saturday June 5th, 12:00 - 16:00 Sex and the Cityscape workshop by Julie Phillips

Friday June 4th until Sunday June 6th Film programme available to stream via a password protected link

Location: Online Language: English

Tickets: €35,00 Workshops + Talk + Film Programme

€ 7,50 Talk

€ 4,00 Film programme

Extra Extra, in collaboration with WORM Rotterdam, present a two-day online science fiction programme. Veering from gravitas to satire, sci-fi happens just around the corner and not solely in a galaxy far, far away – it might happen in the rooms of your own home. Together we'll explore the sensual potential of the sci-fi genre and the adaptive and resilient communities of the urban. Roam in speculative futures, reimagine the streets we walk, experience impossible spaces, enjoy the film programme and think about what these visions mean for your writing practice.

On the afternoon of Friday 4th June, writer and spoken word artist **Rachel Rumai Diaz** will present a workshop on **Pleasurable Technologies**. The workshop is inspired by the essay *Fierce.net* by D. Travers Scott, who reflects on his physical interactions with dating websites, considering the way an ideal internet would present itself to him. Participants will be guided to reflect on their physical interaction with technology. Using these insights, we will redesign a familiar technology – such as an app – by imagining an alternative physical interaction through writing.

During Friday evening, we welcome writer and academic **Dan Hassler-Forest** for a talk on speculative narratives and Afrofuturist world-building, followed by an online Q&A.

As part of the workshop **Sex and the Cityscape**, author and biographer **Julie Phillips** explores the richly imagined urban landscapes of science fiction. From the grimy neon-lit alleys of cyberpunk to the cartoonish modernity of The Jetsons, from the Afrofuturism of Wakanda to the hybrid of nature and culture in solarpunk, sci-fi makers are always reinventing the built environment. Through writing exercises, participants will devise a science fiction cityscape and its inhabitants, then you will write about what it is like to walk around in your city. To roam, taste, feel, and sensually experience your newly created space and those who live there.

An online film programme, which attendees will be able to stream at their own leisure Friday until Sunday, will be available with special introductions by film critic **Hugo Emmerzael**. Claire Denis' *High Life* (2018) depicts a motley crew of astronauts exploring a black hole who are subjected to sexual experiments by their medical officer. A master of art-horror, Kiyoshi Kurosawa's *Before We Vanish* (2017), is a throwback to 1980s sci-fi, where aliens land on Earth and snatch not only bodies but memories, beliefs and values. And, in a stunning afro-futurist short film, *Afronauts* (2014), Nuotama Bodomo reimagines the 1969 Space Race between America and Zambia.



INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

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Rachel Rumai Diaz is an all-around word artist. Being fluent in English, Spanish, Dutch and Spanglish she intertwines languages to create poetry that triggers imagination, emotions and understanding. In 2020, she was named one of the 101 new cultural talents from the Netherlands and Dutch-speaking Belgium by the NRC Handelsblad and is one of the authors of *Afrolit: an anthology of modern literature from the African diaspora*. Click here for ticket



By day, **Hugo Emmerzael** is a film critic, cinema programmer and movie lecturer. And a music journalist, leftfield club promoter and footwork DJ by night. As an editor of *De Filmkrant* and regular contributor of *Gonzo*, he explores emerging aesthetics, scenes and sensibilities, all through a carefully posed, sociological lens. Hugo can be found, microphone in hand, at many international events, including the Rotterdam Film Festival and Rewire. Click here for ticket



A connoisseur of all things space-age and fantastical, **Dan Hassler-Forest** presents lectures on cultural theory and zombies at Utrecht University. Having published with Zero Books, Dan's most recent title, *Science Fiction, Fantasy and Politics: Transmedia World-building Beyond Capitalism,* traces how, from Tolkien to Janelle Monáe, popular narratives offer valuable tools for living otherwise. **Click here for ticket**



Julie Philips is an American writer and critic, connected to the University of Amsterdam. Julie is the author of the award-winning *James Tiptree, Jr.: The Double Life of Alice B. Sheldon*. The book is an account of the fascinating double-existence of the science-fiction writer, who used a male pen name and explored themes of sensitivity and confinement on Earth and in worlds beyond. Currently, Julie devotes her time to her biography of Ursula K. Le Guin. **Click here for ticket**



A writer and devotee to the genre of science fiction, **Max Urai** is the programmer of this workshop. His writing has been published in, among others, *Vooys, Mr. Motley* and *De Reactor.* Max works as a programmer for Perdu and teaches science fiction writing at the Leidsch Universitair Kunstencentrum.

WORM is a Rotterdam based artists collective, a venue, shop, cinema and workspace for music, film and new media, with the world as its playground. Transgressing normal segregations between media, they represent the authentic and the unruly, the obsessed and the adventurers.

EXTRA EXTRA is a multidisciplinary platform exploring eroticism and culture. We are delighted to share stories we first listened to in the metro, at office parties, in hotel rooms and in the park at the heart of our neighborhood. Our online platform, biennial print magazine, temporary projects and live events celebrate mondain and sensual city life.



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