

BIO·FICTION @ NEW DELHI

April 15th, 2016

Film Screening from 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Open Day from 6:30 PM Onwards



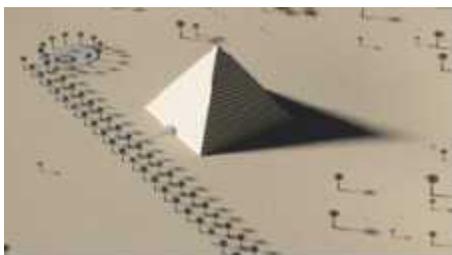
BIO·FICTION's goal as science, art and film festival is to bring together researchers, artists, filmmakers, designers and biohackers in order to initiate a public discourse on synthetic biology.

As a part of The **Undivided Mind Art & Science Residency**, Khoj is pleased to collaborate with renowned international science and art film festival, BIO·FICTION and screen a special selection of 10 short films from their collection. This will be the second collaborative screening between BIO·FICTION and Khoj.

Synthetic biology is a highly promising new approach within the field of biotechnology, which not merely manipulates the genetic material of living organisms, but rather re-designs it from scratch. Entire genomes can already be digitally saved, rewritten and „printed out“ as genuine DNA. In the future, this should make it possible to design organisms in the same way as electronic circuitry and to implement future groundbreaking applications.

The Festival is/was funded by the European Commissions FP7 project SYNENERGENE
<http://synenergene.eu>

FILMS



The Culturists David Benqué / UK,2014 / 02:0

The Culturists are a community of wealthy individuals who have taken up the culturing of their own cells outside their bodies as a new form of “body-building”. They recognise in-vitro cultures as an extension of the self, and push the boundaries of science for narcissistic purposes. Amongst progress in stem cell research and the elusive dream of techno-immortality, the Culturists embark on a race to the highest cell count.



Quanticare Amy Congdon, Jenny Lee, Ann-Kristin Abel / UK, 2012 / 02:23

Over 40 years into the future, the imagined company “Quanticare” has consistently been the world’s leading healthcare provider. Its success has been based on ideas developed in 2012 for the iGEM competition by an undergraduate science team, envisioning synthetic biology as a corner stone in the future healthcare market: revolutionising cancer detection and treatment, advancing highly sensitive disease monitoring and completely personalised healthcare.



Talking Life Bâr Tyrmi & Rafael Linares / ES, 2012 / 10:21

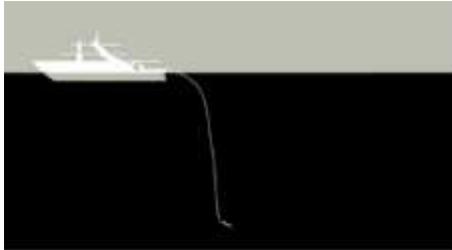
In an indeterminate future, the elderly can be monitored via living devices containing genetically modified bacteria. Wrapped in a watch like device, they serve to monitor and warn their patients in every day life: reminding them to take any pills they may have forgotten and watching over their health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



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

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.



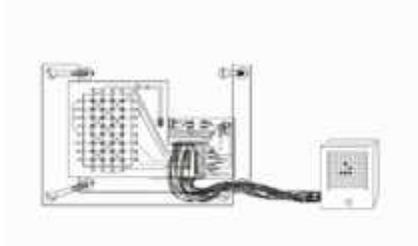
Black Gold Tim Clark & Frank Kolkman / UK, 2014 / 03:49

“Black Gold” proposes two methods for saving the African black rhino and the beluga sturgeon, both species who are currently being hunted to extinction even despite hunting bans and fishing restrictions: while the black rhino’s horn is said to possess special qualities for the purposes of traditional Eastern medicine, beluga sturgeon caviar retails at £6,000 per kilogram. Scientific advances in synthetic biology may provide a more realistic solution of saving these species, but of course those who may invest in saving them may very well be those who will profit most from their products.



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.



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.



Electro stabilis 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: Electro stabilis 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.