



IDFA DocLab presents: Humanoid Cookbook

Amsterdam, Tuesday, October 30th, 2018

IDFA DocLab, the acclaimed new media program of International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), presents its 12th edition under the title *DocLab: Humanoid Cookbook*. Inviting artists and audiences to re-imagine the age-old ritual of sharing a meal, this year's IDFA DocLab takes the dinner table not only as a metaphor but also as a potential platform for exhibiting new art forms. From live dinner shows combined with immersive theater and artificial intelligence to a ten-day exhibition designed like a virtual restaurant, *DocLab: Humanoid Cookbook* presents more than 30 interactive documentaries, live events, sensory experiments and interactive dinner performances.

DocLab: Humanoid Cookbook takes place from November 15th to 25th across various venues in Amsterdam. The key events take place from November 15th to 20th, with the Interactive Conference being held on Saturday the 17th at de Brakke Grond.

DocLab Expo: Humanoid Cookbook

This year's DocLab exhibition is designed as a restaurant for digital art. On the menu are more than 30 interactive documentaries, culinary performances and interactive experiments involving human behavior and technology. Visitors are invited to play with artificial intelligence, immerse themselves in The VR Cinema and taste alternative recipes for the future. Projects in the exhibition include world premieres of Anagram's collective VR installation *The Collider: Chapter One*; Ali Eslami's surreal *False Mirror*; a four-person AI installation by Shirin Anlen (*I Have Always Been Jealous of Other People's Families*); and a disruptive social experiment on your phone (*The Social Sorting Experiment* by Steye Hallema). The exhibition is co-produced with de Brakke Grond.

November 15-25 | 09:00–23:00 Nov 15-24, 09:00–18:00 Nov 25 | de Brakke Grond | Free admission | On-site reservations may be required and some installations have varying opening hours

DocLab Live Interactive Dinners

Inspired by the very first technology invented by humans, fire for cooking food, *DocLab: Humanoid Cookbook* features a unique series of pop-up dinner parties. Renowned chefs and artists have put together three menus, combining immersive theater, artificial intelligence and interactive storytelling. These are *A Dinner with Frankenstein AI* by interactive artists Lance Weiler, Rachel Ginsberg and Nick Fortugno – a two-course dinner for flesh-and-blood humans, with artificial intelligence as a host and discussion partner; *Leaked Chef's Table* by artist Gabriela Ivens – a menu based on the deeply personal recipes discovered in the Panama Papers, John Podesta's emails and other online leaks; and *Eat | Tech | Dinner Party* by food artist Emilie Baltz, interactive artist Klasien van de Zandschulp and chef Matthias van der Nagel – an unpredictable futuristic feast of digital technology and old-fashioned good food.

November 17-18 | de Brakke Grond and Mr. Kitchen | Seating is limited: full booking details available online

DocLab Live Events

Next to the interactive dinners, *DocLab: Humanoid Cookbook* features a selection of interactive live events in the cinema, the theater and the planetarium. Among these are *DocLab Live: Artificial*

Stupidity and *DocLab Live: Assorted Revolutions* – evenings at De Brakke Grond featuring presentations and performances by new media scholar William Uricchio (MIT), AI-artist Ross Goodwin (*1 the Road*) and the Smartphone Orchestra.

Part of IDFA's new program IDFA on Stage, ~~€€€~~ is a ground-breaking immersive theater gameshow by Ontroerend Goed, inviting the audience to replay financial crises using their own money.

Initiated by Paradiso Amsterdam and musician Jacco Gardner, *DocLab Live: Jacco Gardner's Somnium* is a unique sensory journey through a musical dream world. This launch event for Gardner's third album takes place in the ARTIS Planetarium.

November 15-23 | de Brakke Grond, Splendor, ARTIS Planetarium | Full details available online

DocLab Interactive Conference

The annual DocLab Interactive Conference brings together digital pioneers, artists and thinkers for a day of inspiring presentations, visions of the future and collective experiments at de Brakke Grond. With visual artist and author Sophia Al-Maria, interactive artist Samantha Gorman, immersive theatre pioneers Ontroerend Goed, multimedia artist Rahima Gambo, publisher and curator David Desrimais (Jean Boit Editions) and many others.

Saturday, November 17 | 10:00–17:00 | de Brakke Grond, Grote Zaal

IDFA DocLab is supported by Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands, The Netherlands Film Fund, CLICKNL, Google, ARTE, Diversion, Flanders Audiovisual Fund, Flemish Arts Centre de Brakke Grond.

Research partners: MIT Open Doc Lab, the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision.

Eat | Tech | Dinner Party is realised with support from the Filmfund DocLab Interactive Grant.

A Dinner With Frankenstein AI is co-commissioned by IDFA and the National Theatre Immersive Studio.

IDFA on Stage is supported by the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds.

DocLab Live: Jacco Gardner's Somnium is an initiative by Paradiso and Jacco Gardner, presented in collaboration with IDFA DocLab.

– End press release –

Editors' Notes

Press

For additional information on DocLab and requests for images, interviews and more, please contact Michel Langendijk, IDFA DocLab press officer michel@idfa.nl.

Please note that press accreditation does not grant access to the Interactive Conference or to the DocLab Live events. Do contact Michel Langendijk if you are interested in covering these events for your publication(s).

Press presentation of IDFA DocLab: Humanoid Cookbook

The press presentation of this year's event takes place from 11.00 onwards on Thursday November 15th at de Brakke Grond. Please register in advance by the 14th of November with Michel Langendijk at michel@idfa.nl.

Opening night of IDFA DocLab: Humanoid Cookbook

The festive opening of IDFA DocLab: Humanoid Cookbook takes place on Thursday the 15th of November at de Brakke Grond from 20:00 on.

IDFA DocLab

IDFA DocLab is a festival program for new media within the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA). The mission of IDFA DocLab is to showcase interactive documentaries and other new digital art forms that successfully push the boundaries of documentary storytelling in the age of the interface. Projects are curated and presented online, as well as during live cinema events, exhibitions, workshops and industry panels.

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