



Press Release
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Theme and artwork reveal for Imagine Fantastic Film Festival 2023



From October 25 to November 4 in LAB111, the FilmHallen and Galerie Beeldend Gesproken, Amsterdam

Imagine Fantastic Film Festival proudly presents the theme and artwork for 2023: 'Fantastic Alchemy,' featuring a cyber-alchemy artwork created for the festival by illustrator Maarten Donders. Featuring cinema, shorts, panels, industry workshops and more, Imagine returns to LAB111 and the FilmHallen Amsterdam from Oct. 25 to Nov. Tickets are available from (...) via

Fantastic Alchemy

Alchemy was once the practice where science and storytelling came together. Scholars, storytellers, magicians, chemists, sages and tricksters all set out to distill the essence of life. In modern times, science and fictional stories have drifted apart and are seen as two different things. Alchemy has become the domain of fantastic fiction. At a time when science and feeling are more opposed than

ever, Imagine explores a model in which the two once again merge. Not to make gold out of lead, but to arrive at insights that transcend the mundane.

The artwork is an interpretation of Fantastic Alchemy by illustrator Maarten Donders, implementing the Imagine colour scheme into his vision of fantastic alchemy, virtual elements, and traditional alchemy symbols.

The complete festival program and featured international guests and events will be announced in August. The main Fantastic Alchemy program will also continue into "digital space" in the special Expanded/VR program Virtual Alchemy.

About Imagine Fantastic Film Festival

Imagine is the largest film festival for fantastic films in the Netherlands, featuring the best in fantasy, horror, and science fiction. At Imagine, everything revolves around imagination. Every year Imagine challenges the audience to think about the future of man and society through imagination. This uses the power of the fantastic film that allows you to discover future worlds, develop a different view of reality, explore the unknown, and thus broaden your view.

Imagine sees the fantastic genre as a rich source of thought experimentation, often anticipating or reflecting on social and technological developments. In in-depth programs, the festival offers background, history, and context, and connects the fantastic film to current developments in society.

About Maarten Donders

Maarten's primary focus as an illustrator is on personality and authenticity. He uses his sketchbook and personal interests as a starting point, where every idea is equally important and anything can ignite a spark. His goal: to create powerful, expressive images that are recognizable, unique, and exude personality. His work is known for its surreal, experimental, almost dreamlike qualities and it touches on themes such as loneliness, introspection, the subconscious, the (super)natural, archetypes and finding beauty in the everyday.

NOTE TO EDITORS

Images can be downloaded [here](#).

For more information and interview requests:

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