

PRESS RELEASE

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Imagine Fantastic Film Festival festively opened with MR. K and Career Achievement Award presented to Phil Tippett

Until 3 November in LAB111, FilmHallen and Galerie Beeldend Gesproken, Amsterdam

The^{40th} edition of the Imagine Fantastic Film Festival kicked off festively yesterday evening in the presence of the cast and crew of the opening film MR. K. In a sold-out auditorium at FilmHallen in Amsterdam, festival director Chris Oosterom kicked off the festival. Phil Tippett received the Career Achievement Award. Imagine can be experienced from 24 October to 3 November at LAB111, FilmHallen and Galerie Beeldend Gesproken in Amsterdam. Tickets are available [here](#).

Career Achievement Award for Phil Tippett

Guest of honour Phill Tippett received the Career Achievement Award at Imagine Film Festival. 1984 also saw *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* hit cinemas: one of many Spielberg productions to which Tippett made a creative contribution. One of his very first jobs was an instant hit, with the iconic holographic chess set aboard the Millennium Falcon in *Star Wars: A New Hope*. In *The Empire Strikes Back*, Tippett's part was even greater, and as a dino-supervisor, he was the link between analogue and digital magic in *Jurassic Park*. His long, rich career is one full of highlights. For Paul Verhoeven, he breathed life into Robocop's competitor ED-209 and the alien hordes that the Starship Troopers are after. As founder and namesake of Tippett Studios, he very recently featured on the credits of *Alien: Romulus*. Phil Tippett is a creative and technical jack-of-all-trades as well as a director, whose *Imagine Mad God* re-shows.

1984 Re:Imagined

Was it coincidence or foresight that the iconic Orwellian year of 1984, of all places, was the birth year of Imagine fantastic Film Festival? What began modestly as The Weekend of Terror transformed into the Netherlands' leading genre festival in which sci-fi, cult, fantasy and art are equally represented alongside horror. With the main theme 1984 Re:Imagined, the festival searches through a number of classics (including film adaptations of the dystopian sci-fi novels *1984* and *Fahrenheit 451*) and recent films to see what lessons we can learn from the past today - 75 years after the publication of Orwell's classic. After all, in the words of George Orwell, 'He who controls the past controls the future; he who controls the present controls the past'.

The inimitable Canadian film artist **Guy Maddin** is back with *Rumours*, an equally surreal and hilarious look at a G7 summit with Cate Blanchett as Germany's chancellor. Indian black-and-white epic *Bramayugam* offers blood-curdling folk horror, while three Chinese teenagers make time travel hip for the TikTok generation in *Escape From the 21st Century*. In the eccentric *Cloud*, the latest from grandmaster **Kiyoshi Kurosawa**, online trading turns out to be life-threatening while the documentary *Chain Reactions* -which recently won prizes at the Venice festival- gives new life to the chainsaw classic in cinema history. Also not to be missed are the

vampirellas of the erotically charged *Kizumonogatari - Kyomi Vamp* and *The Rule of Jenny Pen*, in which it is in the old people's home and residents John Lithgow and Jeffrey Rush take each other's lives. Warmly recommended by Stephen King, who bombed it as one of the best films of the year.

About Imagine Fantastic Film Festival

Imagine is the largest film festival for fantastic film in the Netherlands, featuring the best in fantasy, horror and science fiction. Imagine is all about 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 experiments, often anticipating or reflecting on social and technological developments. In in-depth programmes, the festival offers background, history and context, and connects fantastic film to current developments in society.