

### **NewImages unveils its competition line-up and jury!** **4-8 April 2018**

The **NewImages** festival, produced by the Forum des images, is a celebration of the vitality of digital creation and virtual worlds, and runs from **4-8 April 2018** in Paris. Today, it is announcing the line-up for its **international competition** for **VR films** and **immersive experiences**, along with the **jury**.

The festival will also be screening a range of **VR creations** out of competition, **video game** sessions, a selection of **interactive dramas** and **digital series**, and encounters with **YouTubers**, along with a selection of **SF films**.

A **creative challenge in mixed reality** and a **professional sidebar** in the presence of **multiple international experts** are just some of the other highpoints to be found at NewImages\*.

#### ■ THE JURY

The **18 creations** screening **in competition** will be divided into two sections: **VR films** (VR Theater) and **immersive experiences** (Stand-Up VR). The winner in each category will scoop a **Golden Mask**, awarded for best direction by a **jury of filmmakers** and **industry professionals**.

This year, filmmakers **Marc Caro**, **Hubert Charuel**, and **Jan Kounen**, will join **Myriam Achard** from the Centre Phi arts center in Montreal and **Sophie Goupil**, founder of independent Paris-based production company Les Poissons Volants.

The prizes will be awarded on **Friday 6 April**, during the closing ceremony of the industry sidebar.

\*More information can be found here: [Com de presse Festival NewImages](#)

Full programming details will be published online on **22 March** at [forumdesimages.fr](http://forumdesimages.fr)

#### ■ IN COMPETITION

##### VR THEATER

###### **700 REQUINS (WORLD PREMIERE)**

By Manuel Lefèvre & Frédéric Gourdet – Neotopy, Le Cinquième Rêve & Arte France, documentary, 2 x 6', 2017 – in French

In the tiny Fakarava atoll, lost in the middle of the Pacific ocean, Laurent is about to give a final answer to his quest: understanding the hunting behavior of the biggest shark pack in the world. Hundreds of grey sharks living there together and hunting at night... Sharing excitement and doubts, laugh and fears...  
.../...

***DANS LA PEAU DE THOMAS PESQUET (WORLD PREMIERE)***

de Jürgen Hansen & Pierre-Emmanuel Le Goff – La Vingt Cinquième Heure - ProspectTV - DVgroup - France Télévisions, France, documentary, 14', 2018 – in French

Thomas Pesquet fulfills his childhood dream of becoming an astronaut. Along with American Peggy Whitson, they undergo intensive training, from Houston to Moscou. Thomas takes us with him into the pool of the Johnson Space Center, in the centrifuge and in the Soyouz capsule that will launch him into space.

***LET THIS BE A WARNING (FRENCH PREMIERE)***

By Jim Chuchu – Electric South & Goethe Institut, Kenya, sci-fi, 11', 2017 – in English

A group of Africans have left the Earth to create a colony on a distant planet. They respond with disquiet to the arrival of an uninvited guest. Surrounded from all sides, you are this uninvited guest while your hosts are wondering what to do with you.

**As part of Focus on Africa**

***NAIROBI BERRIES (FRENCH PREMIERE)***

By Ng'endo Mukii – Electric South, Kenya, drama, 8', 2017 – in English

In the empty spaces we cannot claim as our own, in forests full of smoke and beneath still waters, two women and a man wrangle. Each must hollow out the other's core for fruits promised but only ever borne in dreams. A poetic symphony on Nairobi, the city we call home.

**As part of Focus on Africa**

***SPIRIT ROBOT (FRENCH PREMIERE)***

By Jonathan Dotse – Nubian VR & Electric South, Ghana, documentary, 8', 2017 – without dialog

Spirit Robot is a VR documentary which explores the dynamism and ambition of the Chale Wote Street Art Festival in Accra, an alternative event that brings art, music, dance and performance out of the galleries and onto the streets, driving an art renaissance in the city's public spaces.

**As part of Focus on Africa**

***THE OTHER DAKAR***

By Selly Raby Kane – Electric South, Big World Cinema & Goethe Institut, Senegal, fantasy, 8', 2017 – with English subtitles

A little girl is chosen to discover the hidden face of Dakar, a 360° homage to Senegalese Mythology. Embark in her fantastic universe and discover the hidden face of the Senegalese capital.

**As part of Focus on Africa**

***THE REAL THING (INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE)***

By Benoit Felici & Mathias Chelebourg – Artline Films, DV Group, coproduced with ARTE France, France, documentary, 15', 2018 – with French subtitles

All around Shanghai, thousands of people have chosen to live or work in stunning copies of Paris, Venice, and London. This VR documentary film invites viewers to a day-trip into a parallel world where famous touristic landmarks have been turned into vast neighborhoods. Bewildering copycats that look virtual, though absolutely real...

***THE TRAIN HAMASEN (EUROPEAN PREMIERE)***

By Kuan-Yuan Lai – Poké Poké Creative, Taiwan, fantasy, 8', 2017 – with English subtitles

People from different cultures and generations coexist in a dreamy world " Hamasen", once the most prosperous area in Kaohsiung. A train falls from the sky, arrives at the platform on the screen, like in a movie, and gathers everybody for a journey through time and space.

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### **THÉÂTRE D'AUTOMNE (FRENCH PREMIERE)**

By Mathieu Barrette & Myriam Coulombe – LOREL, Théâtre du Bic & Théâtre Les Gens d'en Bas, Canada, drama, 9', 2017 – in French

Things mature with winter, but the thaw makes them real again. At the border of three levels of reality, you are the last-minute guest, the intruder, the relief actor who, now in character, must take action in the story. You will be there, here, now or elsewhere, you will feel the crowd without seeing it.

### **BLIND VAYSHA VR**

By Theodore Ushev – Marc Bertrand, Julie Roy & NFB, Canada, animation, 8', 2017 – in French

Vaysha was born with one green eye and the other brown. Her odd-eyes are not the only characteristic of her look. She sees only the past of the left eye and the future of the right eye. She is blinded by the past and tormented by the future; her unique gaze is perfectly divided into two irreconcilable temporalities.

### **WHO WE REMAIN (NEW LONG VERSION)**

By Trevor Snapp & Sam Wolson – Nuba Reports, Emblematic Group, ARTE, New York Times & AJ+, USA-Sudan-Germany-France, documentary, 12', 2017 – in French

In 2011, war broke out between the Sudan government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army-North (SPLA-N) in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan. Today, outsiders rarely venture to this region. Humanitarian aid has been blocked, and Sudanese journalists are banned from covering the war, facing potential imprisonment for doing so.

**As part of Focus on Africa**

### **YOUR SPIRITUAL TEMPLE SUCKS (FRENCH PREMIERE)**

By John Hsu – Serendipity Films, Funique VR & Kaohsiung VR Film Lab, Taiwan, drama, 10', 2018 – with English subtitles

Mr. Chang arrives to his 'Spiritual Temple' in the afterworld, a place that represents one's destiny. To solve his marital crisis and financial problems, he summons his guardian- The Thunder God, to modify the temple from the ground up. It turns out to be a big mistake...

## **STAND UP VR & INSTALLATIONS**

### **IBOX, LA BOITE A INSULTES (FRENCH PREMIERE)**

By Emmanuel Albano – 3Motion Inc., Canada, experimental, 5-15', 2017 – in English & French

The spectator finds himself in conversation with four actors each seeking the viewer's attention. Whenever you pay more attention to one, the tension rises as the actors lose their patience. iBox is an interactive emotional and personal experience delivered in spatialized audio.

### **IMMERSIVE MUGSHOTS (INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE)**

By Stéphane Barbato – Creative Gymnasium & DV Group, France, experimental, 8-15', 2018 – with French subtitles

Rob, an American Yankton Sioux, who, pretending to go on a quest to collect a sacred pipestone, actually provides us with fragments from his past. During his journey, the many lives of Rob are disclosed; he has been a gangster, a soldier, an inmate...

### **MANIFEST 99 (FRENCH PREMIERE)**

By Bohdon Sayre & Adam Volker – Flight School Studio, USA, experimental drama, 10-30', 2017, – English

Manifest 99 is an ominous and eerie story about finding redemption in the afterlife. Set on a mysterious train, you assist four travel companions on a journey to their final destination. Look into their eyes and uncover the reason why they – and you – are on this train.

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### **MUNDURUKU (FRENCH PREMIERE)**

By Grace Boyle & James Manisty – Peter Speller & Greenpeace, UK-Brazil, documentary, 14', 2017 – in English

Immerse yourself in the lives and struggle of the Munduruku Indigenous People, deep in the heart of the Amazon rainforest. The experience features 360 video, binaural sound, perfume, heat, wind, vibration and humidity, and takes place inside a giant, egg-shaped multisensory VR pod.

### **TRINITY (EUROPEAN PREMIERE)**

By Patrick Boivin – UNLTD, Canada, sci-fi, 12', 2018 – in English

Trinity is a highly innovative, fully immersive, interactive virtual reality experience using live-action characters and big-movie VFX. We're creating a new storytelling platform, working with an amazing new narrative and visual language that's revolutionizing the way we tell stories.

### **WOLVES IN THE WALLS Chapter 1 (EUROPEAN PREMIERE)**

By Pete Billington & Jessica Yaffa Shamash – Oculus Story Studio & Fable Studio, USA, animation, 9', 2018 – in English

Lucy suspects that wolves live in the walls of her family's home. She has no one to believe her ... but you. This exquisitely crafted animated experience casts you as an active performer in a narrative where you interact, have a relationship with, and go on a quest with the central character.

### **ADMISSION:**

#### **EXPLORE THE ENTIRE FESTIVAL WITH THE FORUM LIBERTÉ CARD!**

**€3 admission for every festival screening**, from 4-8 April, upon presentation of a valid **Forum Liberté card**

- Free admission to out-of-competition VR screenings subject to seat availability
- Free admission to Hologram sessions at St. Eustache church by reservation only

**Forum Liberté cards cost €4** and admit one or two, valid for one year. Available from the ticket office or from [forumdesimages.fr](http://forumdesimages.fr)

**€6 admission** for all festival screenings without a Forum Liberté card

Tickets are valid for one screening subject to seat availability

You are strongly advised to book in advance. Entry guaranteed until 10 minutes prior to screening

**Free admission, no reservation required** for sessions at the Forum des Halles, patio Pina Bausch (under the canopy)

**Tickets for all screenings and events go on sale at the ticket office and on [forumdesimages.fr](http://forumdesimages.fr) on 22 March**

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#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION: FORUM DES IMAGES**

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**MAIRIE DE PARIS** 

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