

NewImages Festival 2019 hailed as a great success

The 2nd edition of the festival was enthusiastically received and gained international recognition.

Paris, 1st July 2019 – Conceived by Forum des images, the 2nd edition of the [NewImages Festival](#) came to a close in the evening of 23 June, after a five-day celebration of digital creation and virtual worlds in the heart of Paris. Open, bold and on the lookout for new trends, the program was enthusiastically received and gained international recognition.



More than 11,000 visitors (+58% over NewImages 2018) attended events at Forum des images, the Forum des Halles canopy and the Church of Saint-Eustache, discovering a wide array of groundbreaking VR, AR and MR works, experiences and immersive installations that showcased new forms of storytelling.

With **600 accredited professionals** (twice as many as there were in 2018) from 30 countries, the festival's Industry Days and the XR Financing Market reinforced NewImages' influential position and ability to unite key players of the XR industry ecosystem.

With more than 30 works in selection from around the world, several premieres, and the participation of more than fifty guests – artists and distinguished professionals –, the festival and the teams at Forum des images successfully rose to the challenge.

Enthusiastic audiences

Some of the highlights included the NewImages **international competition**, featuring **12 VR works and experiences**: some, such as Jan Kounen's *Ayahuasca* and Pete Billington's *Wolves in the Walls: It's All Over*, were highly anticipated; others, such as Michael Kovich Jr's *OPUS VR* (Paraguay) and Dimitri Voloshin's *Aripi* (Moldavia), were true gems.

The distinguished jury, presided by US filmmaker **Colin Trevorrow** (*Jurassic World*), consisted of Legendary Films producer **Katie Calhoon**, choreographer and filmmaker **Blanca Li**, and Taiwanese artist and Laurie Anderson collaborator **Hsin-Chien Huang**.

The **full list of winners** can be found in the dedicated press release (click here to access: [PR 2nd NewImages Festival Awards List](#))

Audiences showed great interest in Taiwan's talents, as showcased in this year's "Focus On..." A selection of Taiwanese creations were also featured in the competition (*Mr Buddha*, *Abandoned Temple*, *Pneumo Hacker*) or at the Taiwan Pavilion under the canopy, and *The Missing Body (ep 1)* had its world premiere at NewImages!

The festival also had wonderful surprises in store for the general public, including a special version of the *Vader Immortal (Ep. 1)* experience, part of the *Star Wars VR* series that is being produced by ILMxLAB, a division of LucasFilm!

Other highlights included **two evenings of music and digital creation** in the Church of Saint-Eustache, attended by over **1,200 festival-goers**: an electro music and pipe-organ concert by **Baptiste Lagrave** and **Thomas Ospital**, and a performance by **JB Dunckel** (of AIR fame), which had its premiere in April at the INA festival Inasound.

As part of an educational day dedicated to visual arts and virtual worlds, **430 teenagers and young adults** were able to see the selected works.

Two extraordinary events brought the 2nd edition of NewImages to a close: one featured philosopher and scientist **Henri Atlan**; the other, **Jan Kounen** and **Romain Delahaye (a.k.a. Molécule)**, co-creators of the immersive experience **-22.7°C** that was filmed in Greenland.

XR Financing Market: a successful gambit

One of the main goals of this year's NewImages Festival was to successfully launch the XR Financing Market, part of our Industry Days. The first co-production and funding market, XRFM is open to all immersive creations (films, modern art, gaming, performing arts, etc.).

40 projects in development selected by the festival showcased young talents and world-renowned artists such as **Saschka Unseld**, **Hsin-Chien Huang** and **Lily Baldwin**. Selectees were given the unique opportunity to meet one-on-one with an extraordinary panel of **47 decision makers** (online and location-based distributors, museum curators, broadcasting companies, private and public funds, and iconic tech players on the global XR market). These included **Samsung Electronics**, **HTC Vive**, **VeeR VR**, **ONF/NFB**, **Dreamscape Immersive**, **Secret Location**, **ARTE**, **BBC**, **Kaohsiung Film Archive**, **Ubisoft**, **MK2**, and **Fondation Onassis**.

In the end, XRFM gathered 144 professionals from **21 countries** for a grand total of **350 pre-planned meetings** between selected project leaders and decision makers.

René Pinnell, founder of **KALEIDOSCOPE FUND**, awarded a special prize to *Néphélé* (Floréal Films). It will also be included in the Kaleidoscope Slate Funding 2019, an innovative funding platform that aims to support the ten most innovative AR or VR works, with budgets ranging from \$100K to \$1M.

Yann Deval is the laureate of the first French-Taiwanese residency (the brainchild of **NewImages**, the **Kaohsiung Film Festival** and the **French Office in Taipei**), which comes with a €30,000 grant. He will develop his project, *Atlas*, over a three-month period in Kaohsiung.

Besides XRFM, **twelve industry talks and panels** assessed the industry's current and future artistic, funding and broadcasting challenges faced by these new forms of online and location-based creations. The featured speakers included **Vicki Dobbs Beck** (ILMxLAB), **Daniel Lehrich** (Magic Leap), **Sally Reynolds** (The Mill), **Kristine Severson** (HTC Vive), **Sarah Ellis** (Royal Shakespeare Company), **Michael Masukawa** (Secret Location), **Ronald Menzel** (Dreamscape Immersive), **Nelly Gocheva** (*The New York Times*), **Zillah Watson** (BBC), and **Denise Wu** (VeeR VR).

Videos of the various talks, panels and exclusive interviews with leading figures from the world of digital creation are available online on the NewImages Festival official website, and on the **Forum des images** YouTube channel: [NewImages Festival's Videos](#)

The **NewImages** team looks forward to seeing you in **June 2020, from 10th to 14th**, on the occasion of the 3rd edition of the festival!

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Informations pratiques

Tarifs

Expériences et installations dans les espaces du Forum des images

→ Forfait 2h:

Tarif plein: 12 €

Tarif réduit*: 9 €

Accès libre dans la limite des places disponibles dans le créneau horaire réservé

Activités hors les murs – entrée libre

Expériences et installations (Canopée)

Rencontres et tables rondes (Forum des images)

Concerts (église Saint-Eustache)

* Moins de 25 ans, étudiants, demandeurs d'emploi, plus de 60 ans, personnes à mobilité réduite, élèves de TUMO Paris, détenteurs de la carte Forum Liberté

Forum des images

Forum des Halles
2, rue du Cinéma
– Porte Saint-Eustache
75001 Paris

Église Saint-Eustache

146, rue Rambuteau
75001 Paris

Canopée

Forum des Halles
Niveau -1 (extérieur)
75001 Paris

Accès

Métro

Les Halles
(ligne 4)
et Châtelet
(lignes 1, 7, 11, 14)

RER

Châtelet-Les Halles
(lignes A, B, D)

Bus

67, 74, 85
arrêt Coquillière-Les Halles

newimagesfestival.com

forumdesimages.fr

Partenaires officiels

arte



france-tv

Centre Culturel de Taiwan 法國台北文化中心



Bureau Français de Taipei 台北文化協會



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sacem^f

Scam*

Partenaires médias

20
minutes

Konbini

Paris

franceinfo:

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le Bonbon

l'rockuptibles

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FORUM DES HALLES

DIVERSION
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cap-digital



PlayStation.

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