

Art and science closely linked during DEAF2012

From May 16th-20th the Dutch Electronic Art Festival (DEAF) will center around the theme *The Power of Things* with lectures, workshops, debates and a major exhibit in the former post office on the Coolasingel in Rotterdam. Interestingly enough, many of the exhibited works have a scientific basis.

The Power of Things

The theme of this year's festival is *The Power of Things*. We'll be examining how things relate to each other, connect with one another and how biological, cultural, social, and technological structures, shapes and networks have emerged: that is the question that the artists, designers and scientists taking part in the exhibit focus on. Here is a taste of some of the exhibited works you can expect to see at DEAF 2012:

NANO Supermarket

In front of the post office you will find the NANO Supermarket, a joint venture of Next Nature Network and the University of Eindhoven. In the NANO Supermarket, the visitor experiences the impact of nanotechnology in everyday life. The store contains speculative nano products which could be on the market within the next ten years. These include medicinal sweets, interactive paint, a wine whose flavor can be changed with microwaves, a Twitter implant, an invisible protective spray and much, much more.

The blackest painting molecularly possible

Also developed using nanotechnology is the work of Frederick de Wilde. *Hostage* is the blackest painting in the world, an art-historical masterpiece. It is so small that it is exhibited in a petri dish and consists of the blackest black that is molecularly possible.

All 94 elements collected

English artist Kianoosh Motallebi will be showing her Terrestrial Ball. The ball under the glass protection is unsightly and measuring only a few centimeters. The idea, however, is that it is composed of all 94 common elements on earth and is therefore connected to everything around us at the most basic elemental level.

Sealed: interaction between salt and ice

Sealed, a work by Jessica de Boer, is a very special collection of work. *Sealed* is an installation in which the interaction between salt and ice shows the power of elemental forces working in nature. When a ten-pound, solid block of salt crystal and a ten thousand pound block of ice come in contact with one another, it starts a thermodynamic process in which they melt and flow together to find a new balance.

Other participants from the exhibition: Jae Rhim Lee, Dick Raaijmakers, Chris Meindertsma, Tuur van Balen, Marnix de Nijs, Olafur Eliasson and many others.