

Hi, we're CURIOUS!

So. You're reading the very first newsletter of our brand new CURIOUS Project. CURIOUS stands for [Culture as a Unique Resource to Inspire, Outreach & Understand Science](#), and you'll find us here online. We are happy to be funded by [Creative Europe](#) to Explore the Art of Science! The project is carried out by four partners that believe that cultural activities, including theatre and other arts, when adequately used, can be the cornerstone to facilitate the connection between society and science.

CURIOUS is carried by the following countries and organisations:

Italy: The [Arditodesio Company](#), which since 2012 runs the [Jet Propulsion Theatre](#), a permanent laboratory for theatrical creation connected to science, the people of science and the scientific tale.

Bulgaria: [Arte Urbana Collective](#), an artistic collective which organises cultural events and aims to create an international artistic dynamic in the country. Arte Urbana has engaged in a wide number of international projects.

Serbia: [The Interactive Arts Laboratory of the Faculty of Dramatic Arts](#) at the University of Arts in Belgrade, a research hub for new media and technologies which develops immersive artistic performances and experiences.

Belgium: The [Arenberg theatre](#), an open house for all forms of performing arts and people in the heart of Antwerp. With decades of experience in attracting a wide audience with a broad program of cultural activities on the mileage.

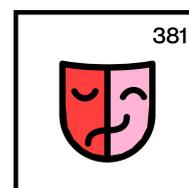
What we've done in the past



ITALY

THEATRE OF WONDER.

This fifth edition took place in May 2021 with the live streaming of some Augmented Lectures as well as shows and online events led by the young student's ensemble Progetto Apollo. The festival itself is going live as we speak with a series of open-air events held in the outdoor spaces of Teatro di Pergine and MUSE - Museum of Science in Trento.



We are very proud to announce the brand new Augmented Lectures produced for this year's festival:

Sex, Gender and the Brain (All different, all equal)

By and with Yuri Bozzi (CIMeC - Center for Mind/Brain Sciences, University of Trento, Italy) and Clara Setti.



Are women's brains different from men's? Are there gender differences in the structure and function of the brain? We will try to answer these and other questions by presenting the results of the most recent research in the field of neuroscience. We will talk about the role of sex hormones in brain development before and after birth. We will try to understand whether there are innate and/or acquired differences in brain structure and function between individuals of different sexes and genders. Finally, we will address the question of how to interpret these differences, and what social meaning to attribute to them.

What is Life?

By and with Gianluca Lattanzi (Department of Physics, University of Trento, Italy) and Maura Pettoruso



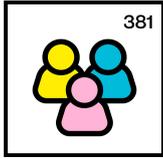
What is life? What is life? This is the title of a series of lectures given by the famous physicist Erwin Schrödinger, who took refuge in Ireland during the Second World War. Surrounded by reports of death, Schrödinger questioned the processes that allow life to proliferate on our planet. The principles of physics and chemistry must account for this. But how? Why is it so? Does it have to be so? How can information about who we are and how we function pass from one organism to another? The laws of statistical and quantum mechanics provided him with the sketch of a molecule that had to be big enough to hold all the information, but small enough to be contained in a cell: 9 years later, DNA was discovered, kick-starting a revolution in the life sciences that has led us to manipulate the genetic code, reprogram cells and design vaccines. However, while we can hold out reasonable hopes of being able to explain what life is, we are a long way from answering another question: why?

Lucienne, Perreca and gravitational waves

By and with Antonio Perreca (Department of Physics, University of Trento, Italy) and actress Lucienne Perreca.



For the past few years we have had a new sense for scrutinising the Universe. In addition to sight, we can "feel" gravitational waves and use them to discover distant worlds and wonderful phenomena.



BULGARIA

three Scientist-Artist collaborations on their way

The pre-production process of the Augmented Lectures, stage collaborations between scientists and artists, started in Bulgaria in October 2020. The local CURIOS organization Arte Urbana Collectif preselected scientists and artists. The preselection of the scientists were carried out together with Ratio, a local NGO focused on science popularization. In January 2021 six scientists pitched their ideas for Augmented Lectures. After an evaluation and matching process, three teams were formed:



1. Vladimir Bozhilov PhD, astrophysicist from Sofia University Physics Department, who will work together with Anna Botcheva, composer and sound designer, and Jivko Jouranov, actor and theatre director.

2. Nadezhda Karastoyanova PhD (photo), archeozoologist from in the National Museum of Natural History – Bulgarian Academy of Science. She will work together with Denitsa Zafirova, actress, and Stefan Prohorov, theatre director.

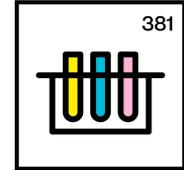
3. Spas Kerimov, medical doctor and founder and CEO of biotech company creating living tissues & organoids with 3D-bioprinting technology. He will work together with Nikola Nalbantov, set designer and video-artist, and Dimitar Uzunov, actor and theatre director.

Each team is commissioned to produce an Augmented Lecture for the Theatre of Wonder festival in Sofia in September 2021. The titles of the lectures are respectively: The Rhythm in the Galaxy's Heart, The Beast and The Synthetic Man: Nightmare, Dream or Reality?





SERBIA PITCHING – TANDEM SELECTION.



The scientists in Serbia have pitched their ideas to the artists, so the scientist-artist pairs for this festival year have been selected at the end of the info seminar held in April 2021. Allow us to present the two selected scientist-artist pairs from Serbia:

1. Vladimir Đurđević PhD from the Belgrade Faculty of Physics will cooperate with the street artist Aleksandra Petković TKV
2. Petar Laušević, PhD from the Vinča Institute will cooperate with sound designer Marija Šumarac and costume designer Lara Popović.

The selected participants will be tasked with developing their ideas so they could then present them in the Augmented Lectures innovative performance format during the "Theatre of Wonder" festival, which will be held in October this year at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade organized by the Interactive Arts Laboratory.

What we'll be doing in the future

ITALY (ongoing)

June-July 2021. As you read earlier, the fifth online edition took place in May 2021 and **now we're going live in Trento** with a series of open-air events held in the outdoor spaces of Teatro di Pergine and MUSE - Museum of Science in Trento.

Find out the full program at www.jetpropulsiontheatre.org/curious.html

BULGARIA

September 2021. The first Bulgarian edition of Theatre of Wonder festival will take place on **10-12th of September in Sofia**. Several venues in the heart of the Bulgarian capital will welcome stage productions dedicated to art and science. Three Augmented Lectures, collaborations between artists and scientists, will premiere during the festival. The production teams of these lectures have been settled through selection and match-making. The lectures will be on such exciting topics as astrophysics, biotechnology and paleozoology.

Find out the full program at www.arturbanacollectif.com/curious

SERBIA

October 2021. The first Serbian edition of Theatre of Wonder festival will take place on **29-31st of October in Belgrade**.

Find out the full program at fdu.bg.ac.rs/en/faculty/projects/curious

BELGIUM

December 2021. The first Belgian edition of Theatre of Wonder festival will take place on **10-11th December in Antwerp**. The theatre will be filled to the roof with our own Augmented Lectures combined with the most surprising dance, theatre and performances. All revolving around the wondrous world of arts and sciences. We are working hard on our cocreations and will be updating you shortly on the topics.

Find out the full program, soon at www.arenberg.be/nl/festivals/curious



Are you **CURIOUS**

Do you want to stay in touch? Or do you have a general inquiry?

Mail us at: curious@projectcurious.eu

For country related questions, you can drop us a line at:



ITALY

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BULGARIA

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