

### PRESS RELEASE

Paris, Cannes, March 15th 2022



NewImages Festival and Cannes XR launch « Alexandria », a futuristic virtual world to showcase the best of international VR creation!

## From the 17th to the 28th of May and the 8th to the 12th of June 2022



Partners since 2021, **NewImages Festival** and **Cannes XR** are taking another step forward in their collaboration with **the launch of a shared metaverse!** "**Alexandria**" will host exhibitions spotlighting immersive works, starting with those organized each year by the two events.

This complete virtual world, created and developed in collaboration with **Kreis** (a company specialized in the creation of virtual spaces), has been conceived and designed as a futuristic port of Alexandria, both a symbolic cultural hub and a point of departure to other worlds.

The official inauguration will take place in May, during Cannes Marché du Film, then in June 2022 for the 5th edition of Newlmages Festival. All the VR selections of the two events will be unveiled to both audiences and professionals for a total of more than thirty works in virtual reality, including many world premieres. Alexandria's vocation is to host immersive events throughout the year.

With this new virtual space, NewImages Festival and Cannes XR have created a common metaverse to democratize immersive creation internationally. This virtual exhibition will be accessible with a VR headset, via the Alexandria application available online on the Steam platform and on Oculus Quest.

The NewImages Festival exhibition will be accessible in June to anyone accredited for the NewImages Festival 2022. The Cannes XR exhibition, created with its partner VeeR, will be accessible in May to both public audiences and professionals free of charge.

The VR selection for both events will be announced soon.

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### Two events, one common goal

#### Michael Swierczynski

"We are very happy to renew our partnership with Cannes XR by launching a more ambitious project, which makes these virtual works accessible in a world without borders. Alexandria is both a shining light on the horizon of immersive creation and the home base for future 'metaverses' in art and culture" Michaël Swierczynski, Director of Newlmages Festival said.

#### **Guillaume Esmiol**

"We're delighted to participate in creating this truly inspiring virtual environment in partnership with NewImages Festival and Kre.is. Opening in May, this futuristic world will host our Cannes XR exhibition which will showcase today's most impressive VR artworks, carefully curated by our partner VeeR," Guillaume Esmiol, Co-Executive Director of Cannes' Marché du Film said.

#### About...

#### **NewImages Festival** June 8-12, 2022

Dedicated to digital creation and to virtual worlds, Newlmages Festival combines a rich professional component and a program open to all audiences.

With prizes at stake, its XR competition is submitted to a jury of creators and professionals.

Its XR Development Market gathers the major players of the XR Industry around a selection of projects open to all kinds of immersive formats. The XR Art Fair aims to activate an international distribution network in order to promote the circulation of XR works. The festival also supports immersive creation and its industry by initiating collaborative XR creation residencies with other countries and regions in the world, such as Taiwan (Kaohsiung Film festival and TAICCA), Africa, and Latin America. Newlmages Festival is produced and organized by Forum des Images, a cultural institution dedicated to cinema and digital creation, supported by the City of Paris. forum

Website: https://newimagesfestival.com/en/

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# May 17-28, 2022

Cannes XR is the Marché du Film's program dedicated to immersive technologies and cinematographic content. Taking place annually during the Festival de Cannes, Cannes XR is the unmissable rendezvous for the entire XR community and offers an ambitious virtual exhibition of the best VR artworks. Designed as a global networking platform to discuss the role of XR technologies, Cannes XR is here to inspire the art of storytelling and fuel the future of film.

Website: https://www.marchedufilm.com/programs/cannes-xr/

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#### **KREIS**

**Cannes XR** 

Since 2019, Kreis has been creating immersive spaces for a new generation of entertainment content. These virtual or hybrid experiences are made for distributors and content creators and filled with new realities! Kreis is known for its collaborations with SIGGRAPH, Institut Français, Alliance Française, the Recto Verso Festival and the Vancouver international Film Festival.

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