

Press Release



Things to Come

Science · Fiction · Film

A special exhibition of the Deutsche Kinemathek – Museum für Film und Fernsehen, Berlin, June 30, 2016 – April 23, 2017

Inspired by the English science fiction classic THINGS TO COME (GB, 1936), the special exhibition of the same name at the Deutsche Kinemathek – Museum für Film und Fernsehen dedicates itself to the question “What is to come?” *Things to Come. Science · Fiction · Film*, on view from June 30, 2016 – April 23, 2017, reexamines three central themes of the genre: Space, the Society of the Future and The Other.

Using spectacular media installations and an atmospheric space architecture, the exhibition provides access to a genre that is just as entertaining as it is insightful, while posing some fundamental questions: Are we alone in the universe? What will dominate or control us? And how will we live in the future? Although science, economics and politics attempt to predict possible developments using statistics and forecasts, film and its related disciplines transform these themes into motion pictures and stories. Science fiction films impress their audiences through imaginative and elaborate sets, cleverly devised sound designs and awe-inspiring special effects.

Films of the last ten years, which also take up pressing social questions, play an important role in the exhibition. In addition to popular Hollywood productions, European – particularly British and Russian – films, have also found their way into the exhibition. *Things to Come. Science · Fiction · Film* shows approximately 300 exhibits, including important international loans, as well as film scenes in more than 30 compilations. Closely inspired by the three themes of the exhibition, the Mediathek (Media Library) at the Museum für Film und Fernsehen will trace both the small and larger steps of German television history at six media stations – from the legendary RAUMPATROUILLE (FRG, 1966) to OPERATION GANYMED (FRG, 1977), and up to the sci-fi satire IJON TICHY – RAUMPILOT (DE, 2006–07, and 2010–11).

A catalogue of the same name, published by Kerber Verlag, accompanies the exhibition, with essays, interviews and numerous illustrations, some of which have remained unpublished until now. In a series of events taking place each month, experts will discuss current developments and theories in the areas of film and television, climate and futurology, robotics and space research, as well as design and software development. Parallel to the exhibition, the Bundesplatz-Kino is showing a film series with international highlights from the science fiction genre. Guided tours in German and English offer visitors sound insights and extensive background information about the special exhibition.

The Press Conference takes place on June 29, 2016 at 11 am. A separate invitation will follow.

Berlin, May 30, 2016

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The Divisions of the Exhibition

Spanning three floors, the exhibition *Things to Come. Science · Fiction · Film* at the Museum für Film und Fernsehen allows a fascination with the genre and its social implications to come alive.

Space. The boundaries of space and time dissolve in the “unlimited frontiers” of outer space. A spaceship with an accessible command center reveals a view of the midnight blue cosmos, while a compilation of film scenes that include 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY (GB|USA, 1968), MOON (GB, 2009) and INTERSTELLAR (USA|GB, 2014) simulate a flight through space. In the ship’s “mess” we encounter international crews from television series like STAR TREK (USA, 1966–69) and RAUMPATROUILLE (FRG, 1966) or from films such as EUROPA REPORT (USA, 2013). Space stations, space shuttles and satellites suggest the effects of weightlessness, similarly to projections from SOLARIS (USA, 2002) and GRAVITY (GB|USA, 2013). In addition, information about the experiences of the astronauts Sigmund Jähn, Ulf Merbold and Alexander Gerst in outer space, and for preparations for a settlement on Mars, can also be found in the “space” section of the exhibition.

Side two

The Society of the Future. Scene change: A futuristic street with surveillance cameras and robots shows possible life forms in a society of the future. Videophones have been around since METROPOLIS (DE, 1927). And before conquering the consumer sector, plasma displays, multi-touch (swipe) navigation and 3D visual aesthetics were futuristic technologies in films like THE MATRIX (USA|AUS, 1999) and MINORITY REPORT (USA, 2002). Fictitious announcements about climate disasters and widespread epidemics are reported over a news screen. A dazzlingly bright loft designed in the style of ELYSIUM (USA|CAN|MEX, 2013) and OBLIVION (USA, 2013) is juxtaposed with a dark ghetto, as depicted in CHILDREN OF MEN (USA|GB, 2006) and DISTRICT 9 (ZAF|NZ|USA, 2009).

The Other. Encounters with the Other ultimately raise existential questions. Media compilations reveal that initial contact can be life-threatening, as in EDGE OF TOMORROW (USA, 2014), but can also proceed peacefully, as in ENEMY MINE (USA|FRG, 1985). Alien plastinates and costumes are on display in a “clinical laboratory.” A “clinical couch” encourages exhibition visitors to take part in a playful experiment and to make an inner analysis of oneself revolving around the questions: Who am I? And what is the other?

Things to Come. Science · Fiction · Film. June 30, 2016 – April 23, 2017

Location: Deutsche Kinemathek – Museum für Film und Fernsehen, Filmhaus am Potsdamer Platz, Potsdamer Straße 2, 10785 Berlin, Germany

The exhibition is supported by

Opening Hours: Tuesday – Sunday 10 am – 6 pm, Thursday 10 am – 8 pm

Tickets: Special exhibition *Things to Come*, 5 €, reduced 4 €



Day ticket: *Things to Come* and the Permanent Exhibition, 7 €, reduced 4,50 €

Information: www.deutsche-kinemathek.de, T +49 (0)30 300 903-0

The recommended age for viewing the exhibition is 14+.

Press photos: <https://www.deutsche-kinemathek.de/presse/pressefotos>