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Emerging technologies and innovative science collide at ArtScience Museum

A new festival explores how cutting-edge tools like AI and blockchain shape the future



SINGAPORE (15 August 2024) – ArtScience Museum is poised to unveil an exciting new festival next month. *In the Ether – A Festival of Technology and Innovation* runs from 1 to 30 September, inviting visitors to explore the convergence of science, future-forward technologies and creativity. Acting as a prelude to the world's largest Web3 event, *TOKEN 2049*, and the Formula 1 Night Race 2024, the festival will add to the grid of electrifying events in September.

In partnership with Ethereum Singapore and curated by ArtScience Museum, *In the Ether* will explore the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) and other emerging technologies. The festival will transform ArtScience Museum into a hotspot for innovation, featuring a myriad of talks, workshops, and showcases by technologists. Visitors can also enjoy free film screenings, digital installation sites throughout the building, an EdTech symposium, late night DJ sets, and a special showcase on sustainable ocean technologies.

The festival brings together over two dozen technologists, scientists, designers, artists and studios who are international trailblazers in exploring new technologies. They include Google Creative Lab, Ouchhh Studio, speculative architect and director Liam Young, and digitally

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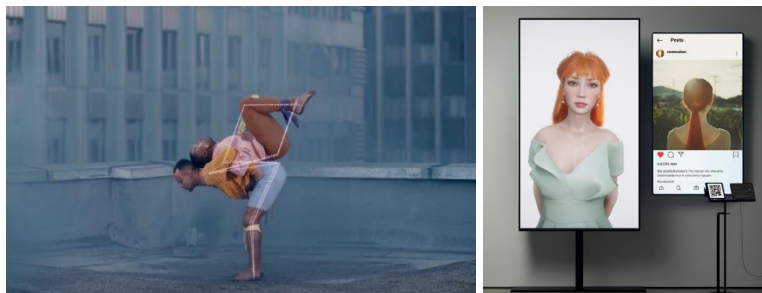
innovative artists Lynette Wallworth and Ian Cheng. The event also features local disruptors Niceaunties, Yeule, Shavonne Wong and SERIAL CO_'s Jake Tan and Ernest Wu.

"ArtScience Museum is thrilled to present *In the Ether – A Festival of Technology and Innovation*. Expanding on last year's exhibition, *Notes from the Ether*, this dynamic new festival gathers technologists, designers and creatives to explore the frontiers of new technology and science. Over the course of a month, the festival, much of which is free, invites visitors to embark on a journey through the latest groundbreaking innovations, thought-provoking ideas, and engaging discussions. *In the Ether* serves as a broad platform for a variety of showcases, each exploring different facets of science and innovation. Nestled within its framework are distinctive events such as *Ocean Tech Week* which addresses environmental issues, and *AI Create* dedicated to artificial intelligence. The festival runs in tandem with significant events like *Singapore Design Week* and the *TOKEN2049* convention, establishing ArtScience Museum at the heart of Singapore's innovation landscape throughout September. *In the Ether* will be an engaging and educational festival that aims to stimulate curiosity of visitors of all ages, encouraging them to explore the limitless possibilities of technology and innovation for the greater good," said Honor Harger, Vice President of ArtScience Museum.

***In the Ether* Installations**

The festival will span three floors of ArtScience Museum, with a variety of interactive and mixed-media installations that visitors are able to explore for free. Please refer to Appendix I for the full list of installations being presented.

Installations at the Lobby



L to R: *Choreographic Camouflage* (2021) by Liam Young; *Meet Eva Here* (2024) by Shavonne Wong

Greeting visitors at the lobby of ArtScience Museum is *Limitless*, a multi-channel video installation curated by ArtScience Museum, featuring works by technologists and artists Chong Yan Chuah, Ninaad Kothawade, Ouchhh Studio, Shavonne Wong, Liam Young, and Joo Choon Lin and Colin Justin Wan. This installation explores how data, AI and technology can bridge collective consciousness and individual expression featuring artworks that allow visitors to witness a subatomic particle collision, interact with a virtual influencer, and more.

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Installation at Level 4



Aioli Times (2024) by Niceaunties

Located on the top floor of ArtScience Museum is a new installation by Singapore sensation, Niceaunties, one of the brightest new digital artists working today. Niceaunties draws inspiration from the influential women in her family and the distinct 'auntie culture' in Singapore. Her work delves into themes of ageing, beauty, personal freedom, and everyday life through AI art. Her globally discussed fictional "Auntiverse" is a humorous world built by, and ruled by aunties, filled with everything aunties love. Fresh from her acclaimed TED talk in Vancouver this year, Niceaunties presents *Aioli Times*, the world premiere of an AI film and art installation that explores an enigmatic garlic's unconventional dream of becoming a model in the Auntiverse.

Installations at Basement 2

Additionally, visitors to *In the Ether* can encounter the innovative uses of generative AI, NFTs and blockchain. Highlights include watching a digital bonsai grow on the Ethereum blockchain and being immersed in a techno-organic soundscape by Singaporean musician, Yeule. Ethereum Singapore will also present *To the Infinite Garden and Beyond* – a month-long showcase exploring the history and future of Ethereum, alongside a series of events from 16 to 22 September. More information can be found [here](#).



Visitors can dive deeper into the transformative impact of emerging technologies across various industries with showcases by AI Create and blockchain platform Ethereum.

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Meanwhile, AI Create is bringing their international series exploring AI and creativity to Singapore. This includes *The Dream Creator*, an installation made in collaboration with Prudential, where visitors can contribute prompts to a collective dream narrative. On 14 and 15 September, AI Create will also partner AMD and ASUS to showcase iconic short films demonstrating AI's impact on filmmaking.

In The Ether – Events and Programmes

In the Ether presents a mix of over 30 free and ticketed events. Highlights include the *EdTech Futures Symposium: Education in a Technology-Transformed World* on 7 September, which explores the future of education in a technology-driven world with talks by leading technologists, educators, industry experts and policymakers.

In late-September, ArtScience Museum will explore the future of our oceans at *Ocean Tech Week* and set a path towards a sustainable and thriving world. Visitors can discover groundbreaking ocean innovation and conservation through a series of films, talks, workshops and exhibitions including a showcase by Singapore-based ocean imagineer and ArtScientist-in-Residence, Cesar Jung-Harada, that envisions a floating ocean city.

In The Ether also includes numerous family-friendly and child-focused educational activities, including workshops on generative AI, 3D scanning and digital painting. Throughout the festival, there will be unique offerings at the Museum's ArtScience Cinema and VR Gallery, including a VR documentary titled *Awavena* by award-winning artist Lynatte Wallworth about the Amazon's indigenous peoples, and important new films such as *The Thinking Game* (2024) by Greg Kohs.

Other events include *Creative Tech Chats* on 13 and 14 September which will give visitors an opportunity to meet creative technologists, curators and artists including Niceaunties and Jake Tan and Ernest Wu, as well as *Tech-Yes DJ Nights* with DJ Candiceb which promise an electrifying night of music and fun after hours.

For more information on *In the Ether – A Festival of Technology and Innovation* please visit <https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/events/In-the-Ether.html>.

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is Asia's leading business, leisure and entertainment destination. The integrated resort features Singapore's largest hotel with approximately 1,850 luxurious rooms and suites, crowned by the spectacular Sands SkyPark and iconic infinity pool. Its stunning architecture and compelling programming, including state-of-the-art convention and exhibition facilities, Asia's best luxury shopping mall, world-class dining and entertainment, as well as cutting-edge exhibitions at ArtScience Museum, have transformed the country's skyline and tourism landscape since it opened in 2010.

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Marina Bay Sands is dedicated to being a good corporate citizen to serve its people, communities and environment. As one of the largest players in hospitality, it employs more than 11,500 Team Members across the property. It drives social impact through its community engagement programme, Sands Cares, and leads environmental stewardship through its global sustainability programme, Sands ECO360.

For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

About ArtScience Museum

ArtScience Museum is a major cultural institution in Singapore that explores the intersection between art, science, technology and culture. It is the cultural component of Marina Bay Sands. Since its opening in February 2011, ArtScience Museum has staged large-scale exhibitions by some of the world's major artists, including Leonardo da Vinci, M.C. Escher, Salvador Dalí, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh, as well as exhibitions that explore aspects of science and technology – including particle physics, big data, robotics, palaeontology, marine biology and space science. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com/museum.html

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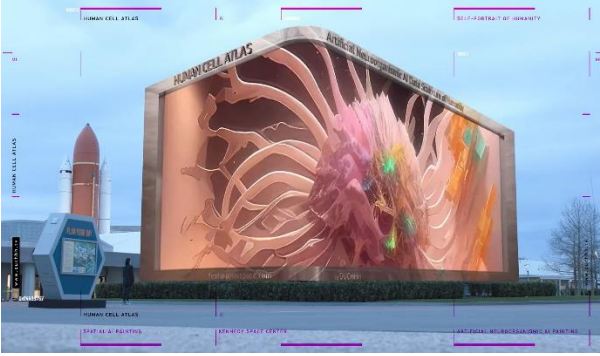

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For hi-res images, please click [here](#). (Credit as indicated in the captions)

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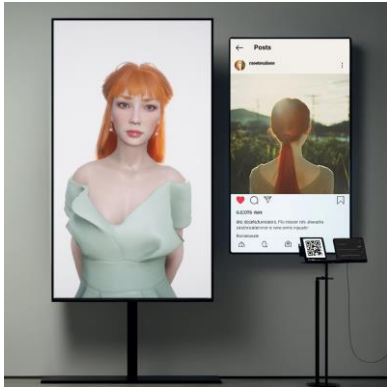


Appendix I – Installations from *In the Ether – A Festival of Technology and Innovation*

Installation:	Artist:	Description:
<p>Limitless</p> <p>Location: Level 1, Lobby</p>	<p>Ouchhh Studios</p>	<p>Human Cell ATLAS</p>  <p><i>Human Cell ATLAS</i> is a project dedicated to bringing together studies by scientists around the world to create a broad visualisation map of all human cells. A machine learning technique called Auto Encoders is used to make single-cell RNA sequencing data visible to the human eye, resulting in a stunning visual representation that offers unprecedented insights into the intricacies of human biology.</p> <p>Dark Machine</p>  <p><i>Dark Machine</i> is an AI data painting piece that invites audiences to envision stepping into an architectural installation that captures the moment two subatomic particles collide. It uses data obtained from the results</p>


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		<p>of subatomic particle collisions during an experimental study conducted in collaboration with preeminent artificial intelligence scientists from Harvard, MIT, NYU and CERN. This makes for beautiful, moving images that make viewers feel as if they are inside the heart of a scientific discovery.</p>
	<p>Liam Young</p>	<p><i>Choreographic Camouflage</i></p>  <p><i>Choreographic Camouflage</i> by Australian-born film director and architect Liam Young is a dance performance made in collaboration with choreographer Jacob Jonas that challenges the increasing use of surveillance in urban environments. It depicts new movement styles that intentionally confuse the algorithms used to track and identify individuals, thereby disrupting body recognition software.</p>
	<p>Shavonne Wong</p>	<p><i>Meet Eva Here</i></p> 



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		<p>Local digital artist Shavonne Wong presents <i>Meet Eva Here</i> that pushes the boundaries of virtual AI influencers. Serving as a social experiment and performance art piece, <i>Meet Eva Here</i> invites visitors to anonymously interact with her such as by taking AR selfies or engaging in direct chats. This allows visitors to experience human-AI relationships, offering a thought-provoking exploration into its emotional and ethical implications.</p>
	<p>Chong Yan Chuah</p>	<p><i>There will be Dr@g0ns in my Future Dream</i></p>  <p><i>There will be Dr@g0ns in my Future Dream</i> is a 25-minute digital animation by Chong Yan Chuah that invites visitors to soar through the virtual cosmos on the wings of the Cyber::Dragon. By reimagining the iconic Chinese dragon as a digital entity, Chuah showcases how digital art can serve as a powerful tool for preserving and reinterpreting cultural heritage.</p>
	<p>Joo Choon Lin and Colin Wan</p>	<p><i>The Sound of Sound - Colours in Dream</i></p>



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		 <p>Singaporean artists Joo Choon Lin and Colin Wan rekindle the magic of limitless dreaming through <i>The Sound of Sound - Colours in Dream</i>. By incorporating sound generated from everyday objects such as wind chimes, colour variations and barcodes on soda cans, the installation aims to promote relaxation and creativity through a unique blend of art, sound, and AI, encouraging viewers to focus on their inner thoughts and emotions.</p>
	Ninaad Kothawade	<p><i>Letters of Parasitic Evolution</i></p>  <p>A multi-disciplinary designer and artist, Ninaad Kothawade explores the realm between nature and synthetic innovation through <i>Letters of Parasitic Evolution</i>. The artwork is response to the design challenge of <i>36 Days of Type</i>, where he created a typographic design for each letter of the English alphabet together with machine learning. It uses AI to distort natural elements like cordyceps and crystals, creating a dance that showcases the juxtaposition</p>

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		<p>between the organic and artificial, and the fluid and geometric.</p>
<p>BIOS: Living NFTs – Bonsai Specimens</p> <p>Location: Basement 2, Circulation</p>	<p>SERIAL CO_'s Jake Tan and Ernest Wu</p>	 <p><i>BIOS: Living NFTs – Bonsai Specimens</i> by Jake Tan and Ernest Wu and supported by SERIAL CO_, is a digital interactive art project that presents a digital bonsai growing over time. Viewers can not only watch as the bonsai gradually evolves with each new block that the Ethereum blockchain processes and verifies, but also engage with the piece through a digital interface and observe real-time blockchain updates and their direct impact on the plant's development.</p> <p>This project is part of a larger series of collectible NFTs featuring digitally growing plants which explore the intersection of art, technology and nature.</p>
<p>YEULE's OCULUS MIXTAPE</p> <p>Location: Basement 2, Oculus</p>	<p>Yeule</p>	 <p>Yeule's techno-organic sonic universe in ArtScience Museum's Oculus summons visitors into a post-human world where expression is no longer bound by identity; where visitors are free to assemble ourselves along lines of affinity. Yeule is a project of non-binary artist and cyborg entity Nat Ćmiel, constructed as a</p>

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		<p>manifesto of Ćmiel's own mutable identity and a portal or rift which allowed them to communicate their art to the outside world.</p>
<p>Aioli Times</p> <p>Location: Level 4, Curiosity Gallery</p>	<p>Niceaunties</p>	 <p>Niceaunties is a Singaporean designer and AI artist that draws inspiration from the women in her family and the intriguing world of 'auntie culture'. Her AI film and art installation titled <i>Aioli Times</i> will explore the coming-of-age story of an enigmatic garlic that becomes famous due to a tripping mishap on a fashion runway in an imaginary world known as the Auntieverse.</p> <p>The artwork showcases how the aunties rally around the comedic character of the garlic despite its unconventional dream of becoming a model, offering a unique perspective on the creative process by shedding light on the various challenges involved in presenting one's work on a public platform.</p>
<p>The Dream Creator</p> <p>Location: Basement 2, Circulation</p>	<p>AI Create</p>	 <p><i>The Dream Creator</i> by AI Create is an installation that aims to elevate the public's understanding of</p>

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		<p>generative AI through creative expression and collaboration.</p> <p>Visitors will be invited by mascot YAI to contribute to a collective dream narrative by selecting characters, scenarios, actions and styles. These prompts will then be displayed on a gallery of LCD screens, showcasing the power AI holds in bringing imagination to life.</p>
<p>To the Infinite Garden and Beyond</p> <p>Location: Basement 2, Circulation</p>	<p>Ethereum Singapore</p>	<div data-bbox="959 793 1182 1075" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><i>To the Infinite Garden and Beyond</i> will trace Ethereum’s journey from its inception to its future, highlighting key milestones and its diverse real-world applications across various industries.</p> <p>Visitors also have the opportunity to learn about Ethereum 2.0, a more efficient and environmentally-friendly version of the popular blockchain platform, and can look forward to registering for various events organised by Ethereum Singapore from 16 to 22 September.</p>