

French Science Festival: [Brain]storm enables public to explore secrets of the brain (with photos)

To mark the 30th anniversaries of the Hong Kong Science Museum and the French Science Festival, the newly established Science Promotion Unit (SPU) of the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Consulate General of France in Hong Kong and Macau have together organised the French Science Festival: [Brain]storm. The festival will present an array of programmes featuring feelings, perception and dreams from tomorrow (November 5) to November 22 to showcase the remarkable achievements of France in neurosciences.

The highlight programme, the "Science Machina" exhibition, will be held at the Outpost, Salisbury Garden, Tsim Sha Tsui. French writer Felix Elvis was invited to work with 12 French comic artists to create a series of comics inspired by 12 scientific machines used or partly developed by the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission or the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research.

During the three consecutive weekends of the exhibition period, the "I Will Sleep When I'm Dead" virtual reality (VR) experience will be presented at the exhibition venue. The VR experience is produced by the French artist Jeanne Susplugas, in collaboration with the Institut Français, to materialise the thinking process of the brain with drawings. Visitors can dive into the brain and navigate by sight amongst neurons and synapses.

Two more programmes will be held at the Hong Kong Science Museum. A French surrealist romantic fantasy film, "Mood Indigo", will be screened tomorrow and a post-screening discussion will follow. Scholars from France and Hong Kong have been invited to decrypt the mechanisms of how emotions are adapted to reality from a neurobiological perspective. For young children, the workshop "Brain Discovery" will be held on November 6 to help participants to learn about the regions of the brain and their respective functions through entertaining scientific experiments.

For programme details and enrolment methods of the French Science Festival: [Brain]storm, please visit the website at hk.science.museum/en_US/web/scm/pp/na/fsf.html, or call 2732 3232 for enquiries.

The Hong Kong Science Museum established the SPU to create and present programmes that feature curiosity, creativity, playfulness and collaboration to enhance the promotion of popular science and encourage the public to explore the incredible world of science in their daily lives.

All persons will be required to use the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application to scan the venue QR code before they are allowed to enter

offices and venues under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) except for exempted persons who are aged below 12 or aged 65 or above and those with disabilities that render use of the app difficult. Exemptions will also be granted to individual persons depending on the actual circumstances. All exempted persons are required to complete a record form to register their personal particulars and the date and time of their visit. As it will take time to verify personal particulars of exempted persons under the new arrangement, their waiting time for using public services or entering the relevant venues may be lengthened. The LCSD suggests that members of the public arrive early, and appeals for their understanding. The department also encourages the exempted persons to use the app as far as possible to save time.

