

# OPLINE Prize Application 2026

CV / RESUME - selection

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## De Wilde, Frederik - PhD I Interdisciplinary Artist | Researcher

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### BIO

Artist working at the intersection of art, science, technology, and design. His practice explores the inaudible, intangible, and invisible in digital and physical spaces, critically engaging with the societal and environmental shifts driven by technology. De Wilde's work navigates speculative futures and complex systems, offering innovative perspectives on contemporary challenges.

He is best known for his Blackest-Black nano-engineered artworks (2010), developed with Rice University and NASA. This groundbreaking project, which examines the concept of nothingness, earned the 2010 Ars Electronica Next Idea Award and the Best European Creative Cities Award. Featured in Huffington Post, Dazed, and TED Ideas Worth Spreading, the work inspired artists worldwide, including Sir Anish Kapoor with Vantablack.

De Wilde's practice has been marked by continuous innovation. In 2006, he explored interspecies communication with weakly electric fish. In 2010, his NRS series introduced generative data-driven works he described as "painting with data to create landscape paintings of the information age." His collaboration with the Australian National University's Department of Quantum Science in 2013 resulted in quantum sculptures, driven by true random numbers generated from a physical quantum source.

In 2016, De Wilde developed the world's first AI and evolutionary algorithm-generated 3D-printed art, exhibited at Ars Electronica, and an interactive neural network artwork (2015), now part of the Frost Museum's permanent collection. His research includes the creation of an AI-encoded Dazzle camouflage technique, subverting metadata labeling systems using evolutionary computing.

He published several papers e.g. "Artistic Approaches to Design and Manufacturing Techniques Dedicated to Space Applications" (Leonardo, MIT Press, 2019).

His achievements include recognition as a finalist for the Giant Steps X-Prize Lab (MIT), ZKM App Art Award, TED World Wide Talent Search (2013), and the Arab Bank NFT Prize, as well as winning the Herbert W. Franke Contact Attempt (2024). He was a Serpentine Future Art Ecosystems (2025) and Objkt Labs artist-in-residence (2025).

### EDUCATION

- *Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Antwerp, Europe, sculpture, bachelor 1994 - 1997*
- *Johnson Atelier Technical Institute of Sculpture, New Jersey, USA, fine arts (work/study program), 1996*
- *The Carving Studio, Vermont, Trenton, USA, sculpture (study/teaching program), 1996*
- *Sint-Lukas, LUCA, Brussels, Belgium, master degree in Fine and Experimental Arts, 1999 - 2000*
- *Yantra Dance Studio, Brussels, 2000*
- *Philosophy, Free University of Brussels (VUB), Brussels, Belgium, Europe, 2001- 2002*
- *Postgraduate, Transmedia, LUCA,, New Media, Arts and Design, Brussels, Belgium, 2002- 2004*

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**Current Position:** *PhD researcher in Designing Branded Spaces through Visual/Sonic/Spatial Narratives, University Hasselt / PXL-MAD, 2025-2029 – Promotors Dirk Reynders (Dean), Prof. Dr. Bert Willems*

**PhD committee:**

- **Dr. Anneleen Swillen**, postdoctoral researcher and lecturer at PXL-MAD School of Arts Hasselt and Hasselt University.
- **Dr. Steffen De Vreese**, Researcher @Laboratory of Applied Bioacoustics (UPC-Barcelona).
- **Diane Drubay**, Museum & Tech Strategist | Digital Art and Ecology Curator | Conference Producer & Program Curator | Founder of We Are Museums, WAC Lab, Blueshift | Ex-Tezos, Palace of Versailles, French Ministry of Culture.
- **Ákos Maróy**, Fractional CTO/CDO | Innovation Expert (EIC, Eureka) | Startup Mentor | Deep Tech Strategist | Board-Ready Technologist.
- **Margaret Heath**, cybernetics society UK.
- **Harald Moser**, Head of Science Experience bei Ars Electronica Linz GmbH & Co KG.
- **Dr. Alfredo Cramerotti**, Cultural Entrepreneur | Art, Media + Tech Museum Director | Co-Curator Noor Riyadh 2024 + Art Dubai Digital 2024 | Director of the first museum dedicated to digital art in the Middle East - International Jury Lumen Prize + Nominator Maxxi-Bulgari Prize for digital arts | Writer & Broadcaster.
- **Auronda Scalera**, Artistic Director, Advisory Board, Curator, Lecturer, about contemporary art and tech |Curator Art Dubai 24 |Maxxi Bvlgari Prize nominator |CIMAM member & Organiser IKT Congress 25 | TOP20 Global Woman 2023.
- **Maja Trumic**, Soft Robotics Researcher | MSCA Postdoc @ TU Delft | Model-Based, Nonlinear & Adaptive Control for Underactuated Systems | Inspection & Maintenance Applications.
- **Irini Mirena Papadimitriou**, Creative Director, Curator and Cultural Strategist. Currently Director of Exhibitions at Diriyah Art Futures.
- **Nataline Colonnello**, Contemporary Art Professional | Sinologist | Researcher| Author | Technology and Innovation Strategist | Entrepreneur | Team & Executive Coach
- **Zdravko Ivankovic**, CEO at SirmiumERP, full stack .NET developer with more than 10 years experience in C#, and lots of experience in Entity Framework, ASP.NET and ASP.NET Core, Angular JS, HTML, CSS, ... mostly interested in developing ERP solutions.
- **Liam Young**, Liam Young is an architect who operates in the spaces between design, fiction and futures. He is a founder of the think tank Tomorrows Thoughts Today, a group whose work explores the possibilities of fantastic, speculative and imaginary urbanisms. He also co runs the 'Unknown Fields Division', a nomadic studio that travels on annual expeditions to the ends of the earth to investigate unreal and forgotten landscapes, alien terrains and industrial ecologies. Liam's projects develop fictional speculations as critical instruments to survey the consequences of emerging environmental and technological futures.
- **Lev Manovich**, Artist and author of 17 books on AI aesthetics, digital art, media theory, digital humanities and cultural analytics / Presidential Professor, Graduate Center, City University of New York.

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## SELECTION HONORS & AWARDS, GRANTS

- Selected as solo dancer representing Belgium for the "9ième Concours International de la Danse de Paris," Forum des Halles, Paris, (2000).
- Ars Electronica Next Idea Award, First Prize (2010).
- Best European Collaboration Award (2010, Artist-Scientist), First Prize (2011)
- ZKM App Art Award, Finalist (2013)
- Herbert W. Franke Contact Attempt Global Prize, First Prize (2024)
- MIT xPrize Lab Finalist - Giant Steps to the Moon, Finalist.
- Future Emerging Art and Technology - FEAT, QCUMbER involves 6 European research institutions from 4 different European countries (2017)
- Flemish Ministry of Culture - Arts and economy, innovation and creative partnerships grant (2017)
- Max Planck Institute KLAS artsci residency (2018)
- Stimuleringsfonds, BALTAN Laboratories, Eindhoven, Netherlands, grant (2018)
- SABAM, Brussels, Belgium, grant (2018)
- Present Future Art & Tech Star Award Nominee (China, 2019)
- worth.eu, fashtech, grant, 2019/20
- Flemish Filmfunds, Alice in Darknet (VR), scenario grant (2020)
- Flemish Ministry of Culture, Cloudburst (VR), development grant (2020)
- Flemish Filmfunds, Alice in Darknet (VR), development grant (2020)
- Flemish Ministry of Culture, culturele activiteitenpremie, hunter and dog (2021)
- ONASSIS STEGI foundation, artist residency, New York/Athens (2021)
- Flemish Ministry of Culture, culturele activiteitenpremie, HALzheimer (2021)
- Flemish Ministry of Culture, culturele activiteitenpremie, Exploded Views of a Future Present (2021)
- Arab Bank NFT Prize, Finalist (2023)
- bettefactory.eu 2022, MUSAE.eu 2023, HungryEcocities.eu (2023)
- Herbert W. Franke "Contact Attempt", First Prize (2024)
- Serpentine UK - Future Art Ecosystems x Alias Studio Residency (2025)
- Objkt Labs Residency, curator Anika Meier (2025)
- Opline Prize nominee - in progress (2026)

## SELECTION KEY AFFILIATIONS

- Young Academy, Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts - Laureate/Alumnus
- MoonArk (Carnegie Mellon University, NASA) - Core Member, Artist
- JRC EU - ArtScience Expert European Commission
- CRA/MIT (Carlo Ratti Associati) - Past Collaborator (STARTS.EU)
- University of West England - Affiliated Artist, Unconventional Computing Lab
- University Hasselt, PXL MAD - PhD, Staff

## SELECTION

### International Institutions & Biennials

- Venice Biennale (Italy)
- Centre Pompidou (France)
- Art Basel (Switzerland)
- Moody Center for The Arts (USA, Houston)
- ZKM - Center for Art and Media (Germany)
- MAAT Museum (Portugal)
- BOZAR - Centre for Fine Arts (Belgium)
- Whitechapel Gallery (United Kingdom)
- Carnegie Museum of Art (USA)
- Monte-Carlo Ocean Gala (Monaco)
- Smithsonian Institution (USA)
- Gulbenkian Museum (Portugal)
- Z33 - House for Contemporary Art, Design & Architecture (Belgium)
- MetaMorf Biennial (Norway)
- MuST Museum (Italy)
- National Gallery Singapore (Singapore) - ArtScience Museum (Singapore)

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## Festivals & Conferences

- ISEA - International Symposium on Electronic Art
- NIME - New Interfaces for Musical Expression
- SIGGRAPH

## Web3 / Digital Art Platforms

- Objkt
- Xverso
- SuperRare
- Foundation

## SELECTION PUBLICATIONS

- *Artistic Approaches to Design and Manufacturing Techniques Dedicated to Space Applications* - MIT Press, Frederik De Wilde en Gueric de Crombrugghe, Leonardo, MIT PRESS, Vol. 52, No. 3, 2019.
- *The Art of Ethics in the Information Society: Mind You* - Amsterdam University Press / Chicago University Press, Frederik De Wilde, ISBN 9462984492, 9789462984493
- Contributor to *Encyclopedia of New Media Art, Vol. II* - Bloomsbury
- MINIMALISM: space.light.object, Sep 12, 2018, National Gallery Singapore, Artscience Museum Singapore, 2019, MINIMALISM: space.light.object, National Gallery Singapore and Artscience Museum, Singapore. ISBN: 978-981-11-6680-8
- Monochrome: Darkness and Light in Contemporary Art by Craig Staff, May 31, 2015, Bloomsbury. ISBN: 0857726455, 9780857726452

## SELECTION PROJECTS & COLLABORATIONS

- *Blackest-Black (nanotech)* - With Rice University + NASA. Exhibited at Carroll Fletcher Gallery London (2008 - 2014)
- *Quantum Randomness Sculptures* - Australian National University, Quantum Encryption, Communication and Teleportation Lab. Exhibited at the Art Science Museum Singapore (2012)
- *The Innovation Engine* - Evolutionary Computing + Metadata Research, Wyoming University AI Lab - Exhibited at the Science Gallery (2015-2017)
- *Deep Flaw* - AI-Evolved 3D Printed Forms - Wyoming University AI LAB - Exhibited at Ars Electronica (2016)
- *The Face of Your Voice* - AI Art - MIT. Exhibited at the ZKM (2019)
- *Symbiosis.AI* - Carlo Ratti Associati & Studio Other Spaces - Hungry Ecocities (2023)

## ADVISORY & TEACHING

- Guest Professor - ArtScience Interfaculty (The Hague), Transmedia Brussels, St. Martins (London)
- Jury Member - Flemish Department of Culture, Youth & Media x Ultimas
- Grant Evaluator - Innovative Partnerships Program Flemish Ministry of Culture
- SBO advisory board (USA) x Early Investor
- Frequent international speaker and panelist
- University Hasselt, PXL MAD, Staff, Teaching