

# Les cyborgs vieillissants

## videotheque /

## Geprogrammeerde

## veroudering videotheek /

## Ageing companions

## videolibrary

Extend and update :  
https://pad.constantvzw.org/p/geprogrammeerdeveroudering.videot  
heque

## 1920

### *The Golem: How He Came into the World*

Paul Wegener, 1920 (103")

"A 1920 silent horror film co-directed by and starring Paul Wegener. The film was the third of three films that Wegener made featuring the golem, the other two being The Golem (1915) and the short comedy The Golem and the Dancing Girl (1917), in which Wegener dons the Golem make-up in order to frighten a young lady he is infatuated with. The Golem: How He Came into the World is a prequel to The Golem from 1915 and is the best known of the series, largely because it is the only one of the three films that has not been lost. One of the early horror films, the film was sensational upon its release and has left a lasting legacy within the film industry, alongside another early German expressionist horror film, The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari (1920)."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Golem:\_How\_He\_Came\_into\_t  
he\_World

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOZecCU5isk

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## 1965

### *La jetée*

Chris Marker, 1968 (28")  
memory, remembering, power relations

“Chris Marker's La jetée is a landmark of science-fiction filmmaking, a 28-minute masterpiece told almost entirely in still frames. Set in a post-apocalyptic near-future, it tells the story of an unnamed man whose vivid childhood recollections make him the perfect guinea pig for an experiment in time travel. After a lengthy and nightmarish period of conditioning, he is sent into the past, where he falls in love with a woman whom he once saw on a pier. At the experiment's conclusion, he is visited by an advanced race, who offer him the opportunity to journey into their future world, but he instead requests that they send him permanently into the past, where he can remain with the woman of his dreams. A singular experience.” (Jason Ankeny, Rovi)

## 1970

### *The Grandmother*

David Lynch, 1970 (33")

"A young boy plants some strange seeds and they grow into a grandmother. Short and surreal, and David Lynch's third film. The short film combines live action and animation. The story revolves around a boy who grows a grandmother to escape neglect and abuse from his parents. It is silent (no dialogue), with soundtrack cues used to convey story."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Short\_Films\_of\_David\_Lynch#  
The\_Grandmother

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-o1fTgiDTxI

## 1975

## 1980

### *The Electric Grandmother*

Noel Black, 1982 (47")  
*cyborg, ageing humans, companionship*

"Based on the science fiction short story "I Sing the Body Electric" by Ray Bradbury. Following the untimely death of their mother, a family decides to buy an electric grandmother in order to help around the house and serve as a nanny for the three children. Thrilled at the idea, Tom, Timothy, and Agatha go with their father to the Fantoccini company showroom in order to custom build their new grandmother."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Electric\_Grandmother

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZsnpgtYvHs  
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I\_Sing\_the\_Body\_Electric\_(short\_st  
ory\_collection)

### *Nausicaa of the valley of the wind*

Hayao Miyazaki, 1984 (117")  
*obsolesence, interspecies companionship*

"Nausicaä is the beloved Princess of the Valley of the Wind. She is 16 years old, but her wisdom is far beyond her young age. She has dedicated herself to help her people, including trying to find a cure for the miasma poison that so many suffer from. She is brave, courageous, wise, intelligent, loyal, honest, kind, compassionate and everything that one looks for in a true heroine. She stands tall against all adversaries and is willing to sacrifice her life in order to save those around her. Her fencing and flight maneuvering ability exceeds that of the enemy forces. Throughout the movie she manifests the ability to wield a variety of weapons including a dagger, a sword, a rifle and explosives used when extracting an Ohmu eye. Nausicaä has psychic powers, abilities which include telepathy, psychic force, when she repulses the slugworms, and communication with plants, when she talks to the Oldest Tree in the Valley. After being saved by Ohmu after aiding Asbel, Nausicaä dreams of childhood when she tried to save a Ohmu larvae. Nausicaä gives the control stone over to Asbel."

http://nausicaa.wikia.com/wiki/Nausica%C3%A4

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nausica  
%C3%A4\_of\_the\_Valley\_of\_the\_Wind\_(film)

## 1985

### *Tetsuo: the iron man*

Shinya Tsukamoto, 1989 (67")  
cyborg, dystopic, male maladie, rusting together

"After a series of epic scrap heap struggles, Iron Man and Metal Fetishist rebirth themselves / rust together into phallic two headed creature to sink Japan into ferro inferno New World."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tetsuo:\_The\_Iron\_Man

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KouoiN9e8Eg

## 1990

## 1995

### *Spiklenci Slasti / conspirators of pleasure*

Jan Švankmajer, 1996 (85")  
*co-constitution, love, fetishism, cyborgs*

"Like hungry but inspired chefs, a postwoman, a shopkeeper, a television presenter, a detective and two odd apartment dwellers prepare an orgasmic meal of hilarious and literally explosive results. With the help of the most eclectic array of objects, animals, devices and processes they secretly plunder and pillage their environments in search of their magical, arousing ingredients. The sexual, the social and the political cross

in a puritanical society breaking with the habits of the past."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfvHNaA13lc

### *ExistenZ*

David Cronenberg, 1999 (97")  
*somatotechnologies, virtuality, co-dependency, cyborgs*

"Set in the near-future, eXistenZ depicts a society in which game designers are worshipped as superstars and players can organically enter inside the games. At the center of the story is Allegra Geller whose latest games system eXistenZ taps so deeply into its users fears and desires that it blurs the boundaries between reality and escapism."

## 2000

### *I.K.U.*

Shu Lea Cheang, 2000  
*porn, feminism, biopolitics, cyborg*

'Bodies are packages made to be opened'  
http://rhizome.org/editorial/2015/may/26/iku-experience-shu-lea-cheang-phenomenon/

https://vimeo.com/238236020

### *Howl's Moving Castle*

Hayao Miyazaki, 2004 (119")  
*interspecies companionship, ageing*

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howl%27s\_Moving\_Castle\_(film)

## 2005

### *Children of Men*

Alfonso Cuarón, 2006 (109")  
*obsolesence, ageing humans*

"A futuristic society faces extinction when the human race loses the ability to reproduce. England has descended into chaos, until an iron-handed warden is brought in to institute martial law. The warden's ability to keep order is threatened when a woman finds that she is pregnant with what would be the first child born in 27 years."

https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/children\_of\_men/

https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Children\_of\_Men

### *Mechanical Love*

Phie Ambo (2007)  
*interspecies companionship, intimacy*

"Mechanical Love is a documentary which portrays people who have a close relationship with robots. In Japan we meet Professor Hiroshi Ishiguro who has been named one of eight living geniuses in the world today. He is working on creating a perfect robot copy of himself in order to investigate what constitutes a human being and if it is possible to program the human soul. Will his daughter be able to love the robot copy of himself? In Germany we meet Frau Körner who is completely in love with Paro, her robot baby seal, but her friends are not as enthusiastic about her furry friend as she is ... Phie Ambo seeks to highlight our need to love and be loved, and through the main characters, she examines how we accept emotional robots in the East and the West."

http://danishdocumentary.com/films/mechanical-love/

### *WALL-E*

Andrew Stanton, 2008 (98")  
*obsolesence, interspecies companionship*

Adventures of a "Waste Allocation Load Lifter Earth-class".  
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WALL-E

### *Undone*

Hayley Morris, 2008 (6")  
*ageing humans*

"A drifting man struggles to pull objects from the roiling sea below him and scrambles to keep the objects from slipping through his fingers. A stop-motion animation using textured and tactile materials, as well as personal imagery, that represents the progression of Alzheimer's disease."

https://vimeo.com/9843182

## Trash Humpers

Harmony Korine, 2009 (74'')

*ageing humans, interspecies companionship*

Three elderly cretins brutalize dolls, molest fauna, and force themselves on garbage cans.

## 2010

### All Watched over by Machines of loving Grace

Adam Curtis (2011)

a poem by Richard Brautigam (California, 1967):

- I like to think (and the sooner the better!) of a cybernetic meadow where mammals and computers live together in mutually programming harmony like pure water touching clear sky.
- I like to think (right now, please!) of a cybernetic forest filled with pines and electronics where deer stroll peacefully past computers as if they were flowers with spinning blossoms
- I like to think (it has to be!) of a cybernetic ecology where we are free of our labors and joined back to nature, returned to our mammal brothers and sisters, and all watched over by machines of loving grace.

### Krapp's Last Tape

Atom Egoyan, 2011 (1.23'')

*ageing, co-dependency, technology as a character*

Not-only-human experience of time in co-habitation with registering tech. Filmed version of play with the same title by Samuel Beckett. "While John Hurt had already honed his magisterial interpretation on stage in London, the involvement of Egoyan is surprisingly appropriate, since a play about an old man remorsefully responding to a taped recording of his younger self obviously chimes with one of the film-maker's longstanding themes, the interaction between technology, memory and self-perception. Within a realist one-room setting, Hurt's performance strikes a compellingly intimate note, as Egoyan's camera underlines a telling sense of drifting time through attentive long takes. The uninterrupted 20-minute closing shot proves utterly hypnotic and deeply moving, a humbling display of a great actor's craft." [http://www.ubu.com/film/beckett\\_egoyan.html](http://www.ubu.com/film/beckett_egoyan.html)

### Cyborgs dans la brume

Stéphane Degoutin, Gwenola Wagon, 2011-2012 (46'')

"Le film *Cyborgs dans la brume* est une proposition utopique présentant le Laboratoire LOPH (Lutte contre l'Obsolescence Programmée de l'Homme) autour d'un territoire situé à l'ouest de la ville de Saint-Denis et centrée sur la Villa Coignet, première maison au monde entièrement construite en béton. C'est à Saint-Denis, au numéro 72 de la rue Charles Michels, autour du site de la villa Coignet, que s'implantera bientôt le laboratoire LOPH. Son but est d'expérimenter des scénarios pour la survie de l'homme, lorsque s'achèvera la période de la domination de l'homme sur la planète." <http://nogovoyages.com/cyborgsdanslabrume.html>

### Arrugas

Ignacio Ferreras, 2011 (80'')

*ageing humans*

"Emilio and Miguel, two ageing companions in a nursing home, become friends. Emilio, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease, immediately relies on the help of Miguel and other colleagues who will try to prevent him from ending up in the home of the terminally ill. Their crazy plan stains the tedious day-to-day life of the residence with humour and tenderness, for for them a new life has just begun. 2D animated feature film for adults, based on the comic by Paco Roca."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8BxmLkUpOE>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmqZio1WO-I>

### Amour

Michael Hanecke, 2012

*ageing humans, companionship*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amour\\_\(2012\\_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amour_(2012_film))

### Beasts of the Southern Wild

Benh Zeitlin, 2012 (93'')

"In a forgotten but defiant bayou community cut off from the rest of the world by a sprawling levee, a six-year-old girl exists on the brink of orphanhood. Buoyed by her childish optimism and extraordinary imagination, she believes that the natural world is in balance with the universe until a fierce storm changes her reality. Desperate to repair the structure of her world in order to save her ailing father and sinking home, this tiny hero must learn to survive unstoppable catastrophes of epic proportions."

### The Lightbulb Conspiracy – Planned Obsolescence

2012 (52'')

*Obsolescence, corporate banditry, documentary*

"Did you know that the lifetime of light bulbs once used to last for more than 2500 hours and was reduced on purpose to just 1000 hours? Did you know that nylon stockings once used to be that stable that you could even use them as tow rope for cars and its quality was reduced just to make sure that you will soon need a new one? Did you know that you might have a tiny little chip inside your printer that was just placed there so that your device will break after a predefined number of printed pages thereby assuring that you buy a new one? Did you know that Apple originally did not intend to offer any battery exchange service for their iPods/iPhones/iPads just to enable you to continuously contribute to the growth of this corporation?"

<https://archive.org/details/PlannedObsolescenceDocumentary>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zdh7\\_PA8GZU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zdh7_PA8GZU)

### Flesh computer

Ethan Shaftel, 2014 (13'')

"A weary handyman does his best to maintain order and care for his cybernetic 'pet project,' a strange mix of machine and flesh. But when a pair of thuggish residents threaten a young girl, the line between human and machine becomes blurred." <http://www.fleshcomputer.com/>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ib71VUXt\\_jE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ib71VUXt_jE)

### MyMy

RED & Blackmagic, 2014 (14 min)

"In a mythic cyberfeminist universe, a frustrated young man yearns for affinity and connection. In this age of digital avatars, he crafts a version of himself that is far more corporeal – by stitching together parts of himself to become his own cyborg twin, embracing the radical potential to create the self. However his new clone has been corrupted by a techno-magick virus. This Other self embodies a dangerous idea: that there are parts of ourselves beyond our control."

<https://annahelme.com/portfolio/mymy/>

<https://mymyfilm.com/trailer/>

## 2015

### Ik ben Alice

Sander Burger, 2015 (1.15'')

*ageing, cyborgs, interspecies companionship*

"Elderly Mrs Remkes looks into the camera. We hear a robotic female voice asking questions in Dutch; Mrs Remkes starts talking. The robotic voice comes from Alice, a 60-centimeter-tall robot with a humanoid face and a (not particularly good) camera behind her eyes. People are scared of big robots, a member of the Selemca research group (at Amsterdam's Free University) explains later. But the aged test subject remains hesitant: 'I'd prefer a real person.' 'Oh, that's a shame', Alice replies – thanks to some clever voice-recognition software." <https://iffr.com/en/2015/films/ik-ben-alice>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AM69fBlcRKE>

### C'est quoi ce travail

Luc Joulé, Sébastien Jousse, 2015 (1.40'')

*heteromation, obsolescence*

"Ils sont au travail. Les salariés d’une usine qui produit 800.000 pièces d’automobile par jour et le compositeur Nicolas Frize dont la création musicale s’invente au cœur des ateliers. Chacun à sa manière, ils disent leur travail. Chacun à sa manière, ils posent la question : alors, c’est quoi le travail ?"

### Donna Haraway: Story Telling for Earthly Survival

Fabrizio Terranova, 2017

*interspecies companionship, ageing, cyborgs*

"Features Haraway in a playful and engaging exploration of her life, influences, and ideas. Haraway is a passionate and discursive storyteller, and the film is structured around a series of discussions held in the California home she helped build by hand, on subjects including the capitalism and the anthropocene (a term she "uses but finds troubling"), science fiction writing as philosophical text, unconventional marital and sexual partnerships, the role of Catholicism in her upbringing, humans and dogs, the suppression of women's writing, the surprisingly fascinating history of orthodontic aesthetics, and the need for new post-colonial and post-patriarchal narratives. It is a remarkably impressive range, from a thinker with a nimble and curious mind." <http://icarusfilms.com/if-donna>

<https://vimeo.com/167038225> + cayenneter (personal use only)

### Gang des vieux en colère

*obsolescence, ageing humans*

« Gang des Vieux En Colère » est un mouvement belge de 2018, non partisan et trans-partisan qui souhaite conserver et même améliorer le système de pension par répartition. <https://www.bruzz.be/videoreeks/maandag-16-april-2018/video-gang-des-vieux-en-colere-tegen-pensioenhervorming>

### Okja

Bong Joon-ho, 2017 (1.18'')

*interspecies companionship*

"For 10 idyllic years, young Mija (An Seo Hyun) has been caretaker and constant companion to Okja --a massive animal and an even bigger friend--at her home in the mountains of South Korea. But that changes when a family-owned multinational conglomerate Mirando Corporation takes Okja for themselves and transports her to New York, where image obsessed and self-promoting CEO Lucy Mirando (Tilda Swinton) has big plans for Mija's dearest friend. With no particular plan but single-minded in intent, Mija sets out on a rescue mission, but her already daunting journey quickly becomes more complicated when she crosses paths with disparate groups of capitalists, demonstrators and consumers, each battling to control the fate of Okja... while all Mija wants to do is bring her friend home." <https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/okja>

### Altered Carbon

Laeta Kalogridis, 2018 (TV-series)

*cyborgs, ageing companions, obsolesence*

"In the future, a person's memories can be decanted in a disk-shaped device called a *cortical stack*, which is implanted in the vertebrae at the back of the neck. These storage devices are of alien design and have been reverse engineered and mass produced. Physical human or synthetic bodies called "sleeves" are used as vessels that can accept any stack. Takeshi Kovacs (Joel Kinnaman), a political operative with mercenary skills, wakes up 250 years after his previous sleeve is terminated. He is given the choice to either spend the rest of time in prison for his crimes, or to help solve the murder of Laurens Bancroft (James Purefoy), one of the wealthiest men in the settled worlds. Takeshi was the sole surviving soldier of those defeated in an uprising against the new world order 250 years prior.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Altered\\_Carbon\\_\(TV\\_series\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Altered_Carbon_(TV_series))

## 2030

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