
Open Call

Quantum's Got Talent
Music, Sound and Audio-visual Art Submissions

Deadline: June 10th, 2023

Public Award Ceremony: June 23rd

waag  **futurelab**

Introduction and background

Quantum's Got Talent aims to explore connections between music, sound and audio-visual arts and quantum physics by means of artistic experimentation, resulting in live performances, exhibitions, installations, and other types of interactions with Dutch audiences.

All artists, designers, students of science, art and communication, no matter their background, are invited to submit ideas about how quantum physics and quantum applications are inspiring them to create original works and how these scientific developments affect society at large.

Quantum physics is the study of matter and energy at the most fundamental level. It aims to uncover the properties and behaviors of the very building blocks of nature. Can artistic expression relate in any way to the abstract forms of scientific thinking, in this case of quantum physics and the applications of quantum mechanics? Can artists help the society to understand the value of scientific achievements, the opportunities as well as the challenges of future technologies based on quantum physics?

While many quantum experiments examine very small objects, such as electrons and photons, quantum phenomena are all around us, acting on every scale. We want to prompt interested artists, designers, students to think, explore and create artworks inspired by and related to quantum physics. This call welcomes submissions for any kind of digital art, sound installations, video works, as well as music that connects analog and/or acoustic instruments with the digital ones. The submission can be either in the form of a (live) performance, an installation, or a combination of both.

Our honorable jury consists of: [Anna Gimbrère](#), science journalist, [Andrija Pavlović](#), artist, [Monica Bulacu](#), physicist and [Gary Carter](#), the creative officer at Waag. Find [here](#) the invitation that Anna Gimbrère prepared for you. All pre-selected works will be presented during **Quantum's Got Talent event organized on June 23rd** at Waag, Nieuwmarkt 4 in Amsterdam and other exhibition/performances which will take place during 2023-2025 in several cities (Eindhoven, Delft, the Hague, Leiden).

Who can submit an entry?

- Participants may be individuals, groups, institutions, companies etc.
- An artist may submit more than one work. Entrants are requested not to submit irreplaceable originals since submitted materials cannot be returned.
- Exclusively commercially oriented activities in the sense of product advertisement are excluded.

What do we offer?

- Production budget up to 3000 euro to the three winning projects.

- Travel and accommodation costs for at least one performance (if the work is performance oriented)
- Communication and presentation of the selected works during Waag Futurelab's events

Checklist

The following materials are needed for the submission.

- Audio file via upload (wav, mp3, aif,mov,ogg) of arbitrary duration
- Video documentation (3-10 minutes), in case of already realized projects, exhibitions, installations, real-time performances, audio/visual environments, etc.
- 2–3 minute excerpt that effectively provides a summation of the essential elements explored in the artwork. This edited extract can serve as a compressed remix of different segments of a longer composition, or the participant can simply choose a continuous representative slice. This helps the Jury to deal with large quantities of submissions in a focused judicial manner.
- High-res images describing the project (JPG, TIF, BMP, PNG). Compressed files (like .zip .lzh) are not acceptable.
- Detailed description of the work (concept and content). Entrants are therefore requested to provide precise information about the technical set-up of all required equipment as well as suggestions regarding the production plans submitted.
- A portrait photo and biography of the artist(s)
- Optional: additional material (images/drawings/score (PDF)/documents (PDF))

Selection

All entries will be assessed by an expert jury according to the following criteria:

- Connection of the submitted work with the main topic of this call – artistic expression that draws inspiration from or interacts with quantum physics and technology applications.
- Originality of audio and visual imagination.
- Artistic merit and innovative use of digital tools for a convincing realization of the artwork related to quantum physics;
- The potential of submitted works to communicate with a broad audience.
- Compelling conception
- Quality of the presentation

If the submitted work is selected and honored by the jury the artist is committed to the presentations as detailed in the call text.

Each selected work will be budgeted entirely or partially to a max amount of 3000 Euro. The decision on budget allocation is made by the jury of experts.

Should you need any additional explanations or assistance with the application, please contact Ids Haverkate
ids@waag.org

Please send all material to the following e-mail address: QGT2023@waag.org

Deadline for submissions: 10 June 2023

Consortium Partners:

Quantum's Got Talent is an initiative of WAAG Futurelab, as member of Quantum Inspire project implemented by:

- QuTech
- Kavli Institute of Nanoscience
- Delft University of Technology (TUD)
- Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research
- Leiden Institute of Physics (LION)
- Leiden University
- Lorentz Institute for Theoretical Physics, Leiden University, (LEI - Lorentz)
- Ministry of Defense
- Zurich Instruments
- Malmberg
- The Hague University of Applied Sciences
- Faculty of IT & Design (THUAS)

References:

For a deeper understanding of the physical nature of Bose-Einstein Condensate (BEC) acoustic properties we strongly recommend reading the article "Synthesis and Analysis of Sounds Developed from the Bose-Einstein Condensate: Theory and Experimental Results"

For some background information on quantum and a guide on how to use it for artists, please visit this:
<https://www.thespace.org/resource/programming-the-weird-a-guide-to-quantum-computing-for-artists/>

For getting inspired to submit audio-visual works, you can read Andrija Pavlovic's interview:

<https://waag.org/nl/article/andrija-pavlovic-over-quantummuziek/>

Also Erin Gee, resident artist at the university of Sherbrooke, researches the possibilities of quantum in new ways of music and media: <https://www.erin-gee.com>

For another playful exploration of quantum characteristics:

<https://quantumchess.net>

<https://www.quarksinteractive.com>

<https://beta.tiqtaqtoe.com/start>

Rights

All property rights as well as all other rights, not specifically covered below, remain with the artist.

Documentation and Promotion of the Competition and the Results thereof: The organizer, WAAG Futurelab and project partners Quantum Inspire wish to make the results of the competition accessible to the widest possible audience. To achieve this goal, a communication campaign aimed at media outlets (press, radio, TV and Internet) will be conducted.

The works singled out for recognition by the juries will be documented (as a whole or in part) in the following media:

- Waag Futurelab's project website.
- Homepage, media and storage of the Quantum Inspire project:
- Waag Futurelab's publications.

The works honoured should also be presented in the framework of exhibitions and/or conferences at the cultural institutions of the project partners. The organizers reserve the right to determine which works will be included in such exhibitions. The entrants hereby consent to making their works available for this purpose.

The participants will prepare text and material accordingly; entrants are respectfully requested to prepare graphics and texts meticulously and to submit them in the best possible quality.

The publications will be issued in the frame of Quantum Inspire project. Waag Futurelab reserves the right to determine the actual extent, timing and layout/editing of the aforementioned publications and documentaries.

The works honored should also be presented in the framework of exhibitions and/or conferences at the cultural institutions of the project partners. The organizers reserve the right to determine which works will be included in such exhibitions. The entrants hereby consent to making their works available for this purpose.

The participants assign Waag Futurelab as member of Quantum Inspire project the non-exclusive, factually, temporally and spatially unrestricted right to use the submitted works on existing and future video-streaming platforms (such as YouTube or Flickr) in connection with the exhibitions of the project partners. No publication requirement on video-streaming platforms is imputed.

The entrant will not take any action (especially the conveyance of rights to third parties), which are likely to affect the rights granted to Waag Futurelab, as member of Quantum Inspire project.

This agreement elaborating the terms of participation in the competition of Quantum's Got Talent is governed by Dutch law with the exception of the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the

International Sale of Goods and all norms serving as legal reference. The place of jurisdiction is Amsterdam.

Funded by the Dutch Research Council (NWO).

WAAG Futurelab

Contact:

Sint Antoniesbreestraat 69

1011 HB Amsterdam

+31 (0)20 5579898

