Living mirror
In Greek mythology, Narcissus falls in love with his reflection in the crystal-clear surface of the water, in which he believes he sees the image of someone else. How would he have survived in this era of digital media, in which a person’s digital identity sometimes seems to take on its own life?

Living Mirror converts your digital portrait into an almost ‘fleshed out’ image of magnetic bacteria. In this way, the artists’ duo Laura Cinti and Howard Boland are investigating the perception we have of our own bodies, in both digital and biological sense.

Laura Cinti & Howard Boland (UK) cooperated with FOM-Instituut AMOLF.

Fish Bone Chapel
For Fish Bone Chapel, Haseeb Ahmed is using skeletons of zebra fish, often used as laboratory animals, exposed to toxins that bring about genetic mutations. Copied and enlarged via a 3D-printer, they then form the basis for his artwork. The project relates to chapels in Southern Italy where the bones of monks are used to decorate the walls as a symbol of transience. Fish Bone Chapel challenges you to think about the building blocks of life, transience and genomics research.

Haseeb Ahmed (USA) cooperated with the Netherlands Toxico-genomics Centre.

Ergo Sum
Charlotte Jarvis donated her blood, skin and urine for a stem cell research programme at the University of Leiden. These donations have been transformed into stem cells, which in turn can be programmed to grow into cells with completely different functions such as heart-, brain- and vascular cells. The result is a sort of biological self-portrait. These pieces of Charlotte are kept alive artificially. One can question whether these pieces are a living being. Charlotte uses herself, even her physical body, to initiate further discussion of stem cell technology.

Charlotte Jarvis (UK) cooperated with the Netherlands Proteomics Centre and the Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum.

Programme Saturday 14 September

17.00 p.m.: Welcome and opening
You are welcome to visit the exhibitions and meet the artists while enjoying food and drinks.

Régine Debatty, well-known from the blog we-make-money-not-art.com on the interface of art, science and society, will interview the artists and scientists on their projects.

17.30-17.45 p.m.: Living Mirror
18.00-18.15 p.m.: Fish Bone Chapel
18.30-18.45 p.m.: Ergo Sum

19.00 p.m.: End of opening.
At 20.00 p.m., the programme of the Night of Art and Science will start, also in Raamsteeg 2.

Location: Raamsteeg 2, Leiden.
Route description on www.raamsteeg2.nl under Contact.

To register: send a mail to opening@naturalis.nl with subject DA4G.

The exhibition can be visited from 15 September 2013 until 16 December 2013 in Raamsteeg 2 in Leiden. Raamsteeg2 is an initiative of Naturalis Biodiversity Center.

The Designers & Artists 4 Genomics Award (DA4GA) is the first Dutch award in which art, design and life sciences are brought together. DA4GA emphasizes and explores the new possibilities of art, design and Life Sciences.

DA4GA is an initiative of Netherlands Genomics Initiative (NGI) and Waag Society, made possible by CSG Centre for Society and the Life Sciences and hosted by Naturalis Biodiversity Center.

Invitation to opening
Designers & Artists 4 Genomics
September 14, Raamsteeg 2, Leiden
With pleasure we invite you to the opening of the third edition of Designers & Artists 4 Genomics on 14th September, 2013, in Raamsteeg 2, Leiden. International artists cooperate with Dutch life sciences institutes. Three international teams of artists and scientists present their prizewinning bioart projects. A unique chance to talk to them personally about their work and their vision.

Naturalis Biodiversity Center