



**CA' FOSCARI SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 8**  
**MARCH 21-24, 2018**  
**AUDITORIUM SANTA MARGHERITA, VENICE**  
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## FANTASTIC SCIENCE

*Fantastic Science* is a special program by **Carlo Montanaro**, director of the **Fabbrica del Vedere**, owner of the homonymous archive and customary partner of the Festival, who is specialized in the early cinema. For this year's edition, Carlo Montanaro will relate on the importance of early cinema in relation to the scientific discoveries of the time.

As soon as cinema was born, besides its obvious entertainment function, it has always kept its essence of "scientific breakthrough", making a dream come true for all researchers and inventors involved from the beginning. It is cinema that provides documentary evidence and popularizes it. Even the studies that anticipate the birth of cinema are incredible: they showed that what was considered impossible actually wasn't so, like the ability of cats of falling down on four legs (as explained by the physiologist **Jules Etienne Marey**). Later came the time of high-speed camera views: bullets breaking through a soap-bubble (by **Lucien Bull**), time-lapses, which clearly demonstrate the growth of flowers, the demolition of a building, which takes only few seconds, but also, at least virtually, restores the building with the same speed. **Science** asks cinema to explain and document its hypothesis, making them spectacular and interesting for the viewers, who, during pre-television period, were ready to pay for a ticket to watch not the fiction, but unveiled reality.

### *SELECTED MATERIALS:*

- 1891 - **The blood's circulation in a capillary** by Jules E. Marey
- 1891 - **The free-falling cat** by Jules E. Marey
- 1904 - **The soap-bubble crossed by a bullet** by Lucien Bull (1500 pictures)
- 1897 - **The X-ray**
- 1901 - **Demolition Star Theatre** (Pixilation/Time Lapse)
- 1902 - **Une indigestion** by Georges Melies
- 1905 - **Metamorphose du papillon** by Gaston Velle
- 1908 - **The bacteria** by Julius Ries
- 1909 - **The microbes** by Jean Comandon
- Beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century - **The super high-speed growth of the plants**
- Beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century - **X-ray smuggling** by John MacIntyre
- 1910 - **The Birth of a Flower** by Percy Smith
- 1911 - **The life of butterflies** by Roberto Omegna
- 1912 - **The partial eclipse of the sun** by Luca Comerio
- 1937 - **The soap-bubbles** by Roberto Omegna
- 1978 - **Cristaux liquids** by Jean Painleve