



Big Trouble in Little Berlin

A small step for a big dragon but a big change for a smol city.

photo: aev

For the first time this year, the meet of the macro and micro furs appeared on the list of official panels.

The new organizer of the event, Lucky Esel, has thoroughly revamped the formerly unknown event. Now explicitly aimed both at suiters and nonsuiters of both the macro and micro proficiency, the event was well attended with more than seventy furs. In a friendly and open atmosphere, people conversed about movies and games where size differences are a theme (Godzilla comes to mind, or King Kong).

Photos were taken with props of different sizes to illustrate the scale of the characters involved. The highlight of the evening was the

destruction of the lovingly built cardboard city (Berlin, according to a road sign, including the not-yet built new tower of the Estrel), which was, appropriately, stomped into the ground by the collective of giants.

The general theme and attraction of size difference is as old as humanity itself. The giants of the Nordic mythology, the dragons of European lore or a kid stomping on a shoebox, all are examples of the inter-

est in larger-than-life beings. Whether you are interested in finding yourself under the paws of such a beast, or you'd rather be the behemoth yourself, it's all part of an ancient game.

(aki)



A stampede of macro furs makes short work of the city.

photo: aev

TIMETABLE

11:00

Group Photo.....
CONVENTION HALL II

12:00

From Lines To Finish - Coloring &
Shading your Artwork.....
PARIS

Start Hippy Hopping.....
ECC ROOM 2

Talk Like an Egyptian.....
ECC ROOM 4

13:30

Taking a Realistic Approach on
Fursuit Making.....
CLUB STAGE

14:00

How to Build a Novel.....
ECC ROOM 4

Radio Furs.....
STRASSBURG

Realistic Fursuit Resin Eye Tuto-
rial.....
NIZZA

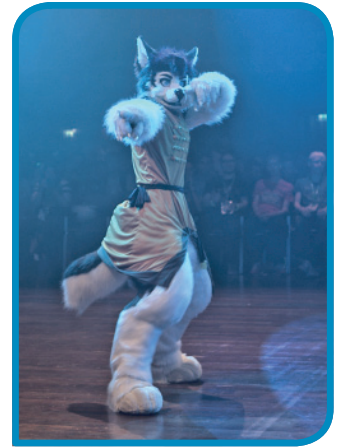
Enter the Arena

13 participants, ready to dance and rock the place.

It was very hard work for the judges to decide who deserved to win. No matter which of the attendees, be it Math, HD, No-Fear Street H, Famis, Dexter, Skrat, Zee, Faolan, Volter, Greykas, Sparky, Jail or Rowdy, they all gave their very best. And so they received their well-earned applause for their performance in the crowded

main hall, and a lot of praise and sometimes helpful criticism from the judges. Still, a decision had to be made, so Faolan reached the third place for his performance, while Jail became second and Dexter was crowned as winner of the Enter the Arena 2017. Unfortunately, there were some sound problems on EF Prime, but that didn't affect the good mood at the Main Stage.

(cer)



Dexter's winning pose. photo: ang



Besides the dance contest, money was raised for the charity in a special auction.

photo: web

Gotta Catch 'em All!

The fursuit tagging game is just the latest addition to the popular EF App. By now, two thirds of all attendees are using it.

If people are looking at your fursuit badge these days, they might not be looking for your name, but for a six letter code. If you enter it into the EF app, you "catch" that fursuiter and they are added to your score. More than 320 people are already participating in the fursuit hunt game and more

than 500 fursuiters have already been tagged, some more than 50 times!

"The game was invented by NordicFuzzCon," explains Luchs, lead of the EF App team. "It was so popular that we were asked to make our own version." After all, more than half the EF attendees are using the Eurofurence App by now (1613 Android users, 298 iPhones and 44 Windows phones to be exact). Luchs' team of five included nifty new features this year. If

you log in, you can get reminders for your photo-shoot slots and you will even be informed if you win something in the auction.

Compare your scores

To promote the game even more, scoreboards will be set up on the hallway monitors, stoking up the friendly competition between the "collectors", but also the fursuiters. Some are already sharing their code on Twitter to get more people to tag them.

(lux)



Part of the Leaderboard. photo: fen

Impressum: Michael "Luxer" Graf (lux), "Aeverus" (aev), Peter "Akeela" Plickert (aki), Matthias "Angus" Bauer (ang), Bart "Carbine" Moonen (car), Andreas "Chitatz" Semmelmann (chi), Andreas "Curry" Wieland (cur), Till "Draugvorn" Baar (dgv), Andrea "Fenzytea" Schaefer (fen), Hannu-Heikki "hHP" Puupponen (hhp), Marc-Oliver "Kerocat" Krug (ker), Danny "Pegla" Palic (peg), "Sambars" (sam), "Sithy" (sty), Jürgen "webby" Härig (web)

HOLY CRITTERS

Ammut

There were monsters amongst the Egyptians! Ammut is the odd one out in this miniseries. She wasn't a god or demi-god, nor was she worshipped at all. No, Ammut is the personification of what Egyptians feared most: a doomed afterlife.

Ammut is a creature with the head of a crocodile, the front paws of a leopard and the back of a hippo. These were

some of the deadliest critters living in ancient Egypt but Ammut's job is perhaps more chilling: she devours the hearts of the deceased whose hearts were too heavy due to injustice or telling lies.

In the afterlife, Egyptians' hearts were weighed on a scale. On one dish of the scale was a feather belonging to the goddess of truth and justice: Ma'at. If one's heart was heavier than her feather, it meant one had not lead a very truth-

ful life. As a punishment, their hearts were thrown to Ammut. By devouring the hearts of these people, Ammut forces them to be forever lost in the afterlife, unable to find their body and reunite it with their soul. This was considered a most terrible fate, though Ammut herself was seen as a good, if scary, creature: she helped ensure no one with a heavy heart would be admitted to the afterlife. (sty)

A Pressing Matter

Like every year, Eurofurence attracts the attention of a variety of media and press. The Media Relations team handles the various requests.

On thursday we followed BlueBerry and his team when they welcomed the TV crew of ZDF's 'Hallo Deutschland' for their quest to get a glimpse of the furry fandom. During the day, reporter Andreas Korn and his crew were guided through several parts of the convention. They were shown the Fursuit Lounge and the

Dealer's Den, and, to top it off, Andreas was given the chance to do some fursuiting during the Fursuit Parade. Afterwards I sat down with Andreas to pick his brain a little about the documentary he is doing.

So where did you get the idea to come film at Eurofurence?

"I was already involved with the media coverage that 'Arte TV' did some years ago. I thought it was a fascinating subject and really wanted to do an item on it myself."

So what are your impressions so far?

"I think it is a lot bigger than I expected yet the atmosphere feels very intimate, more like a family get-together. I'm quite intrigued by how people act really casual in this to me very unusual atmosphere. Everyone has been so friendly to us so far, I feel very welcome."

How was your experience in fursuit?

"It was amazing! I was fascinated at how I almost naturally took over the role of a furry character. I actually felt different, a lot more cute and cuddly, when I was wearing the costume. I could not help but constantly feel the urge to give people hugs and smiles."

When is the documentary broadcasted?

"Somewhere in the next three weeks, a date has not been set yet. It will become available online after the TV broadcast so everyone can watch it." (car)

TIMETABLE

15:30

The Fursuit Gameshow.....
MAIN STAGE

FurryGameDev Meet & Greet.....
ECC ROOM 5

Mysterious Music Composition with Samplitude.....
STRASSBURG

Paws on Fire.....
CLUB STAGE

Savoir Vivre in Drawing.....
PARIS

18:00

Character and Creature Design....
ECC ROOM 4

Fursuit Character Development...
ECC ROOM 2

How to Design Plushies.....
ECC ROOM 5

Upcoming Work Reading - Q&A....
STRASSBURG

20:00

Egyptian Mythology, Gods and Magic.....
STRASBURG

Learning PixelArt.....
ECC ROOM 4

Plush Furs Gathering.....
ECC ROOM 5

Storytelling Through Animal People.....
PARIS

20:30

Foxes and Peppers PLUS Savannah in Concert.....
MAIN STAGE

21:00

Fureoke.....
OPEN STAGE

22:00

Eurovision Song Contest Meet & Greet.....
NIZZA

Fursonas: Types and Stereotypes.....
PARIS

IT-Furs Meet-up: Talk About Your (funny) Disasters.....
ECC ROOM 4

23:00

ClassicDance.....
MAIN STAGE



Do it! Boop the snoot gurl!

photo: chi

Uncle Kage Goes to Court

This year Uncle Kage's traditional story hour took a different path from the usual short incidents and anecdotes, delving into the bureaucratic depths of a running court battle between Kage and Anthrocon on one side, and a shady Utah-based businessman dealing in PoS, that is, Point of Sale equipment. With Fox Amooore behind his keyboard providing incidental music, the tale of

ordering, paying for and repeatedly failing to receive the desired equipment unfolded with stalling tactics and Kage's unorthodox moves, including instructions to inform the seller that Kage is a 'dangerous psychopath'.

After finally obtaining the necessary equipment for the artist alley at Anthrocon from another vendor, Uncle Kage embarked on the quest to recover the slightly over seven thousand dollars forwarded to the still non-delivering merchant. This led to many types of officials being involved, the seller failing to turn up to his day at court, where sharply dressed Kage was already waiting. After a visit to the positively huge mansion of the wrongdoer, and an attempt at confiscating his fleet of sports cars, the final result was left to be told in the bar.

(hhp)



Big Data and Fuzzy Logic

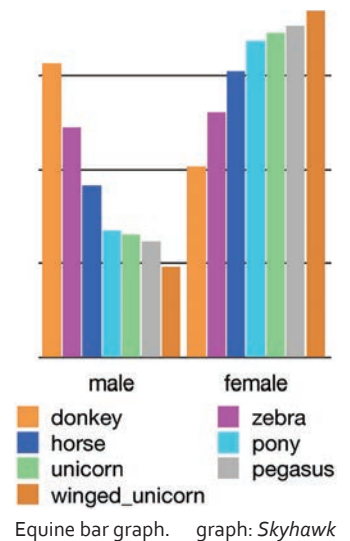
While it is widely known that furies can be quite nerdy at times, applying high-dimensional data analysis to furry art is simply a whole new level of awesome.

Yesterday, Skyhawk presented his project, in which he analysed the complete data set of favourite and tagging information from e621, a popular furry image board that started ten years ago.

Acquisition of the raw data alone, which is 3.3 GB of just text, took 4 weeks, for which he used a Python crawler running on a Raspberry Pi, a small single-board computer. The analysis was done in R, a programming language and environment for statistical computing.

Among many interesting findings and strange correlations that caused much

laughter, Skyhawk could also show that winged unicorns are also very likely to be a magical princess, not a prince, as can be seen in the bar diagram below. Sadly, we still might have to wait a bit longer until the next image we should look at can be automatically determined based on our previous favourites. (dgv)



TALKING TO (HOTEL) STAFF

GOOD IDEA

BE POLITE. KEEP IN MIND NOT ALL STAFF ARE FAMILIAR WITH FURRIES

BAD IDEA

INTRODUCE THE STAFF TO THE TRUE MEANING OF A FRENCH MAID COSTUME