

# FROM FANTASY TO REALITY

## FINAL FANTASY AND DEUS EX TURN HEADS

**W**hen Square Enix, Inc., attends E3, it attends in a big way. This year's lineup packs in a vast array of new and upcoming titles from franchises both classic and new, headlined by multiple sets of entries in the company's biggest, most popular properties.

First up, naturally, is *Final Fantasy*. With *Final Fantasy XV* nearing its September 30 release on PlayStation 4 (PS4) and Xbox One, Square Enix is showing off even more details on the latest entry in the beloved series. With a story centered on helping Prince Noctis

reclaim his throne, the game presents a fascinating mix of fantasy-style and contemporary tones, including a variety of weapons never before experienced in *Final Fantasy*. The company is also revealing details of the game's deluxe retail edition: In addition to the game itself, the box will include an exclusive Steelbook featuring artwork from legendary series artist Yoshitaka Amano, as well as the upcoming film *Kingsglaive: Final Fantasy XV* on Blu-ray. Owners of the Deluxe Edition will also get an alternate costume for Noctis, an additional in-game weapon, and a new skin for the Regalia, the characters' vehicle of choice.

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*Final Fantasy XV*



*Deus Ex:  
Mankind  
Divided*

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But this is just one piece of the *Final Fantasy* puzzle. Also on display is *Final Fantasy: Brave Exvius*, set to hit iOS and Android this summer. *Brave Exvius* is a modern take on classic *Final Fantasy* games, with a classic battle system (complete with summons) and a pixel-art style fused with 3D graphics. Meanwhile, console owners get a taste of classic Square Enix RPG style this year, courtesy of *World of Final Fantasy*—an adorable fantasy adventure involving collecting and raising classic monsters from the *Final Fantasy* franchise. *World of Final Fantasy* arrives on PS4 and PlayStation Vita (PS Vita) on October 25.

Looking further ahead, *Final Fantasy XII: The Zodiac Age* is a high-definition remaster of 2006's *Final Fantasy XII*, due in 2017 on PS4. Far more than a visual upgrade; *The Zodiac Age* also includes significant refinements to the combat and job systems. Fans of *Final Fantasy*'s massively multiplayer online game have reason to stop by the Square Enix booth as well, as the company is offering a chance to face off against one of the new bosses in the recently released *Final Fantasy XIV: Heavensward* (available now on PS4, PlayStation 3, Windows, and Mac) for the opportunity to win an "I Beat Sephiroth" T-shirt.

E3 2016 is also a big year for the cybernetically enhanced Adam Jensen, with two new *Deus Ex* games launching this summer. *Deus Ex: Mankind Divided* will follow Jensen in an all-new story

detailed his further struggles against the Illuminati. Releasing on Xbox One, PS4, and PC on August 23, *Mankind Divided* packs in an all-new gameplay mode called Breach, which adds a unique arcade-focused experience to the beloved franchise. The fast-action puzzle-shooter mode includes a strong community component, encouraging players to compete with friends to overcome regularly released challenges.

Jensen is also making an appearance on much smaller screens. *Deus Ex GO*, available this summer for phones and tablets, is the third entry in the critically acclaimed, board game-like *GO* series (following *Hitman GO* and *Lara Croft GO*). The turn-based "infiltration puzzle game" features hacking, combat, and stealth gameplay designed to be played on the go.

Not to be left out, Agent 47 is making a surprise appearance this summer in new addition to the recently released *Hitman Episode 3: Marrakesh*. July 19 will see the release of a summer bonus episode of *Hitman*, comprising two new missions set in Sapienza (the site of *Episode 2*) and Marrakesh. Titled "The Icon" and "A House Built on Sand," respectively, the missions detail Agent 47's first trips to their given locations, and serve as something of a prequel to the previous two episodes.

Beloved Square Enix franchise *Kingdom Hearts* also has a handful of new experiences on display at the show. *Kingdom Hearts HD 2.8 Final Chapter Prologue* presents

an HD remaster of Nintendo 3DS game *Kingdom Hearts 3D: Dream Drop Distance*, alongside two entirely new *Kingdom Hearts* tales. *Kingdom Hearts 0.2: Birth By Sleep – A Fragmentary Passage* follows the story of Aqua, one of the original Keyblade wielders, and offers a preview of the events in the upcoming *Kingdom Hearts III*. The package also includes *Kingdom Hearts χ Back Cover*, an hour-long cinematic that sheds light on the mysterious Foretellers.

*Final Chapter Prologue* will hit PS4 in December, but mobile players have a new opportunity to dive into the *Kingdom Hearts* world as well: *Kingdom Hearts Unchained χ* unlocks a new story connected to *Kingdom Hearts III*, and is available on iOS and Android now.

And that is but one more piece of the publisher's multifaceted RPG showing. Also on display are *Star Ocean: Integrity and Faithlessness*, which hits PS4 on June 28; the *Chrono Trigger*-inspired *I Am Setsuna* (PS4 and PC, July 19); *Dragon Quest-meets-Minecraft* game *Dragon Quest Builders* (PS4 and PS Vita, October 11); and PlatinumGames' *Nier: Automata* (PS4, early 2017).

Square Enix is also showing off four new motorcycle games, all developed by Milestone S.r.l. Motocross game *MXGP2* hits PS4, Xbox One, and PC on June 21, followed closely on the same systems by MotoGP title *Valentino Rossi: The Game* on July 26. And in the fall, *Ride 2* will give PS4, Xbox One, and PC players more than 220 motorcycles to customize

and race on legendary tracks such as Nürburgring Nordschleife and Northwest 200. Players who simply cannot wait another minute are in luck, however: *Ride* spinoff *Ducati: 90th Anniversary* lets Ducati fans race 39 bikes from the 1950s to today, and is available now on those same three systems.

Finally, the company is showing off two new titles from its indie-focused Square Enix Collective imprint. *The Turing Test* is a first-person puzzle game developed by Bulkhead Interactive, and set for an August release on PC. The game throws players into the far future to figure out the truth behind a research base on Jupiter's moon Europa. And *Black the Fall* is a sidescrolling puzzle adventure with a message: Based on developer Sand Sailor Studio's collective upbringing in Communist Romania, the game sends players through a grim, industrial world where they must avoid the attention of a totalitarian regime. The oppression begins in the third quarter of this year, on PC and consoles.

At this point, readers skimming for mention of news of a new *Tomb Raider* may be worried, but take heart: Square Enix is honoring the 20th anniversary of the seminal franchise at E3 2016. Attendees can stop by the booth for custom-engraved dog tags with the 20-year logo, as well as tune in to "Square Enix Presents" for a look back at the whole *Tomb Raider* phenomenon.

Square Enix can be found in the South Hall, booth #2001. Just be sure to set aside enough time to see everything!



Kingdom Hearts χ Back Cover



Ducati: 90th Anniversary



Kingdom Hearts HD 2.8 Final Chapter Prologue