



# International Animation Festival

24 - 26 April 2026

**D** Brighton  
Dome

[www.brightoninternationalanimationfestival.com](http://www.brightoninternationalanimationfestival.com)

[@brightonanimation](https://www.instagram.com/brightonanimation)



**- FRIDAY -**

## **at Presuming Ed's**

**1-3pm Cartoon County talk**

BIAF will be collaborating with Cartoon County hosting a discussion and screening with animator and comic artist Majid Adin.

Cartoon County has provided an umbrella for meetings, exhibitions, workshops, comic fairs and comic artists' participation for over 30 years.

## **at Brighton Unitarian Church**

**3-5pm 360 life drawing workshop**

Join Leo Crane from Packed Lunch to draw the nude and create a 2D 360 turn around animation. You'll be encouraged to consider movement in a series of sequential poses, before capturing a single pose from multiple viewpoints.

At the end of the session, you will have the chance to animate your drawings with a simple smartphone app.

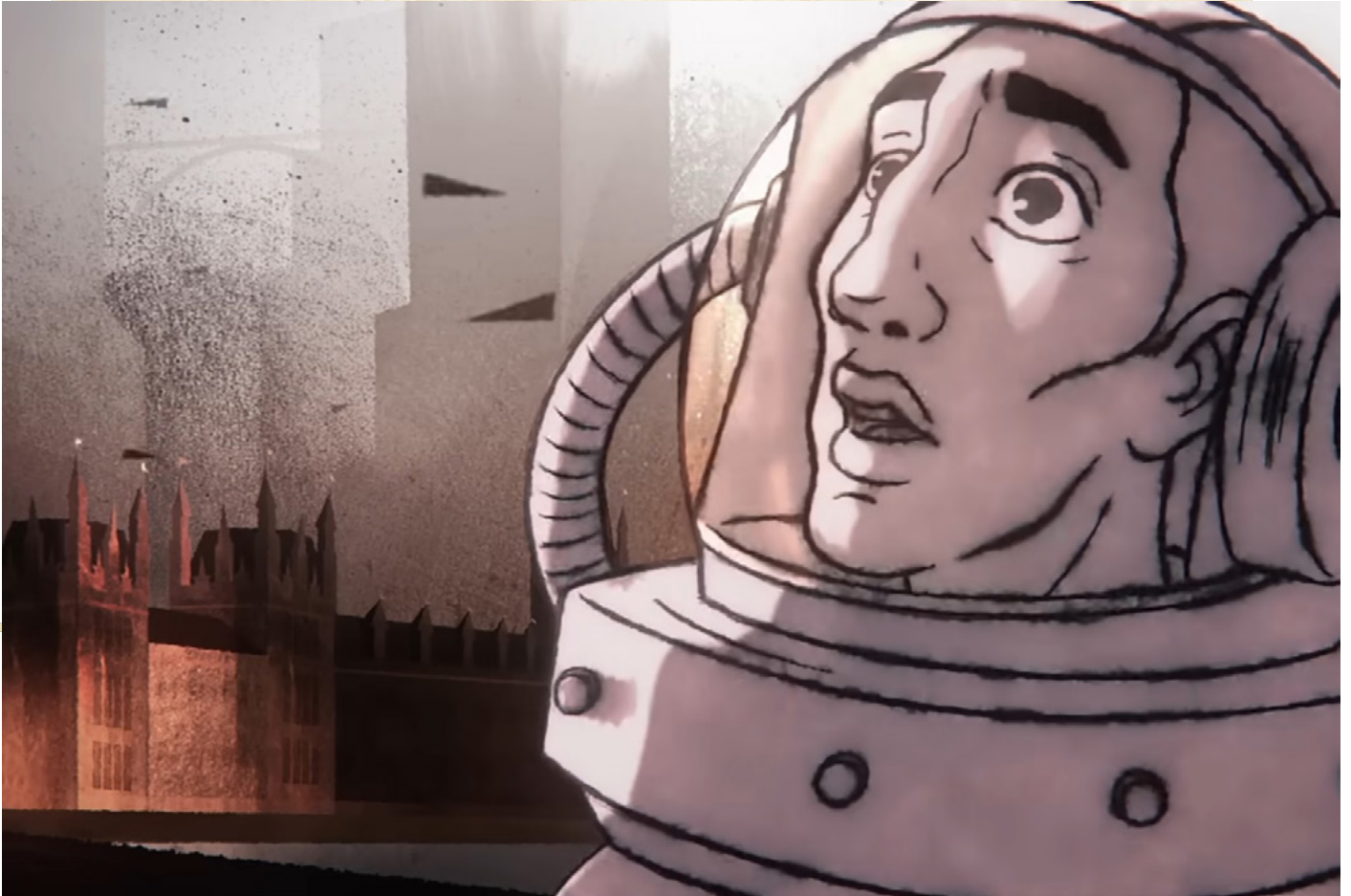
## **at Alcampo Lounge**

**6-8pm - Festivus Meet Up**

Annual animation meet up at Alcampo Lounge! Join the Festivus community, have a drink and make some friends!

*Accessible and gender-neutral bathroom available at this venue*

# 1-3pm Cartoon County - Animation Talk -



BIAF will be collaborating with Cartoon County hosting a discussion and screening with animator and comic artist Majid Adin.

Majid Adin is an award-winning animator, best known for his video made for a rerelease of Elton John's iconic song Rocket Man and "Women, Life, Freedom" (2024). He is currently working on his first graphic novel Hamid and Shakespeare, inspired by his experiences of being imprisoned and politically exiled from Iran.

Cartoon County has provided an umbrella for meetings, exhibitions, workshops, comic fairs and comic artists' participation for over 30 years.

Free but please buy a drink at the bar

*Location: Presuming Ed's, 14-115 London Rd, Brighton and Hove,  
Brighton BN1 4JG*

# 3-5pm 360 life drawing - Animation Workshop -



Join Leo Crane from Packed Lunch to draw the nude and create a 2D 360 turn around animation. You'll be encouraged to consider movement in a series of sequential poses, before capturing a single pose from multiple viewpoints. At the end of the session, you will have the chance to animate your drawings with a simple smartphone app. All materials are provided, just bring your smartphone!

*Location: Brighton Unitarian Church, New Road, BN1 1UF (opposite The Dome)*

# 6-8pm Festivus - Animation Meetup -

festivus  
brighton

Festivus is a regular animation industry meet up and they will be coming to mingle with us in Brighton! Come down, have a drink and meet some new animation friends and contacts. From humble beginnings in the back streets of London in the early 2000s, the FESTIVUS community has grown over 20 years, via regular in-person events and an active social media presence, to being a hub of animation talent, with over 11,000 global members.

No ticket needed - just show up!

*Location: Alcampo Lounge, 84-86 London Rd, Brighton and Hove, Brighton BN1 4JF  
(private area - to the left as you walk in)*

*Accessible and gender-neutral bathroom available at this venue*

# All Weekend REVOLUTION

## - AR Exhibition -



This year's augmented reality exhibition is on the theme of REVOLUTION. You can watch the animations come to life from the artwork by downloading the Eyejack app for free from your usual app store. Using the app, hold up your phone to capture the QR code, this will activate the animation.

Exhibiting Artists: Begüm Çikrikcioğlu, Sally Pearce, Alice Cox, Maxwell Silver, Zhiai Bai, Jingyi Shen, Emma Kelly, Zeynep Akcay & Christine Veras, Lanyue Zhang & Chuxi Tan, Hugo Becerril Ramírez, Anushka Khemka & Selin Öztürk, Meara Withe.

*Location: Gallery Bar, Brighton Dome Studio Theatre, 29 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UG*  
*Accessible bathroom available at this venue*

# All Weekend - VR Exhibition -



Bringing you the first ever VR hub at BIAF! In collaboration with East Sussex College come and have an interactive experience from the works of international and local artists Kris Hofman and Kim Noce. There will be 4 headsets available to immerse yourself with assistance from students from East Sussex College.

Saturday public opening times: 2–5.30pm

Sunday public opening times: 1.30–5pm

Free, just drop in

*Location: Brighton Unitarian Church, New Road, BN1 1UF (opposite The Dome)*

# - SATURDAY -

## at Brighton Dome

11.30am New Generation 75'

1.30pm Artists Film 76'

4pm Industry talk - Golden Wolf 60'

4-6pm WIA meet up

6pm The Female Gaze 76'

8pm You've Got to Laugh 71'

All Day (from 11:30am)  
AR Exhibition: REVOLUTION

*Location: Brighton Dome Studio Theatre, 29 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UG  
Accessible bathroom available at this venue*

# 11:30am - New Generation

Look out for the next generation of filmmakers in this showcase of the best cutting edge of talent from both UK and International. Recovery, washing up and queer identity are just some of the topics covered by this new generation of filmmakers, expect to see work from countries including Iran, France and Australia through to UK.

	<p><b>The Path of Sounds</b>, Dir. Tom Raijasse &amp; David Nguyen 8' (France)</p> <p>In a peaceful valley lulled by music, Oudi and Melody live in harmony, making plants in their path. But one day, as Oudi is carried away by the music he creates, an accident occurs and threatens the established harmony.</p>
	<p><b>MRI</b>, Dir. Dougal Vecqueray 4' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>What if your standard MRI scan suddenly turned into a psychedelic space thriller halfway through?</p>
	<p><b>How To Build A Sand Castle</b>, Dir. Nour Khamis 4' (Ecuador)</p> <p>A girl follows a call from the shore into the sea. A castle rises. She is taken inside. She returns carrying something unseen, and the shore is no longer quite the same.</p>
	<p><b>About being a mother</b>, Dir. Haiyi Liao 2' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>The documentary film of a mother talking about her experiences and thinking about being a mother. The role of mother often has more responsibilities than we think. Whether for the child or the mother herself.</p>
	<p><b>Nanu!</b>, Dir. Ansh Sirohi 8' (India)</p> <p>How do you cancel an online order? My grandfather -Nanu- certainly has no idea. Online shopaholic Nanu accidentally orders too many geysers. He employs the tech support of his granddaughter Ansh to cancel the order before Nani finds out.</p>
	<p><b>BUG</b>, Dir. Ali Masoumi 6' (Iran, Islamic Republic of)</p> <p>A family of three settles into a new home, where a little girl curiously explores her unfamiliar surroundings until a stray cricket slips inside. Her father's unexpected reaction transforms the fleeting encounter into a moment that quietly unsettles her understanding of safety.</p>

# 11:30am - New Generation



**100 Degrees**, Dir. Millie Watson 4' (United Kingdom)

A short letter, in which, feelings of nostalgia and longing are catalyzed by a summer heatwave.



**NOT OKAY**, Dir. Shariq Puthen Peediakkal 2' (India)

A In a parallel narrative set in 19th-century and present-day Kerala, two women separated by time face public humiliation over their bodies, revealing how moral policing evolves in form while remaining fundamentally unchanged.



**OverThreaded**, Dir. Lysander Wong 1' (United Kingdom)

A frantic journey into the mind of a fibre artist overwhelmed by their ideas, where the pursuit of new projects is never-ending and full of motion.



**RECEIPTS**, Dir. Kai Francis 2' (United Kingdom)

A forgotten receipt turns an everyday occurrence, into a full-on social nightmare.



**Mission: WASH DISHES DON'T DIE**, Dir. Miki Flett 3' (Australia)

How could washing dishes lead to a life-or-death situation? Quin finds out that her missing bra pad has been used as a sponge. After finding the culprit is her housemate, Ian, she interrupts his video call with his online girlfriend. Due to obscure misunderstandings, Quin must fight her to the death.



**TOAST**, Dir. Ying Long 1' (United Kingdom)

Two exhausted office workers trying to relax by the river, only to be interrupted by a mischievous pigeon.



**Touch Grass**, Dir. Emmanuel Edem Foli 4' (United Kingdom)

A Ghanaian artist facing a creative block steps outside his studio, where unexpected encounters spark new inspiration.

# 11:30am - New Generation



## **Our Lady of Rot**, Dir. Bibi Erjavec 5' (Slovenia)

We find ourselves in a post-apocalyptic world of half-decayed skeletons. Here, flesh itself has become a rarity and possessing any is seen as both a privilege and a responsibility.



## **Nanny Pat**, Dir. Flora Webb 2' (United Kingdom)

'Nanny Pat' is a mixed-media homage film, celebrating the life of Patricia Ellen Mitchell, who sadly passed away a few years ago. The continuous shot, passing through childhood memories, serves as a journey through grief and nostalgia, executed through a combination of 2D hand-drawn, risograph print and collage animation.



## **I**, Dir. Chih-Chen Hsu 4' (Taiwan)

Candles are flickering. In the dark, endless dreamscape, where do I find myself?



## **Apple Gatherers**, Dir. Danielle Rhoda Addae-Boatenga 9' (United Kingdom)

Two workers in a cider factory, imprisoned in a world of monotony and detachment, find a fleeting spark of human connection amid the machinery.



## **Overdue**, Dir. Rodrigo Malnati 6' (United Kingdom)





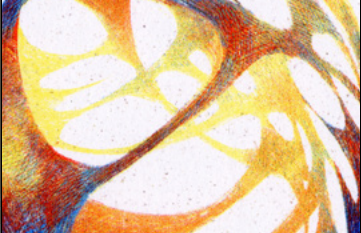
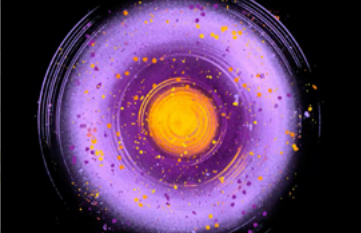

A man's catastrophic thoughts are thrown into a spin when he forgets his laundry in the washing machine for too long.

# 1.30pm - Artists Film




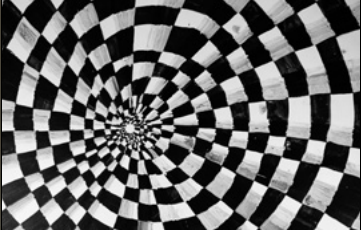

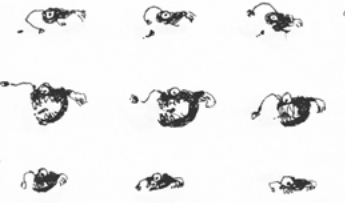

The joy of animation is its diversity of the medium both in form and ideation. This collection of films explore more experimental and non linear approaches to animation including pin screen, lithographic printing and hand painting from countries including Japan, Georgia and Croatia through to UK.

	<p><b>Check</b>, Dir. Anita Gill 1' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>A short film about OCD checking and the anxious inner struggle that can often be invisible to others. The aim of Check is to convey this feeling of anxiety, urgency and frustration through beautiful, abstract visuals and looping, chaotic sounds.</p>
	<p><b>REST</b>, Dir. Ryotaro Miyajima 5' (Japan)</p> <p>When immersed in the contours swelling and waning in the forest of needles, the mundane world drifts away, and we only live to breathe.</p>
	<p><b>Warp and Weft</b>, Dir. Isolda Milenkovic 4' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>A love letter to the act of hand-making, traditional craft practices, and the people who love them. Stemming from the fear of these artforms slipping away in a society that no longer values the human labour behind them.</p>
	<p><b>Traces</b>, Dir. Tilly Wallace 6' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>There is a photograph of a child left on the moon, a golf ball, flags, a lost glove. When the glamour of space exploration fades, what remains?</p>
	<p><b>Mini Horse</b>, Dir. David Wischer 1' (United States)</p> <p>Composed of 230 Risograph-printed frames, Mini Horse transforms a video confessional from an online social strategy game into a fragmented portrait of competition, paranoia, and humor.</p>
	<p><b>Choo,choo,choo,choose</b>, Dir. Xiaohan Sun 2' (China)</p> <p>A little girl is ignored by her mother during a long conversation with a neighbor, and in her desperation, she wonders if only her death would make them stop.</p>
	<p><b>Lights, Haze</b>, Dir. Tata Managadze 8' (Georgia)</p> <p>Utopian symbolic playgrounds from memories are interconnected through sharp, flickering lights.</p>

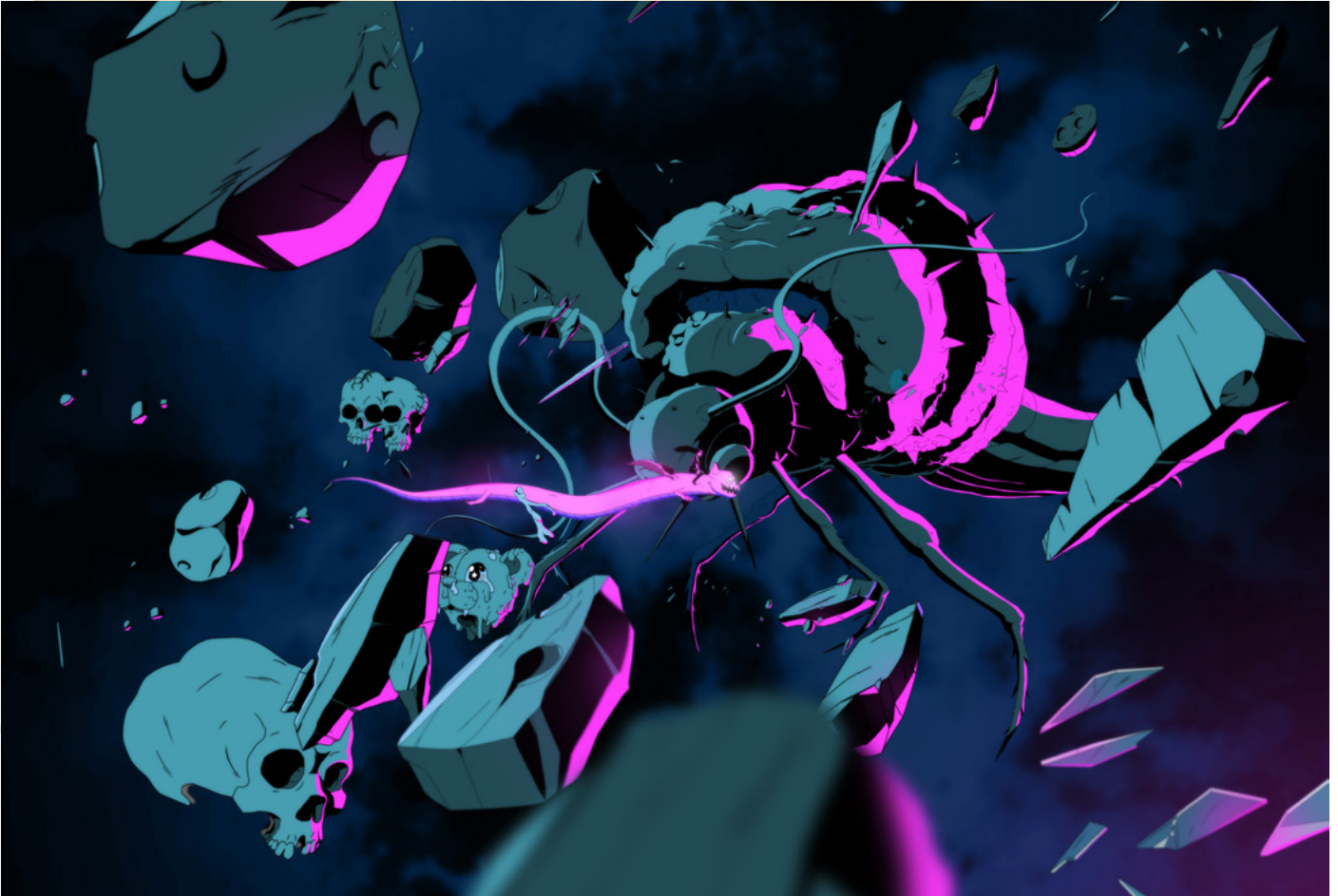
# 1.30pm - Artists Film

	<p><b>Steeping</b>, Dir. Eilidh Nicoll 3' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>Strangers unite over tea and coffee to stir up a conversation about death and dying.</p>
	<p><b>走 (zǒu)</b>, Dir. Hannah Wu 4" (United Kingdom)</p> <p>A journey through the pages of my mother's old Chinese-English dictionary, feat. tigers, socialists and roundabouts. Combining ink drawings on paper with direct animation on 35mm film, various definitions of the Chinese character for 'walk' take on meanings in turn literal, historical, personal and abstract.</p>
	<p><b>Opto Optics</b>, Dir. Pearl Seemann 4' (Germany)</p> <p>A man enters a corner store trying to obtain ingredients for his dinner. On his way home, creatures follow him - even invading his food. They then invite him on a journey that takes him apart and reassembles him completely.</p>
	<p><b>1976: Search for Life</b>, Dir. Tess Martin 11' (Netherlands)</p> <p>A new father visits the hometown of his mother in 1976, accompanied by his wife and baby. At the same time, the NASA Viking lander is sending the first images back to Earth from the surface of another planet.</p>
	<p><b>Endo</b>, Dir. Eleanor Szydłowska 1' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>An abstract 3-ink risograph animation exploring endometriosis tissue acting as a parasite taking root in the body of its host. Produced as an ident for London International Animation Festival 2025's Abstract Showcase category.</p>
	<p><b>senses alight</b>, Dir. Gülberk Elif Boşgelmez 2' (Turkey)</p> <p>"senses alight" is a short poetry animation about the shifting weight of existence. It explores the self as a canvas for inner senses.</p>
	<p><b>Tulipomania: Shines On</b>, Dir. Cheryl Gelover &amp; Tom Murray 3' (United States)</p> <p>A light from long ago shines on – a paeon to ambiguity and endurance in this animation for music that inspired acclaimed author Jeff VanderMeer while creating Absolution, the highly anticipated addition to the best-selling Southern Reach series.</p>

# 1.30pm - Artists Film

	<p><b>Orgasm – In 5 Acts</b>, Dir. Beatrice Pucci 5' (Italy)</p> <p>Orgasm – In 5 Acts is a pulsating sequence of matter and desire. Five acts, five techniques, five beats of a body that doesn't exist—yet vibrates. Forms stretch, tremble, burst. Each motion is friction, jolt, accumulation. Orgasm is not an end, but a rupture in rhythm—a flash tearing across vision. Pleasure becomes trajectory, impulse, collision: matter in motion, spent and renewed.</p>
	<p><b>Mother Tongue</b>, Dir. Duncan Senkumba 3' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>A loving portrait of Uganda, Duncan Senkumba's Mother Tongue leads the viewer on an animated journey through city streets and wild landscapes to explore the fine balance between urban life and the natural world, from the bustle of Kampala's markets to the rolling hills of the country's national parks.</p>
	<p><b>Action Bog</b>, Dir. Winston Hacking 1' (Canada)</p> <p>Time stretches like soft polymer; metamorphoses creep forward frame by frame, suspiciously slow, as if the film were watching me back.</p>
	<p><b>D4 or E4?</b>, Dir. Umang Mankodiya 4' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>Experience the artistry of chess in 'D4 or E4?', an experimental short documentary that blurs the lines between game and art. Watch as the chessboard transforms into a canvas of abstract shapes and lines, reflecting the players' inner turmoil and triumphs.</p>
	<p><b>When We Meet</b>, Dir. Jason Giglio 1' (United States)</p> <p>Love in wartime. Inspired by words attributed to Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish. Completed as part of "To Gaza with Love: A Global Anijam.</p>
	<p><b>So Many Different Things</b>, Dir. Sakshi Jain 3' (United States)</p> <p>A gridded series of over 1500 improvised drawings in a tiny sketchbook, each smaller than a centimeter, compiled digitally into an animation.</p>
	<p><b>Moral Support</b>, Dir. Vuk Jevremovic 4' (Croatia)</p> <p>Film inspired by music of Band Laibach. 1923 fighting between communist miners and profashists in ex Yugoslavia.</p>

# 4pm - Industry talk - Golden Wolf



This years industry talk will be with Golden Wolf! Come down with questions, learn more about their studio and the animation industry!

Golden Wolf is an award-winning creative agency founded in 2013, with offices in London and New York. The studio has built a global reputation for crafting bold motion & design that blends unconventional humour with youthful energy. Golden Wolf's portfolio spans commercial campaigns, social content, AR/VR experiences and more. Known for its fast-paced visual dynamism and shareable impact, the creative agency's approach blends emerging technology with artistry and strategy. Alongside close partners like Doodles and Take Your Medicine, Golden Wolf is redefining the entertainment and advertising landscape by turning ideas into lasting experiences.

If there are any BSL users please email [brightonanimation@gmail.com](mailto:brightonanimation@gmail.com) in advance to activate access for this talk.

*Location: Brighton Dome Studio Theatre, 29 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UG  
Accessible bathroom available at this venue*

4 - 6pm  
WIA meet up



Join jury member Amy Ashton as she hosts a WIA (Women in animation) meet up in the Dome bar area in the festival hub.

Free - just show up!

They will then be going on to The Female Gaze screening.

*Location: Gallery Bar, Brighton Dome Studio Theatre, 29 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UG*  
*Accessible bathroom available at this venue*

# 6pm - The Female Gaze

In second wave feminism Laura Mulvey presented the concept of The Male Gaze. This programme subverts this and presents a selection of films either presenting the female experience or the world through the eyes of a female director. Including documentary, narrative and experimental from countries including Palestine, Netherlands and UK.



**If I Raised My Mother**, Dir. Bhavna Madan 2' (United Kingdom)

A daughter wonders what she would've done differently if she had raised her mother.



**A Bloody Situation**, Dir. Nerian Keywan 6' (Palestine, State of, United Kingdom)

When Ms Moodswings interrupts her ordinary day, Nara's childhood dissolves into a surreal coming-of-age journey to find solace inside chaos.



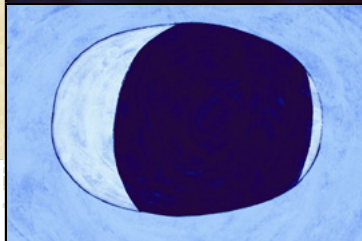
**Curfew**, Dir. Faye Craig 5' (United Kingdom)

There's a new curfew in town, but what the fuck is it for? Mavis and Naomi are about to find out...



**House of Broken Hearts**, Dir. Aisha Madu 14' (Netherlands)

18-year-old Anna follows her beating heart into her first romantic relationships, which manifest around her as clingy, alluring and comforting pieces of furniture.



**Unanimated Strangers**, Dir. Róisín Sinai 5' (Ireland)

Surrounded by strangers, a woman's memories of her past relationship unravel and mesh with the people around her.

# 6pm - The Female Gaze

	<p><b>Qamajai</b>, Dir. Yerkezhan Sabitbekova 3' (Germany)</p> <p>In the hush of shadows, where darkness leaves its mark, women gather, weaving their pain into a powerful dance.</p>
	<p><b>I'm not sure</b>, Dir. Luisa Zürcher 10' (Switzerland)</p> <p>Insight into the filmmaker's stay in hospital, where she repeatedly experiences absurd, funny moments between pain, homesickness and disgust of her own body.</p>
	<p><b>What does it feel like to have ADHD?</b>, Dir. Robert Glassford 1' (United Kingdom)</p> <p>Mia has ADHD, she is going to tell you all about it.</p>
	<p><b>polliwog</b>, Dir. Julia Skala 9' (Germany)</p> <p>On a forest home trip with her classmates, ten year old Marlene is struggling with her early pubescent, changing body. She feels all alone with her troubles - until she meets an oddly developed tadpole whom she is weirdly identifying with.</p>
	<p><b>Words of Her</b>, Dir. Charlene Xu 9' (United States)</p> <p>A distressed woman's soliloquy.</p>
	<p><b>Wish You Were Ear</b>, Dir. Mirjana Balogh 10' (Hungary)</p> <p>In a world where ex-partners have to swap a chosen body part after breaking up, someone rediscovers their former ear on someone else. A journey towards self-acceptance begins.</p>

# 8pm - You've Got to Laugh

Introducing the first ever comedy programme to BIAF! When the world is turning dystopian it's good to laugh, these collection of films contain a more light hearted comedic perspective of the world. Expect amorous tooth brushes, sushi parties and judo dogs in this collection from countries including Singapore, Austria through to UK.



**Jazz Emu: Fun Kitai Furai Dei**, Dir. Hunter Allen 4' (United Kingdom)

A young boy gets a mysterious visitor from a distant planet.



**Brush Me**, Dir. Nikolaus Jantsch 2' (Austria)

In a bustling bathroom, amidst the chaos of everyday life, two toothbrushes, find themselves drawn to each other. "Brush me" is a heartwarming tale of love, loss, and the resilience of the toothbrush spirit.



**i have a**, Dir. Rory Waudby-Tolley 5' (United Kingdom)

A man lists the things that he has.



**'Peaches' Bunker (Dog Judo)**, Dir. Andrew Kelleher 2' (United Kingdom)

Would you like it if you found a war-hardened shih-tzu living in your basement? This film explores all that.



**DUCKS**, Dir. AJ Jefferies 5' (United Kingdom)

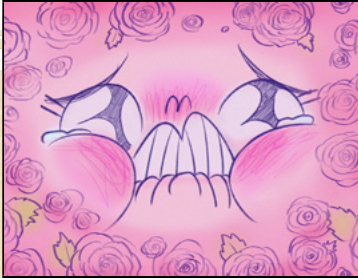
A perfectly normal day in the park...



**FRIED!**, Dir. Lizzie Watts 10' (United Kingdom)

As Dev drives home from a mysterious, aging nuclear facility, he becomes stranded at an isolated emu farm run by old mystic lesbians. Suspicious of their intentions, Dev fears they will sacrifice him at the local stone circle.

# 8pm - You've Got to Laugh



**Kiss Me Climax**, Dir. Shara Tay 4' (Singapore)

The latest chapter of her favourite manga awakens something in a girl that makes her question the reality she's experiencing. Navigating through her imagination and worlds, she searches for her own confidence and hopefully... the bean



**YAK**, Dir. Trevor Hardy 1' (United Kingdom)

Everyone loves a yak.



**Angry Cars**, Dir. Shaun Clark 7' (United Kingdom)

In the brutal chaos of life on the London roads, cars clash, flirt, and fume in this savage reflection of humanity's impatience and absurdity.



**Chef Gustav**, Dir. Luke Frangeskou 3' (United Kingdom)

A proud chef is cooking a fancy meal and is forced to fight a mischievous cat who will stop at nothing to steal the food he is cooking.



**The Undying Pain of Existence**, Dir. Franz Rügamer 5' (Germany)

A nude model is posing with statuesque stillness for an elite drawing class – until an unfortunate mosquito bite challenges his self-control. Driven to madness by the itch, he's caught between the ruthless demand for perfection and his most unhinged, animalistic impulses.



**Service Bus**, Dir. Elmer Lødemel 4' (Denmark)

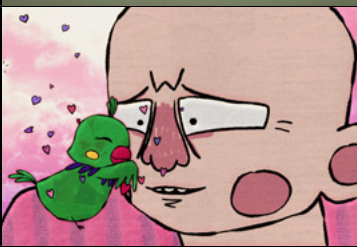
We all know the service button on airplanes, but what about the ones on buses? When a bored traveler stumbles upon one, his curiosity gets the better of him. But with only the bus driver on duty, pressing it might lead to unexpected consequences.

# 8pm - You've Got to Laugh



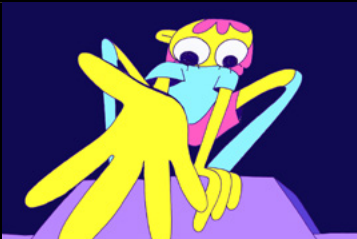
**Meal Deal**, Dir. Niamh McArdle, Amy Mulcahy, Anais Mia Diane Kheir 4' (United Kingdom)

One day I'll get that seagull, one day I'll get that bastard!



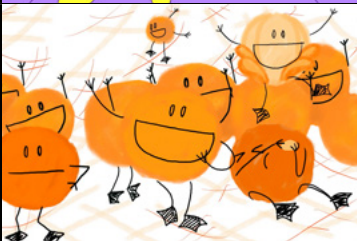
**The Last Gammon**, Dir. Elmaz Ekrem 9' (United Kingdom)

The Last GammonDave is on a mission to find the last gammon in London for his bird's brekkie, and nothing — not even the impending apocalypse — can stop him.



**BUS!**, Dir. Asta Azopardi 2' (United Kingdom)

In this 2 minute blast of energy, an ex-bus driver escapes purgatory.



**Easy Peelers**, Dir. Alice Cox 1' (United Kingdom)

A bag of Easy Peelers choose their own destiny. A wild ride of excitement, anticipation, and a little bit of violence.



**sushi party**, Dir. Ka Lok Sobel Chan 3' (Hong Kong)

A group of sushi suddenly come alive and have a crazy party in kitchen.

**- SUNDAY -**

**at Brighton Dome**

**12pm - The Natural World 73'**

**2pm - Puppet Stories 74'**

**4pm - Emma Calder retrospective 69'**

**6pm - Queer as F++k 73'**

**8pm - Long shorts/closing night awards 60'**

**All Day (from 11:30am)  
AR Exhibition: REVOLUTION**

*Location: Brighton Dome Studio Theatre, 29 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UG  
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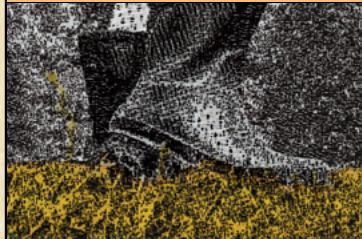
# 12pm - The Natural World

Nature, the environment and creatures of the earth are the focus of this programme. Expect tigers, whales and woodland forests in this programme from countries including Ireland, Canada and Bulgaria through to UK.



**The Dog in the Long Grass**, Dir. Seb Cox 5' (United Kingdom)

Haunted by a glimpse of Death in the form of a black dog, a man embarks on a desperate search across the Sussex landscape, determined to ask them a life-changing question.



**Whose Woods Are These**, Dir. Kate Nartker 7' (United States)

A haunting family mystery unfolds through woven fabric in this animated short, where traditional craft meets contemporary storytelling to explore memory, heritage, and the connection between cloth and narrative.



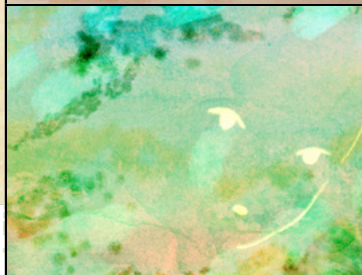
**A Parable**, Dir. Jeremiah Dickey 1' (United States)

A lone traveler finds enlightenment at the end of the road.



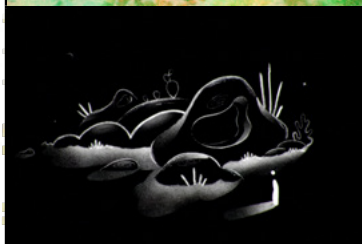
**Surprisingly Beautiful**, Dir. Kathryn Ann Jankowski 7' (Canada)

When a seemingly ordinary moth arrives unannounced, an artist finds herself compelled to preserve a hidden marvel.



**Funeral of the Earth**, Dir. Jaewon Park 5' (United Kingdom)

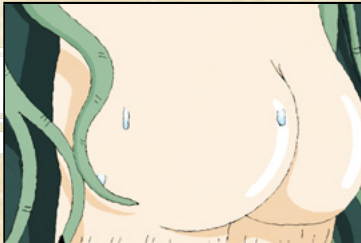
Dusts are pilgrims who drift through Earth's time, witnessing the age of humanity before arriving at the death of the Earth, carrying planetary memory within them. As Earth passes away, Dusts gather to perform a funerary ritual that commemorates the past era and marks the birth of a new one.



**Sky Deverel - RUN**, Dir. Michelle Brand 4' (Germany)

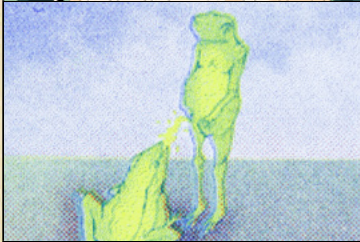
The dreamer wakes up in abstract vastness. In this surreal space, terrain is unfixed and moves in time. As the dreamer starts running from the impermanent, they come to accept the unknown. Nothing can remain still.

# 12pm - The Natural World



**The Hole**, Dir. Enter Here 8' (Hong Kong)

In a quiet estate park, a strict new guard silences joy—until his own buried longing for freedom begins to break through.



**The Rabbit Always Dies**, Dir. Oona Taper 9' (United States)

An experimental documentary that reveals facts and fantasies of the history of pregnancy tests from the 1930s-60s which relied on the use of live frogs and rabbits.



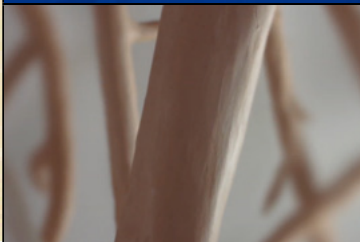
**WildKind**, Dir. John McDaid 7' (United Kingdom)

WildKind is a poem painted to awaken the senses, a fluid journey of hope and healing across our shared watercolour Motherland.



**Puddle**, Dir. Ruijing Yang 1' (United Kingdom)

The constrained yet beautiful existence of an ordinary, roadside puddle.



**Ce Que Je Vois | That Which I See**, Dir. Maï Calon 8' (Belgium)

'Ce Que Je Vois' is a love letter to trees — and to everything that reveals itself when we stop and take time to see and breathe.



**Disturbia**, Dir. Mira Yankova 6' (Bulgaria)

Before our very eyes a strange human-bird hybrid undergoes constant transformation to cope with the omnipresent tensions of economical, ideological, military, and climatic threats.



**KT Tunstall - Cancerian (Official Video)**, Dir. Amy Lucas 3' (United Kingdom)

In the official video for "Cancerian," a previously unreleased track from KT Tunstall's debut-era archives, the singer enters a cosmic boxing ring to battle zodiac versions of her friends. Brought to life through vibrant, layered digital collage, the film is a punchy, playful explosion of astrology and imagination.

# 2pm - Puppet Stories

Puppet based stop frame animation was pioneered in the early twentieth century in the former eastern bloc countries including former Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. We can still see the influence of these pioneers today in this selection of narrative based figurative films from countries including Mexico, Brazil, Armenia through to UK. Expect beautiful craft and tactile puppet making.



**Running Late**, Dir. Alistair Nicholls 6' (United Kingdom)

A stop-motion animated film about one mans surreal morning routine.



**'A Clayful Adventure'**, Dir. Florence Macleod 4' (United Kingdom)

Discarded Clay takes on Smug Ceramic with shocking consequences. Can they learn to understand and accept one another?



**Hot Mess**, Dir. Tortor Smith 3' (United Kingdom)

Hot Mess offers an insight into ADHD in a compact and creative way, highlighting the damage and anxiety that can be caused by a well-meaning, but ultimately toxic, parent.



**Yugen**, Dir. Nayelli Ojeda 6' (Mexico)

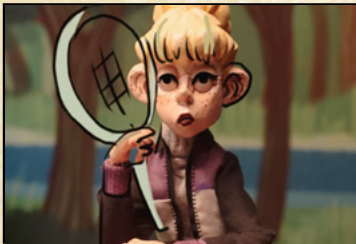
Under a magical rain that overtakes her valley, a girl made of ceramics finds the courage to defy the water that could shatter her and awaken the last giant, restoring harmony to the sky.



**Pietra**, Dir. Enter Here 13' (Portugal)

In daydreaming about unlikely relationships, the flower - as delicate as it is revolutionary - represents an act of love amidst the suffocation and embrace of a classic Portuguese neighborhood.

# 2pm - Puppet Stories



**Ace**, Dir. Fanny Capu 5' (United Kingdom)

In a world where tennis is as much an obsession as sex, Amy just doesn't see the appeal. When her date masks his nerves with the confidence of a pro, she wonders if they have anything in common at all.



**Kabuki**, Dir. Tiago Minamisawa 13' (Brazil)

Kabuki lives in a male body that she does not recognize. Without identity she awakens the Soul. In the impermanence of the material body, she Transcends.



**Mother of Dawn**, Dir. Clara Trevisan 8' (Brazil)

In the void of night, a hungry creature looks for food and perpetuates an everyday cycle.



**Winter in March**, Dir. Natalia Mirzoyan 16' (Armenia, Belgium, Estonia, France)

Helpless against a repressive state, a young couple leaves the country – an escape that turns into a surreal nightmare.

# 4pm - Emma Calder retrospective



The Brighton International Animation Festival is honoured to host a retrospective of our friend the great British Animation legend Emma Calder. It will include new film *House of Love* which she was working on when she sadly passed away and was finished by her team, an extract of which was part of the 2024 AR exhibition.

Emma was part of the festival the last couple of years, winning Best UK film in 2023 for *Beware of Trains*, and participating in the AR exhibition in 2024. She always brought great energy, humour and discussion to every event she was part of, and of course brilliant work.

As well as developing her own career Emma was a massive figure in UK animation pioneering for change, notably working with the Animation Alliance.

This retrospective will showcase earlier works through to 'Not Daft' a piece on hearing loss she was also developing alongside *House of Love* when she passed away. Behind the scenes talks both formally from Animate Projects and informally at London Animation Club are interspersed throughout the programme to illuminate the works further.

Thanks to the Pearly Oyster team and Emmas family for assisting in putting together this material. There will be a panel discussion with some of her team after the screening:

Harriet Titlow - Producer, Sofia Negri - Animator, artworking,  
Luke Ramsay - Lead compositor, animator, artworking

# 6pm - Queer as F\*\*\*k

Queer as F++K is back! Special curated out of competition annual programme of Queer Animation that explores an array of contemporary queer culture. Expect trans identity, parental relations and cosmic kisses in array of narrative and documentary films from countries including Taiwan, Argentina and Italy through to UK



**Two Black Boys in Paradise**, Dir. Baz Sells 9' (United Kingdom)

Eden (19) and Dula (18) are two Black boys on a journey of self-acceptance. Their love for each other, and their refusal to hide it, lands them in a paradise free from shame and judgement. Based on the poem by Dean Atta.



**Wavelength**, Dir. Toffee Hammer 4' (United Kingdom)

Two people tune into each other across the noise of the world. When the signal fades, what remains?



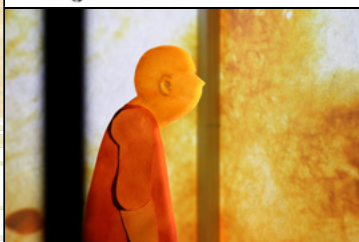
**404 Page Not Found**, Dir. Gina Kamensky 1' (United States)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have been instructed by the Trump administration to pause or retract any periodical or journal article that references specific LGBT topics, with agency staff allegedly being provided a list of words that must be removed from all publications.



**You Are Not Part of The Cake**, Dir. Ting-Jui Chen 5' (Taiwan, United Kingdom)

A girl kills her girlfriend's abusive, homophobic father and makes him into a cake to celebrate the rebirth of her girlfriend's life.



**Making It Fit**, Dir. Mariana Leal 5' (United Kingdom)

A short documentary film about how the LGBTQIA+ community has been reinventing funerary and remembrance rituals to better support and reflect the way people live in community.



**Luz Diabla**, Dir. Patricio Gabriel Plaza, Paula Boffo, Gervasio Canda 11' (Argentina)

Martín, a flamboyant urban raver, is involved in a strange accident on the road on his way to a party in the middle of the Argentine Pampas. Finding refuge in a mysterious country grocery store and sheltered by two strange locals, Martín's paranoia begins to take over him. As the hours progress, his perception begins to distort, unleashing disturbing visions that will lead him to confront the supernatural forces that hide in the night.

# 6pm - Queer as F\*\*\*k



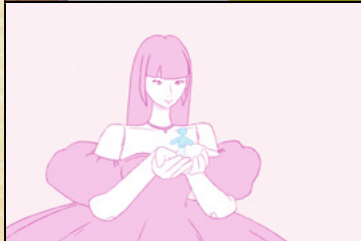
**Mis-Angel**, Dir. Wyatt Carson 5' (United Kingdom)

Mis-Angel is a love story between two people who will never meet. A transgender girl explores an overlap of gender and sexual fantasy as she recalls a brief interaction with a stranger at a bus stop.



**Wishes Of The Dead**, Dir. Prashanti Aswani 4' (United Kingdom)

A short film that ponders honouring the wishes of loved ones who have passed away.



**Doll Searching**, Dir. Felix Cheng 3' (United Kingdom)

A young boy goes into a toy store, and ultimately realises that he wants to play with dolls. While he ventures the store he tries to avoid getting caught by others as well as trying to please his mother.



**And a Little for Me**, Dir. Kathryn Roake 6' (United States)

What begins as a typical, summer beach day: an afternoon of surf, sun and dinner, escalates into a theft and a riot. Why?



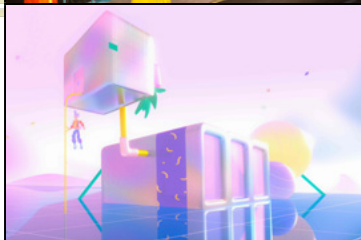
**Air**, Dir. Anna Firth 3' (United States)

Two artists keep warm in the legacy of an esteemed summer residency.



**placeholder**, Dir. Elisa Beli Borrelli 7' (Ireland)

A young transmasculine person from a far away land finds a new home in the country of Ireland, but its problems quickly start to take a toll on him.



**Gravity**, Dir. Robotina 9' (Italy)

Gravity tells the story of an ordinary individual in a dystopian world, in which gravity is inverted.

# 8pm - Long shorts / closing night awards

Long Shorts programme followed by awards ceremony - find out who the judges have chosen for Best International, Best UK, Best Student film and Best AR award!

Followed by drinks, mingling and great chat



**KYIV CAKE (Kiievi tort)**, Dir. Rutt Raudkivi 22' (Estonia, Ukraine)

A family in Ukraine and the difficulties they face.



**"2nd Day & the End of the World"**, Dir. Sara Koppel 12' (Denmark)

A colorful hyper story of dysfunctional family life. About powerlessness in society & processes of detachment. About self-discovery, loneliness & body expectations in a Climate Catastrophic Contemporary Universe.



**LARVAL**, Dir. Alice Bloomfield 12' (United Kingdom)

Isolated and lonely a girl craves beauty and fame, hoping to win the heart of her unrequited love. In a surreal turn of events she realises she should have been more careful what she wished for.



**BUDŌ**, Dir. Amanda Aagard 15' (Sweden)

A lonely widow finds comfort in the company of a hungry stray cat, which soon takes over her life in unimaginable ways.

# - Festival Credits -

## **Festival Director and Curator**

Kate Jessop

## **Film Editor**

Deb Espect

## **Festival Assistant**

Meara Withe

## **Poster Design**

Dave Pop

**Massive thanks to festival  
volunteers, funders and sponsors!**

## **Front of house**

Abraham Sancha  
Millie Watson  
Giulia Chen

## **Sponsorship**

Ceri Barnes

## **Instagram**

Layla Skedaddle

Keep informed of future events by signing up to the newsletter.



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