



Brighton International Animation Festival

APRIL 4-6th 2025

@brightonanimation



www.brighton
international
animation
festival.com



- FRIDAY -

at Fabrica

10 – 3pm Animation class

Try out oil-paint-on-glass animation! All equipment provided, just bring your phone!

Location: FABRICA, 40 Duke Street, Brighton and Hove, Brighton BN1 1AG

Accessible and gender-neutral bathroom available at this venue

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at Presuming Ed's

4 – 5.30pm Chris Shepherd graphic novel talk

Meet BAFTA nominated artist Chris Shepherd who will be joining us to share his debut graphic novel *Anfield Road*!

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

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!

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

10-3pm Painting on Glass - Animation Workshop -



Learn oil-paint-on-glass animation in this masterclass with BAFTA-nominated artist-educator-animator Oscar Wyndham Lewis.

Everything will be provided, you just need to bring your smart phone.

This experience is part of Recorder, the latest moving-image project from arts charity Packed Lunch Productions, specialists in fine-art animation. As a bonus, all participants will have the option of their work being included in the film, gaining both a film credit and experience with the production process.

Location: FABRICA, 40 Duke Street, Brighton and Hove, Brighton BN1 1AG
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4-5:30pm Chris Shephard - Graphic Novel Talk -



BAFTA nominated artist, writer, filmmaker, and British comedy legend that is Chris Shephard will be joining us to share his debut graphic novel *Anfield Road*! A celebrated *Observer* Graphic Novel of the Month, it has been described as “a graphic novel full of heart, soul and wit” and is inspired by his time in 1980’s Liverpool. Chris has also worked in TV animation and is currently senior lecturer at Central Saint Martin’s successful Character Animation MA.

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

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)

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- SATURDAY -

at FABRICA

11:30am - New Generation 72'

1:30pm - Puppet Stories 74'

4pm - Brighton Zoo Talk

5.30pm - Fantastical Worlds 76'

8pm - Sound and Vision 73'

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

HEROES

Location: FABRICA, 40 Duke Street, Brighton and Hove, Brighton BN1 1AG
Accessible and gender-neutral bathroom available at this venue

All Weekend HEROES

- AR Exhibition -



This year there is an augmented reality exhibition on the theme of *HEROES*. You can watch the animations come to life from the artwork by downloading the Eye-jack 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.

Location: FABRICA, 40 Duke Street, Brighton and Hove, Brighton BN1 1AG
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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. The trans experience, sea pollution and the joys of British summertime are just some of the topics covered by this new generation of filmmakers, expect to see work from countries including Italy, USA through to UK.



Guts, Dir. Jane Maree Abernethy 3' (Australia)

A romantic comedy about the parts of ourselves we try to hide, in order to feel accepted.



Né una né due, Dir. Lucia Catalini 6' (Italy)

A girl called Elena finds after a long time the notebook of her maternal grandmother, Laura. She flips through it for the first time and through those pages she sees her grandmother's life again.



It All Comes Down Dir. Meg Earls 6" (UK)

Three generations of women sit around a table. A granddaughter asks questions. A memory from the past resurfaces. It all comes down, no matter what.



That Great British Summer, Dir. Vincenzo Mosti' (UK)

A day in the life of Dave who wakes up on a glorious sunny day and decides to go to the beach. Little does he know, his plans for a sunny and relaxing day, are quickly thwarted by the unpredictable English weather.



Birth Controlled, Dir. Isa Sofia Fraga-Abaza 5' (USA)

In a world where fertility is the premise of a game show, we follow the journey of a pregnant woman whose body is subject to the whims of an elitist audience. They have the power to vote on every decision regarding her pregnancy, decisions that will ultimately determine life or death.



ELECTRICITY ON THE RUN, Dir. Nil Didek 1' (France)

Electricity fairy escaped from a plug and is running wild in an apartment.

11:30am - New Generation



Chosen't, Dir. Yotam Goren 7' (Israel)

"Chosen't" explores the concept of "The Chosen One" in our lives—highlighting the desire for the title, its negative impact, and the true meaning. The film also delves into the idea of the chosen one among groups, shedding light on potential drawbacks.



Monsters, Dir. Mia Fryer 3'(UK)

Two isolated young women meet and form a strong bond after being forced to flee from their homes.



Everythingness, Dir.. Julia Jesionek 7' (??)

In a colorful chaos of ambivalence and brushstrokes, the protagonist embarks on her journey in search of reliable truths. When she encounters her alter-ego, she realizes that she cannot even trust her own reflection – in fact – especially not her.



The Phantom Sound, Dir. Eleanor Honey Ponté 4' (UK)

The Phantom Sound is an experimental documentary animation about the experience of tinnitus, hyperacusis and hearing loss. Highlighting the emotional impact it can have on a person's life and the resilience developed from their experience.



CLAWS Dir. Nim Longley 2' (UK)

CLAWS is a short experimental and analog animation of a game of cat and bird.



Pomegranate, Dir. Livvy Seabrook-Wilkins 3' (UK)

Pomegranate is an animated short film that uses the traditional analogue animation technique of paint on paper. It follows a mother who comes to terms with her Post-Natal Depression, using a pomegranate as a metaphor for her child and her feelings towards the child.



Making it up, Dir. Alice May Guymer 6' (UK)

A girl trades her face to be beautiful.

11:30am - New Generation



Dead Red Kite, Dir. Finn Morgan-Roberts 4' (UK)

When a bird of prey gets ran over, a young girls insistence on giving it a funeral incites conflict. This at moments horror, at moments drama, animated short, focuses on the nature of childhood emotions and family dynamics.



Floaters, Dir. Mocong Yuan 6' (UK)

A woman's life has been turned upside down ever since she noticed those strange floating strings in her sight.



Wellcome to the beach Dir. Pia Mingyue 6' (Germany)

The story took place on a beautiful resort beach, where people enjoy their free time. On the other side of the beach, just saw a small sea turtle an egg, which according to the Ocean. But on the way to the ocean there are many obstacles. Can he survive and Ocean?

1:30pm - 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 Serbia, India through to UK. Expect beautiful craft in both tactile and digital puppet making.



Tennis, Oranges, Dir. Sean Pecknold 11" (USA)

A robotic vacuum suffering from burnout quits its job at a hospital and sets out to find community and a greater purpose on a quiet street where two lonely rabbits are stuck in perpetual loops.



Visible Mending, Dir. Samantha Moore 9' (UK)

A short animated documentary about love, death, and knitting. NB Ungraded. Sound mixed, picture locked.



Liminal Roots, Dir. Taliyah Harfoot 4' (UK)

A journey through the memories of a young girl struggling to come to terms with the complexity of her mixed-raced identity.



Buckshot, Dir. Trevor Hardy 9' (UK)

Tension boils over when a neighbour goes next door to borrow a saucepan.



Scaredy Crow, Submitter Lilly Human 4' (UK)

An interview with a Scarecrow takes an unexpected turn when the birds arrive to prove that her fear of birds, isn't so irrational... With comedy at its core, Scaredy Crow explores the feeling of not belonging where you "should" and finding your own groove to make it work.



Chalisa, Dir. Swati Agarwa 6' (India)

"Chalisa" is a short stop-motion musical video that explores the unique traits of power, dedication, and knowledge of Hanuman while celebrating his exceptional life.

1:30pm - Puppet Stories



Only Paper, Dir. Maxime Vouillon 12' (France)

Two children wait for their mother to return on the steps of an orphanage



Sensitive Strings, Dir. Amal Ghamlooch 4' (Lebanon)

A retired musician takes a chance on stage one last time.



The Family Portrait, Dir. JLea Vidakovi 14' (Serbia)

A poetic, dark, and somewhat humorous social observation, in which family ties and relationships are broken down and dissected to pieces. As Austro-Hungary teeters on collapse, Andras and his daughter are taken aback by the visit from Andras' unpredictable brother, Zoltan, who comes accompanied by his large family.

4pm - Brighton Zoo Talk



Come down and hear all about what it's like creating a kids TV show with the co-founder and creative director of Brighton Zoo, the creators on Supertato and more. Brighton Zoo provides regional animation and video production services alongside a cutting-edge content innovation lab, where technology and storytelling converge. Based in one of the UK's most vibrant, creative cities, our mission is powered by an inclusive and talented team with expertise in animation, social video, interactivity, and immersive experiences.

This event has a BSL interpreter, if there's any BSL users please email brightonanimation@gmail.com

Location: FABRICA, 40 Duke Street, Brighton and Hove, Brighton BN1 1AG
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5.30pm - Fantastical Worlds

These collection of films showcase imaginative world building of both exterior and interior worlds. With a dash of fantasy and sci-fi expect to see work from countries including Columbia and France through to UK.

	<p>Loneliness & Laundry, Dir. Jonny Eveson 10' (UK)</p> <p>Tabitha is lonely. Too embarrassed to accept help from loved ones, she lives in her own (slightly stinky) pit of solitude. But even the stinkiest of pits needs tackling eventually, and Tabitha's attempt to clean her space leads to her falling into a magical world of softness – and sentient clothing.</p>
	<p>The Elevator, Dir. Oliver Mottram 5' (UK)</p> <p>A stranded pilot discovers an elevator in a tree and is pulled into a world above space by fishing giants.</p>
	<p>The Boy who Cheated Death, Dir. Pipou Phuong Nguyen 5' (France)</p> <p>Syd, a 8-year-old boy, tries to hide his mother from Death. They escape as different creatures on earth, with Death chasing after them as their predators. Finally, Death becomes the ultimate predator: Time.</p>
	<p>Abstrata, Dir. Juliana Andrade Venturini 2' (UK)</p> <p>Abstract strata cut clay film inspired by the changes and cycles in the universe.</p>
	<p>POLAR, Dir. Phoebe Yemi Ara 2' (UK)</p> <p>An avalanche changes a polar bear's life, sending him on a journey across a barren fantasy world. A rich narrative exploration of mental health. Inspired by testimonials on bipolar disorder, this disorienting frame by frame animated short gives life to the experience of millions through fantasy, vivid colour, and metaphor.</p>
	<p>Gardening, Dir. Sarah Beeby 14' (UK)</p> <p>In the aftermath of sexual assault, a woman retreats into the garden of her mind. Searching for answers and struggling to do 'the right thing', she realises that he regain find her voice and find new paths to healing, before she and her garden are destroyed completely.</p>

5.30pm- Fantastical Worlds



HOMODEUS, Dir. Armin Rangani 5' (UK)

A desperate couple is living in a filthy house somewhere in the future. The girl finally decides to end her misery by putting on a VR headset and diving into the virtual world forever.



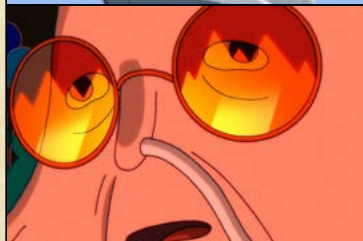
Bubbling Synapse, Dir. William Eguienta 4' (France)

An idea... needs space, time & love to grow... But, at what cost? Your friends? Your wife? Your kids? Of course not, it needs to be set aside, in a bubble, waiting for the right moment... The wait is long, too long... This must emerge from its bubble, it must come to life, now!



ISLA, Dir. Beatriz Antunes, Jack Williamn 2' (UK)

Rooted in grief, Isla embarks on a tortuous journey through the wasteland in search of comfort.



Marvelous Gift, Dir. Danna Galeano, German Acuña 5' (Colombia)

In a world where humanity has gained the gift of eternal life, 'Marvelous Gift' invites you on a journey where fatal accidents aren't fatal and aging never ceases. Dive into the paradox of immortality and explore the raw reality of life when the end is taken off the table.



Clouded, Dir. Nyah Boorman, Niamh Boorman 5' (UK)

When a mysterious moving light dashes by, a curious little star secretly leaves the comfort of his sheltering mother to investigate, alone. By venturing deep into the universe and far from what he knows, he is faced with overwhelming new experiences that he must navigate without the guidance of his mother.



Cosmic Bodies, Submitter Kaavya 2' (UK)

In response to overwhelmingly dystopian cyberpunk media, this project aims to envision a queer utopia, incorporating imagery inspired by South Asian mythology and post-human bodies in contemporary science fiction. The film combines Risograph printed frames and digital 2D animation to depict a queer post-human world and the creatures that inhabit it.



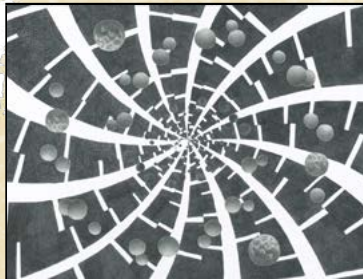
GOODBYE FOREVER MAYBE?, Dir. Karoline Björk, Sammy Paul 14' (UK)

A stranded astronaut attempts to write his own eulogy.



8pm - Sound and Vision

"Don't you wonder sometimes about sound and vision?" sang David Bowie. Yes we do Bowie! This collection showcases films that showcase a strong relationship between audio and visuals - whether it be music video, choreography, abstract visuals or more humour based pieces. Don't expect a beginning, a middle and an end with these films, this is more of a wild ride of styles and form from figurative character based animation through to non narrative abstract.



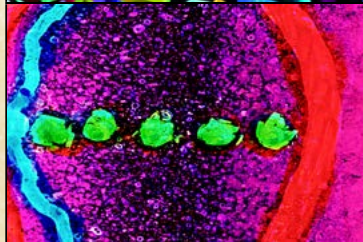
(D)Infinity, Dir. Taewan Kim 4' (UK)

(D)Infinity is a Sci-Fi animation exhibiting chaos and beauty in outer space. Using only graphite and paper the film renders the artist's own interpretations of dimensional infinity. The universe consists from harmony and balance of the four fundamental forces of nature: Strong force, weak force, gravity, electro-magnetism.



Shapes, Dir. Tsz-wing Ho 5'4' (Hong Kong)

A psychedelic and mysterious galaxy composed of different shapes. They conduct various transformations with textures, patterns and colors.



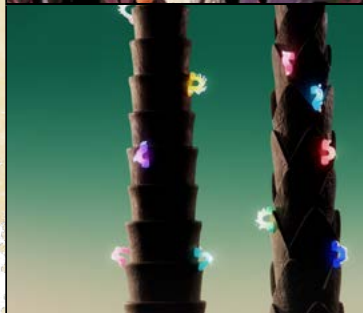
Fusion, Dir. Richard R. Reeves 3" (Canada)

Investigating interplay between sound and picture as visual music. An experimental animation experience produced by drawing both sound and picture onto 35mm film. A film without words. No camera or musical instrument was used.



New Water Musi, Dir. Dan Rule ' (USA)

In New Water Music a cast of strange plants and flowers play, help and devour each other over an original music composition by Yotam Haber



Rise Age, Dir. Tatjana Theuer 5' (Germany)

Fluorescent critter groove through a coastal world, led by a superior chorus. Their carefree crawl, however, is increasingly interrupted by the rising seas. As the water works its magic on the beaches, one by one they are swept away. But is an invisible danger worth slowing down the usual crawling routine? A rhythmic poem of cute creatures, peer pressure and the urge to move to higher ground in time.



The Wild-Tempered Clavie, Dir. Anna Samo 7' (USA)

An artist insists on playing despite the world's disasters. A story told through a filmmaker's art, inspired by Bach's timeless music and painted on rolls of toilet paper in an homage to the tradition of drawing directly on 35 mm film.



Intermezzos, Submitter Putik Amirasari 3' (Indonesia)

Intermezzo is a performance-driven story about a character who is trapped in her own idea of perfection. The film acts as some kind of metaphorical self-reflection piece of the character, who sees perfection as a form of comfort, even though chaos lies within it.

8pm - Sound and Vision



Miramis, Dir. Angie Siveria, Oskar Schuster 3' (Germany)

Angie Siveria's poem is a reflection on the ongoing war in Ukraine, her childhood in Donetsk, which is now temporarily occupied. This poetry film is about how people want to save their childhood and everything/ everyone connected with it, take it with them to a safe place. The animated video was created as the official music video for Oskar Schuster's piece "Miramis".



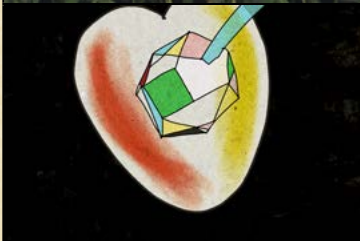
A Year of Hands, Dir. Cally Trench 1' (UK)

366 hours in one minute. 'A Year of Hands' is made up of 366 drawings of my hands in ink on watercolour paper, drawn every day for one hour, life-size, from life, using both hands, from 5th August 2023 to 4th August 2024. I chose the position of my hands each day to depict a series of commonplace movements. The sound, which I created from instruments, toys and vocalisations, echoes the stroking and tapping movements of my hands.



Green Lung, Dir. Simon Hamlyn 3' (UK)

In the cradle of the Industrial Revolution, workers turn towards nature to heal from the conditions of the mill. A hand-printed film about Britain's first public park.



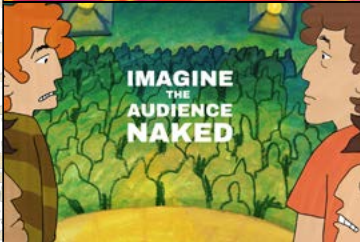
In Threes, Dir. Natalia Ryss 7' (UK)

The image-idea of the Tree as an embodiment of the Three Principles unites the manifestations of forms, following the rhythm of the heart..



Bob Dylan's Big Dick, Dir. Chris Lambourne 3' (UK)

Music video for Frank & Beans' song 'Bob Dylan's Big Dick' A man goes for a drink, but is stalked by the manifestation of his grotesque masculinity.



Imagine the Audience Naked Dir. Reuben Underwood 1' (UK)

'Imagine the Audience Naked' is a mixed media animation that follows funk band Grog Machine as they walk out into the spotlight. They may have only just switched on their amps and kicked on their guitar pedals but something is definitely wrong.



Colour Me Pink, Dir. Anika O'Hagan-Ploug 3' (Ireland)

Music Video for indie pop song 'Colour Me Pink' by K E L, created by Anika O'Hagan-Ploug

8pm - Sound and Vision



I'm Leaving, Dir. Michelle Brand 4' (Germany)

As the night comes, the journey begins. Running rushing, racing. Unbound from time and swept away by the night's surreal cascade of lights, we leave day-life behind.



'Late Nights' Music Video - DEATHBYROMY & ADULT SWIM, Dir. Submitter Pixie Barnes 3' (UK)

Following a dramatically visceral script and drawing visual inspiration from 90s anime classics, we had all the tools we needed to create this 3 minute music video. Premiering at Adult Swim's music festival this summer with DeathByRomy in attendance, the 'Late Nights' music video has achieved 45k views on Adult Swim's Youtube channel.



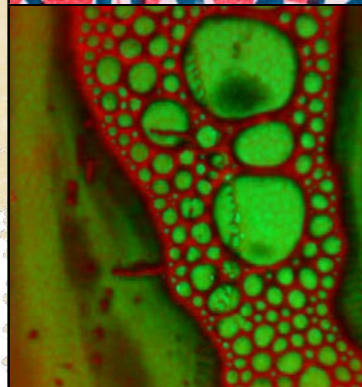
Milimo, Dir. Kemane Bâ 3' (Congo)

In an attempt to cross the Mediterranean Sea for a better future, the tragic fate of the young Ahmadou is sealed. The story is a cautionary tale, journeying through the vast cosmos of West African lore, Incorporating some of the most ancient stories that have been told since the dawn of human existence.



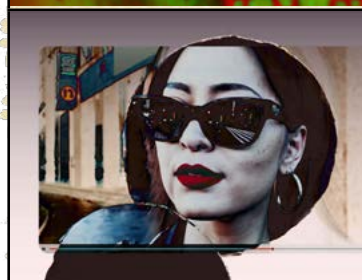
where blue meets red, Dir. Tamás Patrovits 4'30 (Hungary)

The film consisting of several dozens of original risograph prints, is an under-the-camera, straight-ahead animation improvised to the rhythm of the scores of Hungarian Barabás Lőrinc jazz trumpeter and composer.



Fairground Background, Dir. Ian Helliwell 3' (UK)

A reel of Super 8 Kodachrome film shot in Brighton at a fairground in the 1990s, was processed and several years later coloured ink was added to the footage. This was then put to one side and partially forgotten until being finally returned to in 2024, more than two decades after the original filming. Simple colour inversions were applied to enhance the image quality, and a soundtrack was composed of electronic sounds made with Hellitron tone generators.



electron city II, Dir. Stuart Pound 4' (UK)

I've captured an AI image from the internet, of a woman walking down a street in Tokyo. One of the filters used simulates punched holes in a strip of film and brings together analogue, digital and AI. A second filter brings out the sense in the original, of night in a brightly lit and rainy street.

- SUNDAY -

at FABRICA

12pm - The Female Gaze 74'

2pm - Colourful Characters 65'

4pm - East Asian Panorama 76'

6pm - Queer as F++K 76'

8pm - Long Shorts/Closing Night Gala 60'

All Day (from 12pm) - AR Exhibition: HEROES

Location: FABRICA, 40 Duke Street, Brighton and Hove, Brighton BN1 1AG
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12pm - 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 Saudi Arabia, India and UK.



Pear Garden, Dir. Shadab Shayegan 7' (Germany)

Six years old Lily visits her grandmother after grandma had a mastectomy and doesn't have breasts anymore. At night, Lily finds out that the shadow of grandma has the breasts, Lily follows her and tries to get the breasts back for her grandma.



And Granny Would Dance, Dir. Maryam Mohajer 10'(UK)

Marmar listens to the stories told by her grandmother's friends as they play an illicit game of cards. Based on childhood memories and shared stories, And Granny would dance is a tale of love, grief and resilience. At its heart, it is a tribute to the solidarity of Iranian women.



another go, Dir. Elisa Beli Borrelli 4' (Ireland)

A young woman struggling with Borderline Personality Disorder goes about her day until something goes terribly wrong.



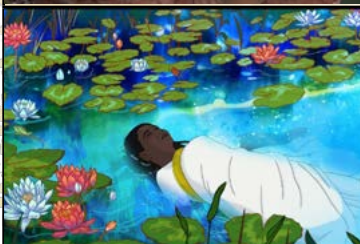
The Eating of an Orange, Dir. May Kindred-Boothby 7' (UK)

Stark conformity dominates the residents of a large manor house. Identical figures eat the same, move the same, look the same. But everything changes when one woman gets given an orange by a strange figure. She has never seen an orange.



The Gardener, Dir. Efa Blosser-Mason, Sofie Marsh 2'(UK)

The Gardener, based on a poem from Jane Campbell's prize-winning debut collection features exquisite stop-motion animation by director artists Efa Blosser Mason and Sophie Marsh. The gardener narrator prepares for a joyful 'after-death' as she becomes part of the the orchard she planted.



Loop Line, Dir. Renuka Shahane 8' (India)

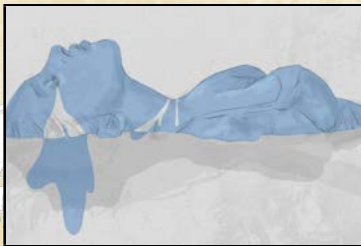
In the heart of Mumbai, a middle- aged Maharashtrian housewife, endures her husband's chauvinism and the tedium of her relentless chores. She finds solace in her rich fantasies.



Jewel, Dir. Iris Abols 3' (Japan)

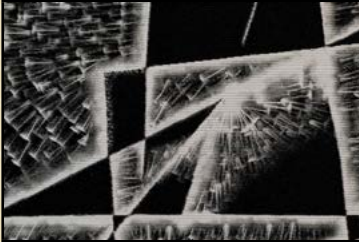
A goddess lies on the shore of an island, waiting. A swimmer surfaces from deep in the sea. Each woman has something the other desires. Envy can be a dark place, but it's so very shiny.

12pm - The Female Gaze



The C Word, Dir. Serafima Serafimova 3' (UK)

When COVID-19 struck in 2020, Alyssa – an Australian healthcare professional living in the UK with her partner – wanted to do everything she could to help. What happened next changed her outlook on life forever.



Contradiction of Emptiness, Dir. Irina Rubina 3' (Germany)

The language in which lullabies were sung to me kills. And I am with it. And the lullabies fall silent. An inner monologue between two languages and identities. Between the black and white of the pin-screen 'L'Alpine'.



Nothing we say can change what we've been through, Dir. Francesca de Bassa 3' (UK)

With an experimental visual journey, the film show the thoughts that the protagonist has in the timeframe between a question and an answer. How easy it is to communicate feelings?



Just One Pint, Dir. Lauren Hammersley 6' (UK)

'Just One Pint' is a short 2D narrative film following Haley, a 23 year-old girl who uses alcohol to deal with the emotional trauma of a break-up from an abusive ex.



In Between, Dir. Ethar Baamer 4' (Saudi Arabia)

A young woman struggles to find her true self in this short animation. It begins in a realistic domestic sphere within Jeddah. Overwhelmed by societal expectations that dictate how she should look and who she should be, the central character responds by separating into multiple versions of herself, trying on different identities.



The Last Drop, Dir. Anna Tőkés 11' (Hungary)

Kata, is member of the national rhythmic gymnastics team that is exposed to extreme coaching techniques. The pressure on her is building, and the finals are near.



Welcome to sexy, Dir. Nina Hoffmann 4' (Germany)

While gossiping about their neighbor, a frustrated couple carelessly asks a question of the universe. When the universe answers, it has unexpected consequences...

2pm - Colourful Characters

This programme is character focussed presenting peoples stories and the human experience as well as films that embody imaginative character realisation. Some are poignant, some entertaining, all will engage you featuring films from Australia and Germany through to UK



The Man Who Loved Flowers, Dir. Sonu Thomas 3' (UK)

The life of a South Indian man whose love for flowers goes unnoticed.



Departing, Dir. Mary Martins 7' (UK)

Departing is a short experimental and animated documentary that reflects on the themes of migration, forced displacement of people and the removal of children. The stories are expressed through music, interviews and poetry, collaging a range of techniques; ink on 16mm film, scratch film and 2D hand-drawn animation.



It's OK, Dir. Rosy Turner 3' (UK)

Jack recounts his experience with ketamine addiction and the subsequent road to recovery, providing an insightful look into the realities of overcoming dependency.



Voicemail, Dir. Iona Menzies 2' (UK)

In this edgy animated comedy, Kate and Connor are at the end of a wild night out. Kate catches the eye of a sexy man and Connor, the ultimate wingman, is by her side. The explicit voicemail that Kate leaves for her friend illustrates why the most ridiculous situations can lead to the best stories. "Voicemail" was created using a real voice recording and brought to life with hand drawn animation.



The scent of beetroot and the people who live forever, Dir. Petra Stipetić, Maren Wiese 13' (Germany)

A scientist discovers the key to immortality: the scent of beetroot. Through its excessive use, an impenetrable magenta atmosphere soon envelops the entire planet. In real interviews, the inhabitants talk about their lives in this dystopian utopia.



You won't BELIEVE how crazy these toys are!!, Dir. Tom Sharp 2' (UK)

Young lad unboxes Doctor who toys.



Movie Night!, Dir. Matt Partridge 1' (UK)

A family heads to the local video store to find their weekends entertainment.

2pm - Colourful Characters



Tortured Artist, Dir. Thomas Laurance 3' (UK)

Some artists just never get a break... until they break themselves! An aspiring creative struggles with negative self-talk and unfair comparisons with his peers. Can his only fan save him from himself? It's Art Attack gone very wrong in this crude comedy short.



The joke butt, Dir. Barney Thomas Fagan 2' (Germany)

A young man feels lost in the modern, digital world before finding himself in a piece of clickbait.



a WORLD in CHAOS, Dir. David Crisp 10' (Hungary)

A series of insights into the meaning of life and the moral concerns of humans told through a selection of animals in their natural habitats re-enacting unfortunate everyday situations and highlighting the absurd nature and preposterous consequences of ethics, emotion, behaviour and the very concept of humankind on planet earth.



In My Garden, Dir. Qianhui Yu 1' (UK)

'In My Garden' The story is based on the happenings in my own garden. Created by Qianhui Yu Sound/Composition by Lucie Treacher. 'In My Garden' The story is based on the happenings in my own garden. Created by Qianhui Yu Sound/Composition by Lucie Treacher. Commissioned by GIPHY



Baggage, Dir. Lucy Davidson 5' (Australia)

Three girlfriends check in their baggage at the airport, but one is carrying a little more than the others. As they travel along the conveyor belt to security, can she hide what's inside?



Shouting ginger, Dir. Chris Cray 1' (UK)

Shouting Ginger explores the mixed feelings about going bald as a redhead. This super short film mixes stand-up comedy with 2D animation.



In Sync With the Sun, Dir. Emily Downe 4' (UK)

In an artificial world caught in the cycle of obsessive productivity, one human struggling to keep up is faced with a choice.



Darwin Story, Dir. Natasha Tonkin 9' (UK)

Lee returns to Darwin from London when her mum is taken ill. After a chance encounter, there's an opportunity to reflect on the past, but is she ready to think differently about the beautiful place she calls home?

4pm - East Asian Panorama

Special out of competition programme featuring the stunning works coming out of East Asia and diaspora, featuring countries including China, Taiwan, Korea and Japan. Expect festivities, family relations and more in this selection of both narrative and documentary films.



Dragon Year Spring Festival, Dir. Bowen Tan 2' (UK/China)

A traveler accidentally get into a city of Spring Festival



Kill the horse, Dir. Xiaoruo Guo 10' (China)

The killing in the grass made His/her frantic to find the horse they had been talking about. He/She saw the thorn in the fool's nipple, the secret of the tribe's beliefs, the glimmer of light in the flood! The sound of the horse rang out from the ashes.



Colourful White, Dir. Jiahao Li 5' (China)

Colourful White is an animated documentary about the life experiences of people with vitiligo. Jiahao Li (director), as someone having vitiligo since 14, wants to share the voice and feelings of people with the same condition, and possibly inspire more. With the co-directors, Yuwei Jiang and Jan Zhou, she did some interviews and made an animated documentary out of it.



Number32. Giant Fish, Dir. Seunghyun Si 10'(Republic of Korea)

During Lunch break on an elementary school field day, Minsu wins a Giant fish-shaped candy(Dalgona) from a lucky draw. Even though his friends wanted a bite, Minsu decided to eat candy all by himself. Then, he got eaten by a Giant fish that suddenly appeared from the air. Discharged through Giant fish's poop hole, Minsu faces an eccentric sight as nutrients of his body are all squeezed out.



It Will Pass Away, Dir. Nan Yao 5' (China)

After the end of a relationship that went nowhere, a woman's complex emotions seem to be amplified, and in the midst of insomnia she feels she can touch the many subtle voices...



Have I Swallowed Your Dreams, Dir. Clara Chan 6' (Canada)

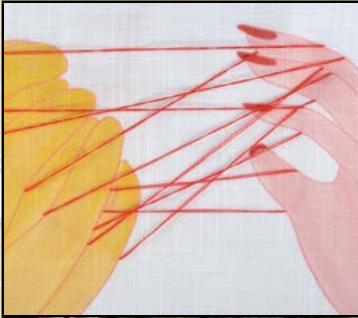
A poetic conversation between an immigrant daughter and her mother about sacrifices and dreams.



Cannot sleep!, Dir. Yingjie Zhou 2' (Japan)

Sleep in the same state as before. A wonderful and magical economic experiment where one's head changes and one's head falls. Finally, the appearance of the image is reduced.

4pm - East Asian Panorama



Bergamot, Dir. Yanqi Liangi 7' (China)

"Bergamot", also translated as "Buddha's hand", explores the binary mother-daughter relationship as it shifts as it grows. Buddha's hand and hand are similar but different, opposites but compatible, referring to the mother-daughter relationship, resembling but refusing to resemble, contradicting but adhering to each other, separating but connecting.



HEY DAD, Dir. WeiFan Wang 6' (Taiwan)

I've practiced these words for 20 years now, but maybe being candid isn't the best idea. I'm starting my countdown again, another 20 years. Maybe it might be the right time by then.



Wild Animal, Dir. Tianyun Lyu 13' (United States)

In the Mongolian wilds, a hunter's heir, With his father, a bond so rare. Kindness within, 'midst nature's might, A tale of love, in the wild's wild fight.

6pm - Queer as F***k

Queer as F++K is back! Special curated out of competition annual programme of Queer Anima-tion that explores an array of contemporary queer culture . Expect drag farmers, queer parenting and the queer immigrant experience in array of narrative and documentary films from countries including Belgium, USA through to UK



Introducing Bovina Creamcracker Buttermilk, Dir. John O'Connell, Joe Coveney 4' (Ireland)

Liam is a lonely farmer. Everyday he works away on his farm by himself, but, all of the time he is dreaming of a more glamorous life! His neighbours get a sense of his hidden desires and help him to realise his dreams by hosting a talent show in the local hall.



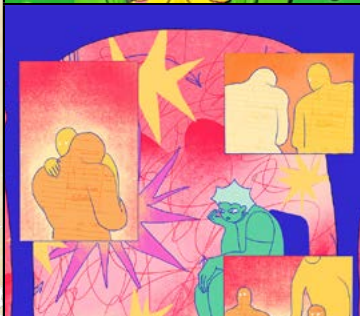
A Bird Hit My Window and Now I'm a Lesbian, Dir. Carmela Marie Murphy, AJ Dubler 8' (United States)

After a mysterious girl shows up at Gray's doorstep holding the corpse of a bird that had just cracked her window, an impromptu bird funeral changes the way Gray views herself and her lesbian identity.



Clotilde, Dir. Maria João Lourenço 4'(Portugal)

In a planet where reproduction is mandatory in the daily life of its inhabitants, there is an alien who just wishes to pleasure herself.



Is this the mansion I will live in?, Dir. Rafaella Fillastre 6'(Belgium)

This animated short tries to shed light on the incomprehension of queer identities within migration systems and the abuse of power by its frontline workers. It depicts only the first few hours of a lengthy, 18-24 months long asylum process, where queer asylum seekers are met with mistreatment, hunger, and homelessness instead of the promised equality and safe space.



Butterfly Kiss, Dir. Zohar Dvir 11' (Germany)

Carol panics and argues with her girlfriend Ray after an unexpected proposal. The situation gets worse when she wakes up in an apocalyptic reality and terribly discovers that Ray has transformed into a butterfly. Carol is afraid of losing Ray... ..but devoting yourself to your girlfriend could come at a price.



Disparate Threads, Dir. Hannah Roza Fisher 2' (UK)

A short documentary about what it means to be Trans, Non-Binary and Gender Non-Conforming in today's society; told by words from the community themselves.

6pm - Queer as F***k



Threaded, Dir. Naaman Azhari 5' (UK)

As preparations for the wedding unfold, Faisal's mother takes us on a heartfelt journey through his past, weaving together memories and moments that have shaped him. Each birthday, his mother would lovingly knit him a sweater in a different color, symbolizing the various paths he could take in life. These colorful threads tell a story of a boy growing up under the warm and watchful eye of a mother who wishes only the best for her son.



Gossip/Clecs, Dir. Harri Shanahan 2' (UK)

This animated story tells of two older women being gossiped about on a train by a fascinated ticket collector. The 'Gossip' spreads the word that the two are on a "train-powered honey moon." Gossip/ Clecs is based on a poem from Jane Campbell's prize winning debut collection.



Stone in Stomach, Dir. Géraldine Charpentier 12' (Belgium)

On the phone, there is Camille. She tries to find what unites her with Johane, who listens to her messages, somewhere in Brussels. If they still love each other, could they find each other again?



Even Still, Dir. Grey Anderson 3' (United States)

Even Still, is a short film about creating a life that is joyful to live through the experience of transness. It's about building community, breaking free of public perception, and cultivating the things in life that bring happiness. These things can never be separated, but neither one can erase the other.



Dragfox, Dir. Lisa Ott 8' (UK)

Sam's search for identity gets interrupted by a mysterious neighbourhood fox. Together they embark on a magical journey to the attic to discover the surprising things they might have in common, and how to celebrate the ways in which they differ.



Hide and Seek, Dir. Director Junjie Xu 6'

"Hide and Seek" is a 3D animated short film that takes viewers on a bittersweet journey. It presents a story of a person hiding their queer identity from their parents at different stages of life. It highlights the struggles faced by the queer community as they grow up and explores the fantasy of queer spaces with queer phenomenology.



Grand Dandy (For Ezra), Dir. The Campbells 4' (UK)

Grand Dandy is a special film based on the poem "For Ezra" about the real life experience of non-binary author Libro Levi Bridgeman and their love letter to their grandson, Ezra. While it captures slices of their everyday life, it also explores the question, how to tell a child you are queer and non-binary? This film also highlights the importance that the common bond of any child with a queer relative is the same and endearing as any family.

8pm - Long Short Closing Night Gala

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



I'm Perfectly Fine, Dir. Dario van Vree 30' (Netherlands)

When illustrator Maya suffers a burnout, she is faced with her deepest fear: she can no longer be perfect. In a personal quest, through much trial and error, she learns how to be 'good enough' instead.



Virtia, Dir. Arina Viazenkina 13' (UK)

Virtia offers a sharp critique of the social media economy through an allegorical lens, exploring the commodification of human interactions, attention, and data. The film portrays users as both consumers and products, revealing the transactional nature of online relationships and the monetisation of personal information. The story delves into three central themes: addiction, control, and the fragile economy that sustains social media, presenting a powerful commentary on the consequences of digital connectivity.



A kind of Testament, Dir. Stephen Vuilleminr 16' (France)

A young woman comes across animations on the Internet that have clearly been created from her private selfies. An unknown female with the same name confesses to identity theft. But death is quicker than the answer to the question: "Why?"

- Festival Credits -

Festival Director and Producer
Kate Jessop

Festival Assistant
Haniyyah Nauzeer

Poster Design
Izzy Burton

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

Pre Selector
Ivy Dillon

Exhibition installation
Vincenzo Mosti

Festival Front of House
Alfie Walton
Abraham Sancha
Mille Watson

Instagram
Amelia Hodgetts

**Film Hub
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