Brighton International Animation Festival 15th - 16th April 2023 @brightonanimation www.brightoninternationalanimationfestival.com

Saturday New Generation 11am

Look out for the next generation of filmmakers in this showcase of the best cutting edge of talent from both UK and International. Anxiety, family relations and space travel are just some of the topics covered by this new generation of filmmakers, expect to see work from countries including Canada, Israel through to UK.



One of Us, Dir. Emma Kelly 3'40 (UK)

Morana journeys up a mountain to scatter the ashes of a dear friend. Her journey does not go unnoticed however, and she soon finds herself caught in the snares of something truly terrifying. Forced to flee, can Morana escape this ancient evil's grasp?



Forget-Me-Not, Dir. Luzie Ilgner 3'30 (UK)



Stay, Dir. Yu Sun 5' (UK)

Needles are used to repair damage. "Stay" is a 5-minute animated film made using hand embroidery on tracing paper, depicting the relationship between a daughter and her absent father. A reminder to spend more time with the people you love even if you are busy.



In Boxes, Dir. Hila Vakrat, Gilad Pfe 6' (Israel)

Zohara just moved into her partner's Stav apartment. The two begin their journey to uncover the secrets that are inside the boxes Zohara is not yet ready to unpack.



The Bus To The Afterlife, Dir. Chloe Morris 5' (UK)

While seeking an early passage to the afterlife, a young person finds purpose in their existence.

CW - mentions death, suicide

New Generation 11am



The Magentalman and the Gentlemint Dir. James Crang 5' (UK)

The Magentalman lives an ordinary life in his empty world, every day is the same. Life is boringly black and white, until there's green. Mint green. A gay love story about how it feels to find your soulmate.



Under This Luminous Sky, Dir. Emily Xu 5' (Canada)

In a Kingdom that is increasing control onto its citizens, two friends share a bittersweet goodbye.



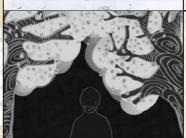
Red Dogs In Red Rooms, Dir. Georgie Grace Sweet 2' (UK)

After Sweet's Nan passed away from cancer in 2019, her flat suddenly ceased to exist. This film is an attempt to reflect on what objects and spaces mean to a person's identity, and how these items continue to exist in new forms ofter the owner passes.



Throng, Dir. William Clarke 3'25 (UK)

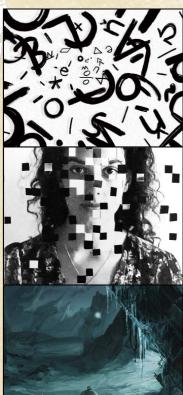
Crowds of people start to chaotically fill the screen, whilst a tourist tries to navigate their way through.



Swaddling Clothes, Dir. Lauren Kim 2' (USA)

A woman meets a baby born in newspapers and the journey that follows. Based on the 1955 short story by Yukio Mishima.

New Generation Ilam



Symbols, Ke Ren 1'(UK)

"Symbols" is a short animation for introducing the LIAF Abstract
Showcase program. It's about text, symbols, language, and
communication, trying to explore the concept of abstract through
the conversion between natural language and constructed language
in a more relaxed and simple way.

TWITCH, Dir. Lauren Hammersley 3' (UK)

'TWITCH' is a short experimental film that explores the physical sensations of anxiety and aims to mimic these feelings through animation.

Beacon, Dir. Andrew Stadler 9'20 (USA)

After a freak accident, a mechanic is left stranded on a barren ice planet waiting to be rescued but, unbeknownst to him, his ordeal is only just beginning.

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Swallow Flying to the South, Dir. Mochi Lin 18' (USA)

Spring 1976, 5-year-old Swallow is abandoned at a public boarding preschool in central Beijing. When the persimmons are ripe, Swallow masters how to cry, but doesn't forget how to fly.

Joanna Quinn Retrospective 1.30pm

Joanna Quinn is one of the most iconic British Animation practicioners of recent times. She is renowned internationally for her drawing skills, wonderful characterisations and her humour. The politics of gender and oppression together with her obsessive fascination with exploring the eccentricities of the human body, in particular the female form, are the central themes of her work. Joanna's films have won many awards including 4 BAFTA's, 3 EMMY's and 3 OSCAR ® nominations. Come down and see a full screening of her works from the beloved Beryl films through to the cultural commentary of Britannia. She will undertake a Q+A after the screening

Girls Night Out 6'
Body Beautiful 13'
Elles 3'
Britannia 5'
Dreams and Desires: Family Ties 10'
Affairs of the Art 16'

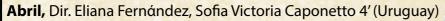
Puppet Stories 4pm

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 Uruguay, Finland through to UK. Expect beautiful craft in both tactile and digital puppet making.

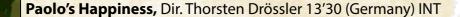


Curiosa, Dir. Tessa Moult-Milewska 9' (UK)

Overly curious Mary climbs into her boyfriend's head in search of answers.



There came a time in Abril's life when imagination and fantasy stopped protecting her from the reality in which she lived. Until one day she discovered a new form of escape that would change her life forever.



Paolo Piangino is a very happy man. Because he can cry. He cries at stories with sad endings, but also at stories with happy endings. Paolo's tears make people happy too: they can gather his happiness. But they can't hold on to it. A touching puppet animation based on the successful Swiss children's book "Paolos Glück".

Exhibit-A, Dir. James Wilkinson 4'20 (UK) U

A mysterious intergalactic art collector has their sights on one of earths masterpieces. But a plucky security guard ensures it will not be a simple lift.



Ana Morphose, Dir. Joao Rodrigues 10' (Portugal) INT

A little girl reads a nature book in bed. As she falls asleep she is thrusted into a world where dream and reality mix, biology and pictorial representation intersect and change her perception of the world around her.

Puppet Stories 4pm



Kafka's Doll, Dir. Bruno Simões 10' (Portugal) INT

Inspired by an unproven myth, Kafka's Doll is an animated short film that blends factual research, fiction, fantasy and myth into a single heart-warming story about loss.



Pobre Antonio, Dir. Mariana Guerreiro F 8' (Spain) S

Antonio is stuck to his routine. During the night, he works in a recycling plant and during the day stays with his family with whom he doesn't really get along. One day, while working, he discovers that he can begin to make decisions about his life and change it to his will.



Good Boy!, Dir. Daniel Robert Hope 2' (UK) U

Regrettable consequences follow when a greedy boy refuses to share a treat with his hungry dog.



Spoon, Arthur Chays 3' (France) INT

To escape from your daily life, it's very simple: you need a ladder and a spoon.



The Paper, Dir. Katarina Haukka 5' (Finland) S

The Paper flew away from the artist Marja. She tries to tame the Paper by any means necessary. But only understanding the Paper can reveal its true nature.

To be Human 6pm

This programme focuses on the human condition. Living with Alzheimer's, child soldiers, body image and mens knitting groups are just some of the topics explored in this collection of films from countries including Australia, Egypt through to the UK.



My Dear Son, Dir. Lilian Fu 9' (Hong Kong) INT

After giving birth to a son, the mother raises it in her ideals; trying to be like what they are not.



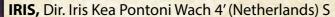
Another Presence, Dir. Simon Ball 11' (UK) U

A film about dementia, hallucinations and altered perceptions



Yeah I'm good thanks, Dir. Hannah Lau-Walker 1'30 (UK)

Whilst messaging online a woman contemplates being honest about how she's really been doing.



As a child raised by two mothers, Iris shares her origin story in the animated film "IRIS." Highlighting her mothers' quest in the 90's to find a suitable man to fulfill their wish for a child, and the coincidences and events that led to her unique family structure and ultimately, her life.

To be Human 6pm



Beware of Trains, Dir. Emma Calder 13' (UK) U

A woman with extreme anxiety is devoured by four major preoccupations – the man she met by chance on a train, her dying father, her daughter's safety and the murder she dreams she has committed.



All Her Dying Lovers, Dir. Anna Benner 5'30 (Czech Republic) INT

A nurse, a Nazi and a fish: an animated legend from WWII Czechoslovakia



Child Soldier, Dir. Laila Kamal 2' (Egypt) INT

The story of Younis, a boy who left school at the age of 13 to help his family, but suddenly found himself recruited into an armed group in Sudan. Based on a true story.



You Are My Home, Dir. Soofiya 1'30 (UK) U

Animated Spoken Word Poem exploring themes around body dysmorphia, race, gender and bodies.

To be Human 6pm



Chosen Family, Dir. Noah Greenhalgh 5'20 (UK) S

Some may say that familial bonds will always be stronger than bonds of friendship or love. This is not always the case. Sometimes, the friends you make in life can provide more love, affection, and acceptance than your own blood relatives. That is your chosen family



The Little Blue Boiler Suit, Dir. Nigel Smith and Emma Wass 4' (UK) U

Locked out, naked, during the Young Sportswoman of the Year celebrations? What do you do?



Handmade Happiness, Dir. Vivien Mason 8'30 (Australia) INT

A colourful stop motion animated documentary exploring how a passion for craft helps four makers overcome adversity.



The Red Ball, Dir. George Morgan 7' (UK) U

A grief-stricken family migrate from busy London to suburban Basildon looking for a fresh start, but young Bamike is not ready to move on.

Wild Characters 8:30pm

Use of personification and exaggeration are some of the joys of designing and working with character within animation. Clocks, clowns, huge sausage dogs and Elton John all feature in this collection of films that all have a character absed focus. Expect music videos and both short films from Hungary, Germany, Czech Republic through to the UK.



Keep Left, Dir. Maya Remenyi 3'30 (UK) U

Based on a hysterical road rage meme, the film is essentially a cry out from all the frustrated drivers to the lunatics on the roads in a hilarious, characterful and entertaining way.



Thank you, Dir. Julian Gallese 7'30 (UK) S

A highly anticipated birthday is the talk of the town.



birds whose legs break off, Dir. Dirk Verschure 7'18 (Germany) INT

A mysterious disease sweeps the bird population.



Cosmohedron, Dir. Duncan Hatch 7' (USA) INT

A surreal journey through the interconnections between all things.



Elton John, Dua Lipa - Cold Heart (PNAU Remix), Dir. Raman Djafari 4' (Germany) INT

Four friends on a surreal disco night-out follow Elton John and Dua Lipa into a fantatical universe.



Bye Little Block!, Dir. Éva Darabos 9' (Hungary) S

A young woman learns that soon she will have to move from the blockhouse flat she lives in. After receiving the upsetting news from the owner of the flat she is overwhelmed with emotions. Her teardrop of farewell grows into a concrete monolith. When the drop hits the ground a surreal panorama of the blockhouse area - she used to call home - unfolds...

Wild Characters 8:30pm



A Whale Song, Dir. Sacha Beeley 2'36 (UK) U

Music video for Brother Sun Sister Moon, from Osaka, Japan



Cuties, Dir. Theo W Scott 5' (UK) U

A hand-drawn sequential telling of human history in all its horror and glory, culminating in our next evolutionary leap. Cuties explores the elusive beauty in how we as a species continue forward in spite of our proclivity for destruction.



Aeons Ark, Dir. Sophie Maria Vickers 6' (UK) S

A futuristic flood epic which depicts the destruction of a future world by a momentous flood.



The Beatles Vs The Stones, Dir. Andrew Kelleher 3' (UK) U

The battle of the bands, at last. Animated slapstick and anarchy as two bone-fide giants of music attempt to outdo each other with trickery, silliness and cake fights.



Please Clap, Dir. Khalidah McLarty 3'30 (UK) S

After being suddenly fired from his job, Mikey the clown must confront the complex feelings he has regarding his persona.



Tiers, Dir. Philip James Hart 0.32 (UK) U

Faced with a series of living and socialising guidelines during Covid-19, one person turns to some extreme measures to move between tiers.

Wild Characters 8:30pm



Lovely Rita, Dir. Elena Madrid 4' (Switzerland) INT

An absurd traffic desaster forces a strict, overly correct policewoman to rethink her attitude and her way of life. An animated comedy about stress, traffic jams and how to make the best of it.



The Sphere, Dir. Manuel Sumberac

A shift in the routine inevitably disrupts the harmony between lo and the Sphere causing the irreversible destruction of their coexistence by creating a new, seemingly different reality that will set new rules, a new routine.



Time Trip Time, Dir. Taewan Kim and Shunny Kim 3' (UK) STU

A mad clock takes the viewer on a time trip to a random planet where concept of time is experienced differently than one we know...



Fur, Dir. Madeleine Homan 5' (Netherlands) INT

A girl pursues a connection with her sister, who is covered by a strange grey fur. It is soft and uncanny at the same time. It grows between them, and they drift further apart from each other.

Sunday

The (un)Natural World 12.30pm

Science, the environment and creatures of the earth are the focus of this programme. Expect sea creatures, insect specialists and hot blooded flowers in the programme from countries including Taiwan, Iran, Sri Lanka through to UK.



The Transfigured Night, Dir. GAO Shengjie 10' (China) INT

A long and arduous conquest of the artist's expression.



A Language of Shapes, Dir. Samantha Moore 6' (UK) U

A fairytale about the microscopic world of dysentery. Based on the real life battle of scientists to find solutions to a global health problem.



Maria Sibylla Merian - The Woman Who Changed Science Forever, Dir. Anna Humphries 4' (UK) U

Three hundred years ago it was widely believed insects spontaneously appeared from dust, mud, or rotten meat. Then Maria Sibylla Merian came along and changed science forever. The 17th Century artist and naturalist is celebrated as one of the world's first ecologists. Discover her incredible story using animation based on her own illustrations.

The White Whale, Dir. Amir Mehran 10' (Iran) INT



Blooming, Dir. Sophie Marsh and Efa Blosse Mason 1'(UK) U

Blooming is a stop motion film using fleshy plasticine to invite the viewer to look at the world from a plants eye view. This playful film is a celebration of desire and pleasure.

The (un)Natural World 12:30pm

Canary, Dir. Chrysoula Korovesi 6' (Greece) INT

Miner's canary: Any thing, especially an organism, whose demise or distress provides an early warning of danger.



There's a Bison on the Prairie, Dir. Morgan Miller 7' (USA) INT



The Best Ham Sanwich According to a Fish, Dir. Jessica Xu 3' (USA) STU

Overwhelmed by the sheer number of frozen ham sandwich options at a grocery store? Maybe listen to a fish!



Anya Ratnayaka on the Colombo Wetlands and the Urban Fishing Cat, Dir. Irushi Tennekoon 6'20 (Sri Lanka) INT

In this animated interview, wildlife conservationist Anya Ratnayaka talks about how Colombo is a complex wetland habitat – a fact that is little known to its own residents. The Colombo wetlands prevent floods, acts as a disease control, and is also home to the elusive Fishing Cat!

Fly Up Too, Dir. Chris Cray 3' (UK) U

A singing woodlouse finds the confidence to believe in herself.



The Egret River, Dir. Wan-Ling Liu 20' (Taiwan) INT

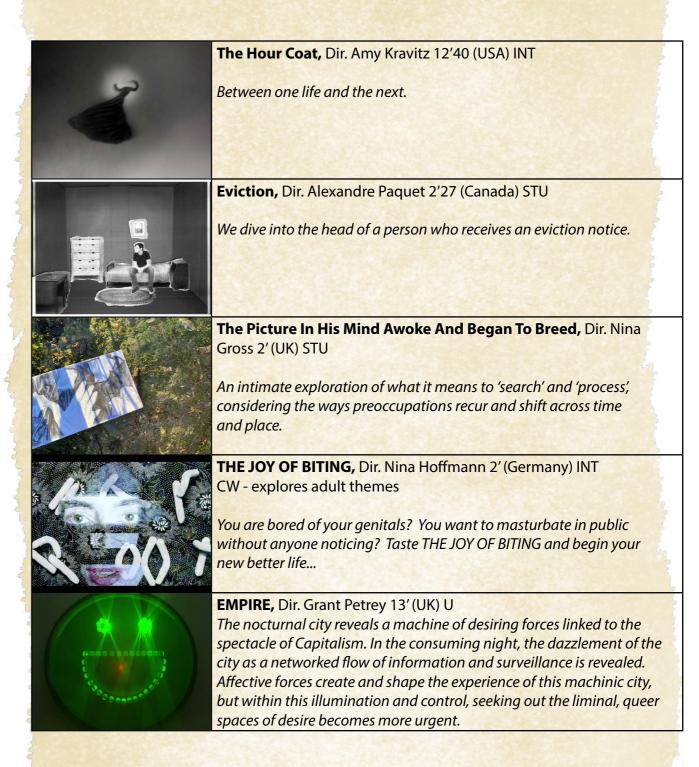
When the secret field that the man shared with the egret was destroyed, he decided to take the egret to find a new place to live.

Artists Film 2:30pm

The joy of animation is it's diversity of the medium both in form and ideation. This collection of films explore more experimental and non linear approaches to animation including charcoal erasure animation, CG through to cut out from countries including USA, Belgium through to the UK.



Artists Film 2:30pm



Queer as F++k 6:30pm

Special curated out of competition programme of Queer Animation that explores an array of contemporary queer culture from terfs and gender identity to sex positivity. Some utilise humour and imagination, some are factual accounts of lived experiences. From all accross the globe such as Belgium, Finland and USA and through stop motion, hand drawn or cut out, the one thing these films have in common is an engaging account of the queer human experience.

CW - some films contain sexual imagery



What even is a TERF?, Dir. Dez Stavracos 3' (USA)

"What even is a TERF?" is an animated history of the term "Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminists". Taking cues from the origins of radical feminism in the 1960's and utilizing visual metaphor throughout, this film aims to educate a broad audience to the nature and danger of the TERF ideology.



SPACE, Dir. Zhong Xian 3'(UK)

Personal space plays an important role in a relationship.



Harvey Milk, Dir. Steve Smith 4' (USA/UK)

A animated musical journey through the life of Harvey Milk - one of the first openly gay elected officials in US history. Made for Flocabulary and Nearpod.



Cesspit of Freedom, Dir. Oran Rose O'Sullivan 1'30 (UK)

The police's consistent harassment of a popular gay bar heralds the UK's first national Gay Pride March, taking place in the textiles town of Huddersfield, 1981.

Oveer as F++k 6:30pm



Cock Tales, Dir. Clyde Petersen 4' (USA)



All Those Sensations in My Belly, Dir. Marko Djeska 13' (Croatia)

While transitioning from male to female gender, Matia struggles with finding a genuine intimate relationship with a heterosexual man.



My Dear Mr. Whitman, Dir. Jeremiah Dickey 1'43 (USA)

This animated excerpt from documentary series "Queer for Fear" illustrates an 1872 letter of adoration sent to American poet Walt Whitman by a young British writer named Bram Stoker, years before he would find fame as the author of the novel "Dracula." The letter has since become the focus of much historical conjecture.

Tout ce que tu veux, Dir. Faust Lust Smiatek 5' (Belgium)

As she struggles to communicate with her girlfriend during sex, a young woman dives back into a childhood memory that troubles her.

Oveer as F++k 6:30pm



Woodland, Dir. Phil Wall 7'10 (UK)

Deep in the British countryside, two men share an intimate, romantic dance amongst the secluded woodland. When confronted with the local town entrenched in traditional values, they must make a difficult decision.

Embrace, Dir. Latesha Merkel 5'18 (USA)

Embrace is an animated short film about asexuality. It explores the common asexual experience of feeling different than most of the population, as well as the self-love and joy that can come from the recognition of one's asexual orientation and viewing it in a different light.

ADORABLE, Dir. Cheng-Hsu Chung 6' (UK)

ADORABLE is an animated film that presents a journey of a queer person where he explores his sexuality and the queer community; the film illustrates an observation of the modern queer society and fantasies toward the freedom of gender fluidity.

BLUSH - An Extraordinary Voyage, Dir. liti Yli-Harja 15' (Finland)

Long Shorts/Closing Night Gala 8:30pm

Long Shorts programme followed by awards ceremony. Who will win the Best UK, Best International and Best Student film?

Find out who the judges have chosen in the closing night. Followed by drinks, mingling and maybe even dancing?



Holy Holocaust, Dir. Osi Wald 17' (Israel)

A dark family secret from the past is revealed unexpectedly and shakes the lives of two old friends - Noa, an Israeli and Jennifer, a German. Past and present, text and subtext strangely intertwine as the two womwn become "third generation" against their will.

As You Like It, Dir. Hannes Rall 26' (Germany)

An animated adaptation of Shakespeare's famous play "As You Like It"



The Perpetrators, Dir. Richard Squires 17' (UK)

Suburban London, the 1980s. A stranger in the family becomes a ghost child and awakens the monsters and desires of a queer childhood.

Special Events



360 Life Drawing Class

Sunday 10 - 12pm

Join Leo Crane from Figuration 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.



Barry Purves Masterclass

Sunday 4.30pm

Barry is a veteran of 45 years involvement with stop motion, working on popular TV series ranging from The Wind in the Willows and Twirlywoos, through to feature films Mars Attacks! and King Kong. He will give a presentation on his work and career including screening of new film *No Ordinary Joe*.

Special Events



No Planet B

Saturday 11am - 10pm/Sunday 12.30pm - 10pm

This year there is an augmented reality exhition in the upstairs of the venue on the theme of No Planet B. 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.

Festival Credits

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