

BROWSER

Animate Projects

www.animateprojects.org/films

Something of a triumphal 'Browser' this week, as it sees the continuation of Animate Projects: producers of excellent, leftfield animated works and stars of C4's annual 'Animate TV'. After it looked like its Arts Council funding was going to be withdrawn, it announced plans to close, but with the AC having a change of heart, we're treated to this animation: '...In a rose columned forest'. Inspired by the works of nineteenth-century naturalist

Philip Gosse – and his studies of marine life in Devon's rock pools – it features illustrated underwater scenes set against a black backdrop, as a nasal, mumbly voice tells Gosse's son's tale of his father's work, with incredible eloquence. A kid listening to a bedtime story is 'a pale, cosseted child, under heavy eiderdowns', and we hear of 'delicately fringed' feet of crustaceans, and how peering into rockpools, 'their glimpse unfurled ivory white orange amethyst living blossoms'. Lovely. Long may they continue. Alexi Duggins