

19 May 2011

## **Animate OPEN: Digitalis**

### **A fresh open for experiments in animation**



Call for submissions deadline: 20 June 2011  
Exhibition online: from July 2011

Jury Prize: £1000  
Audience Prize: £300

Guidelines: [animateprojects.org/opportunities](http://animateprojects.org/opportunities)  
Entry: free of charge

Image: Digitalis © Sebastian Buerkner

Animate Projects - the champion of experimental animation – announces a call for its first online exhibition to be selected from an open submission.

The Animate OPEN is part of Digitalis, a strand of activities throughout 2011 that sets out to explore, question, subvert or confound our expectations of art and the ‘digital’. And that includes ‘anti-digital’ - handmade, physically crafted animation.

For the Animate OPEN, Animate Projects is looking for experimental works by UK-based artists, animators and filmmakers. The selected films will be presented online at [animateprojects.org](http://animateprojects.org), from July 2011, accompanied by interviews with the artists. The films will also be featured in the Digitalis publication and at Digitalis events later in the year.

Gary Thomas, Director of Animate Projects says: “We hope that the inaugural Animate OPEN will prove to be a platform bursting with experiment, to inspire and provoke discussions around creativity and the digital. And we are looking forward to discovering some awe inspiring stuff.”

The Animate OPEN Jury will select up to ten films for exhibition and there will be two cash prizes - one awarded by the Jury (£1000), and an Audience prize (£300) voted for by visitors to the exhibition.

The Jury members are Francesca Gavin, writer, curator and Visual Arts Editor at Dazed & Confused; Rebecca Shatwell, Director, AV Festival; Gary Thomas, Director, Animate Projects; and artist and music video director, David Wilson.

The Animate OPEN is supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

**-Ends-**

**Notes to editors:**

Submission guidelines: [animateprojects.org/opportunities](http://animateprojects.org/opportunities)

Deadline for submissions: 10am, Monday 20 June 2011

The Animate OPEN exhibition will be online from July at [animateprojects.org/films/by\\_project/digitalis/animate\\_open](http://animateprojects.org/films/by_project/digitalis/animate_open)

**Digitalis**

Digitalis is a provocative strand that sets out to explore, question, subvert or confound our expectations of art and 'the digital', and intended as a focus on and further debate around the potential of the digital space as a site for artistic production. Animation is at the forefront of digital innovation, in creative and scientific fields, and Digitalis offers a pause for thought about what the impact of digital might mean.

The strand includes: Animate OPEN: Digitalis, an online exhibition of up to ten existing works; Digitalis Commissions: four new works for online exhibition, supported by the Jerwood Charitable Foundation; Digitalis Dialogue: a screening and panel event, a free publication featuring critical writing and information about the commissioned and exhibited works, and a discussion event.

Sebastian Buerkner was also specially commissioned to produce the Digitalis artwork featured above. The work will be available to purchase as a limited-edition print from the Animate Projects Shop from July.

**Animate OPEN: Digitalis Awards**

The Jury prior to the launch of the exhibition will select the Jury Prize, and the winning film will be announced at the exhibition's launch online. The Audience Prize will be chosen through an online voting system, with the revelation of the winning film in August. Each artist included in the exhibition will also be paid a £100 exhibition fee.

### **Animate OPEN: Digitalis Jury**

**Francesca Gavin** is a writer, curator and editor based in London. She is the Visual Arts Editor for Dazed & Confused, Art Editor for Twin and Contributing Editor for AnOther. Francesca has written for AnOther Man, Guardian online, icon, Sunday Times Style, Timeout, Vogue and wallpaper\*. She has written three books: Creative Space (2009), Hell Bound: New Gothic Art (2008) and Street Renegades (2007), and has a new book entitled 100 New Artists due to be published in August 2011. Visit [roughversion.blogspot.com](http://roughversion.blogspot.com)

**Rebecca Shatwell** is Director of AV Festival, the biennial international festival of electronic arts, featuring visual art, music and moving image that takes place across Newcastle Gateshead, Sunderland and Middlesbrough. She was previously Media Arts Curator for Tyneside Cinema, Public Events Programmer at CCA in Glasgow and served as Visual Arts Officer (Media and Live Art) at Arts Council England, North East. She has curated several cross-artform projects for organisations including Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival and Pavilion in Leeds, and between 2005-2008 ran [alt.gallery](http://alt.gallery) as an independent space. Visit [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk)

**David Wilson** is a London-based artist and music video director. Coming from an illustration background, David first started getting recognition for his work with his masterful music video for Moray McLaren's We Got Time. Moving on from this he's also created eerie face-paint animations for We Have Band, a biblical epic of a music video for Dupstep pioneer Skream, a hand drawn animated mind-warp of a video for Japanese Popstars, and a melancholic tale of suicide told via puppetry for Keaton Henson. In 2009 he picked up the much coveted title of Best New Director at the UK Music Video Awards. He regularly VJs, and is a regular writer for motion graphics blog [Motionographer.com](http://Motionographer.com). Visit [davidwilsoncreative.com](http://davidwilsoncreative.com)

**Gary Thomas** is Director of Animate Projects.

### **About Animate Projects**

Animate Projects champions experiments and creative risk taking in animation across a broad spectrum of practice. It is the only UK organisation dedicated to commissioning and exhibiting innovative animation online and on digital platforms. Since 2008, [animateprojects.org](http://animateprojects.org) has received over 800,000 visitors and has an international reputation as a place to encounter outstanding work by British artists.

Recent projects include: Primitive by Apichatpong Weerasethakul; Slow Action by Ben Rivers; Figment by Hiraki Sawa and the Rough Machine commissions for iTunes and APENGINE.org.

Animate Projects is supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

Experiments in animation - [animateprojects.org](http://animateprojects.org)

### **Further press information:**

Abigail Addison at Animate Projects  
[abigail@animateprojects.org](mailto:abigail@animateprojects.org)  
+44 (0)207 407 3944 or +44 (0)778 968 6903