

Press release: 17 February 2012

'2012': five new artists' animations for Channel 4's Random Acts



Image: Z (production still) © Alan Warburton

Animate Projects is excited to announce five new commissions, in association with Lupus Films, for Channel 4's Random Acts short-form arts strand.

2012 is not only notable as the year the Olympic and Paralympic Games come to the UK. It is also the year that historically many cataclysmic or transformative events have been prophesied to come to pass. We invited artists to respond to these portents of a coming apocalypse, in three minute films. The artists - Oliver Harrison, Max Hattler, Jo Lawrence, Phil Mulloy, and Alan Warburton - take distinct and varied approaches to the theme, exploring ideas of transcendence, extinction, fetishisation, selective vision, chaos and quiet reflection.

The five films are now in production and will be broadcast on Channel 4, randomacts.channel4.com and animateprojects.org from Spring 2012.

-Ends-

Notes to editors:

For more information visit

http://www.animateprojects.org/films/by_project/group_commissions/2012

About the Commissions and Artists

Oliver Harrison - Ode to Apocalypse

A black and white, kaleidoscopic, multi-layered, hyper-kinetic typographical poem, suggesting that a quiet 'apocalypse' has already occurred, that affects us all.

Oliver's films include Love is All, an Animate commission, and winner of several awards at festivals including Oberhausen, Cork and Rushes Soho Shorts. His commercial projects include work for Nike, MTV, Royal Mail, and the titles for Howard's End.

<http://www.oliverharrison.com/>

Max Hattler - Shift

Using the New Age idea of a 'dimensional shift' as inspiration, Shift combines science fiction themes through abstract, stop motion animation of objects and colour. Shift has its gallery premiere at Tenderpixel, London, 10 March–28 April. Visit <http://www.tenderpixel.com/>

Last year, Max won the Audience Prize in the Animate OPEN exhibition. His works have been shown at exhibitions and film festivals worldwide, winning awards at 700IS; Eksjo; KLIK; London International Animation Festival; and many more. His audiovisual performance work includes work with Basement Jaxx, Diplo, and The Egg. <http://www.maxhattler.com/>

Jo Lawrence - Ylem

In Ylem a robot research-scientist seeks to recreate life from an extinct planet earth on her home planet.

Jo was Channel 4 Animator in Residence at the National Media Museum, Bradford in 2006, Her film Glow was nominated for a British Animation Award and screened around the world, including Annecy, Zagreb and Melbourne festivals. In 2008 she was Artist in Residence at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Jo is currently a director at Picasso Pictures. Visit <http://www.picassopictures.com/directors/jo-lawrence/>

Phil Mulloy - The Banker

The Banker features Mulloy's regular cast of characters, the Christies, and recounts their encounters with the Mayan End of the World Society (Wellington Green Branch).

Phil's Cowboys series was Animate's first commission in 1991. He has made over 30 animated films, and has won many international awards include being a three times winner of the Grand Prize for Best Animated Feature at Ottawa International Animation Festival, the largest animation festival in North America. Visit <http://www.philmulloy.com/>

Alan Warburton - Z

Exploring how historical narratives are made and how people in periods of global change are seemingly affected by a myopia that obscures them to the larger forces at work, using CG animation z-depth images to embody this selective vision.

Alan works as designer and director specialising in 3D animation through Mainframe, for clients MTV, Sony, Google, Nickelodeon, Disney and Virgin Media Television. He has shown work at the Anti-Design Festival, and his film Format: A Brief History of Data Storage has been viewed nearly 78,000 times on Vimeo alone. <http://www.alanwarburton.co.uk/>

About Random Acts

Random Acts is Channel 4's short-form arts strand airing five nights a week and online at randomacts.channel4.com; over the course of a year it will showcase 260 specially commissioned three minute films chosen for their bold and original expressions of creativity. Visit <http://randomacts.channel4.com/>

About Lupus Films

Lupus Films is a London based production company set up in 2002 by Camilla Deakin and Ruth Fielding. Previously, Camilla and Ruth worked at Channel 4 as the Arts and Animation commissioning team. Lupus Films has produced shows for channels around the world including the BBC, Channel 4, Channel 5, UKTV, Playhouse Disney, France 3 and WDR Germany. Visit <http://www.lupusfilms.com/>

About Animate Projects

Animate Projects is the only arts charity in the UK dedicated to championing experimental animation. We maintain the Animate Collection, a foremost online resource of experimental animation - animateprojects.org. We produce multiplatform projects for a range of prominent partners with internationally renowned artists including: Hiraki Sawa, Apichatpong Weerasethakul, David Shrigley and Jane & Louise Wilson.

Experiments in animation - <http://www.animateprojects.org>

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Further press information:

Abigail Addison at Animate Projects

abigail@animateprojects.org

+44 (0)207 407 3944 or +44 (0)778 968 6903

