

Press release: 19 March 2013

New DVD publication: Oliver Harrison's The Fallen Word and collected films

Release date: 10 May 2013



Animate Projects is delighted to be publishing The Fallen Word and collected films by artist filmmaker Oliver Harrison as a limited edition collector's item. The DVD features Oliver's first long format artist's film, The Fallen Word, as well as a selection of shorts, an original poster and an introductory essay by Animate's Gary Thomas.

The Fallen Word is a dark sinister fairytale, shot against a background of elaborate and surreal sets and incorporates animated typographic sequences. In a land where a fanatical sect has taken power and forbidden free thinking, and renegade bands of poets are the only hope for the future, there exists a word - the Fallen Word - a word that once uttered has deadly consequences. "Never let it be said..."

Oliver Harrison has been creating award-winning artists' animation for the past 25 years. With his graduation film, Amore Baciarmi (1988), he established the groundbreaking animation technique of 'kinetic typography'. He has since employed the technique in other films including Love Is All (1999), made for the Animate scheme for Arts Council/Channel 4, and Apocalypse Rhyme (2012), produced for Animate for Channel 4's Random Acts scheme.



Images: Love is All, Apocalypse Rhyme, The Fallen Word

Gary Thomas, Associate Director at Animate Projects said: "We are very excited to be working with Oliver on this important project. He is one of the UK's most important contemporary animation artists. His work is unique and pioneering."

We are delighted to be launching the DVD in association with the BFI Shop with a special preview screening and Q&A with Oliver at the BFI Southbank on 10 May 2013. The event will also include an installation of kinetic props and the original model sets designed for The Fallen Word.

This publication has been supported using public funding by Arts Council England.

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Notes to editors:

A trailer for The Fallen Word can be watched here: <http://bit.ly/ZrzmSZ>
Images are can be downloaded here: <http://bit.ly/155fQe9>

Launch event: Friday 10 May, 7pm, BFI Southbank, London, SE1
Please contact Abigail at Animate if you would be interested in attending

The Fallen Word

Another England. A fanatical sect, The Holy Exaltation, have taken power. Harsh rules forbid free thinking, art, music and writing. Beauty IS sin. The only hope of salvation lies with the poets who bring free words to the people like rays of light and colour. These wordsmiths have formed into gangs and - in verbal duels - battle for supremacy under the cover of darkness. Their words, save souls and awaken minds, but there is a problem... When a mysterious casket is left in the possession of one gang for 'safe keeping', they do not fathom the full horror of its contents: for this is the Fallen Word, a word that - once uttered - has deadly consequences. Never let it be said...

Product information

Publisher: Animate Projects, London, UK / Publishing date: 2013 / RRP: £20.00
DVD Format: PAL / Region: Zone-free / Language: English / Number of discs: 1
Edition: 500 copies / Length: 90' (tbc)

Animate Projects DVDs are available from stockists including BFI Shop, LUX, Arnolfini, Edinburgh Filmstore, and Film and Video Workshop, or online at animateprojects.org

Special features

- Illustrated booklet with an introductory essay by Gary Thomas, Associate Director, Animate Projects, film notes and credits
- Original poster by artist Mia Buckton, with typography by Oliver Harrison
- The Fallen Word, 2013, 40'00" (tbc), a dark fairytale of love lost and found, of friendship, betrayal and the magical power of language and words. Starring English actor Julian Bleach (Doctor Who, The Brothers Grimm, The Borgias, Les Misérables)
- Apocalypse Rhyme, 2012, 3'00", produced by Animate Projects in association with Lupus Films for Channel 4: a multi-layered kinetic typographical poem inspired by the notion of the world ending in 2012
- Love is All, 1999, 3'15", commissioned by the Arts Council of Great Britain and Channel 4: a snow queen (Mia Buckton) dreams of love amidst a miniature animated set, featuring the 1940s song Love is All sung by Deanna Durbin, dubbed by Time Out as 'the ineffably sweet ode to amour'
- Spirit of Place, 1992, 10'07", commissioned by the Arts Council of England and Channel 4: a ghostly reflection on a room's past lives as its spirits awake
- Time, 1990, 5'15", commissioned by BBC 2's The Late Show featuring the original poem, Time, by Nicholas Breton (c1600)
- Amore Baciame, 1988, 2'50", St. Martins School of Art graduation piece, featuring the song, Amore Baciame, sung by Nuccia Bongiovanni
- Behind the scenes footage of The Fallen Word, 2011, tbc, shot by Dominic Cazenove

Oliver Harrison

Oliver has been a practising artist filmmaker since graduating from St Martins with a degree in filmmaking in 1988. His graduation film Amore Baciame received much acclaim and was later bought and made into a commercial for the Royal Mail. This commercial subsequently won a string of awards including a Gold Lion at Cannes Advertising Awards. Oliver has made six artist's films: Amore Baciame (1988), Time (1990), Spirit of Place (1992), Love is All (1999), The Fallen Word (2012) and Apocalypse Rhyme (2012). Visit <http://www.oliverharrison.com>

Mia Buckton

Mia Buckton studied art at the London College of Printing, the Sir John Cass School of Art, St Martin's School of Art, and Slade School of Fine Art. Her work has appeared in Tatler, Elle and Carlton Books. Commissions include: Penguin Books, The CW Daniels Company, Decca Records and Reed Publishing. Her work has shown in exhibitions at the Royal Academy, Barbican, Whitechapel Art Gallery, Letchworth Museum, Zella 9 Gallery, Musee Adza, Paris.

Gary Thomas

Gary is Associate Director of Animate Projects and a Film Adviser at the British Council. He was previously Head of Moving Image at Arts Council England, where he initiated the Single-Shot and Necessary Journeys projects with the BFI and the UK Film Council, and the Artists' Moving Image Legacy and Learning programme. He has been on the boards of no.w.here Lab and was Chair of LUX, and a specialist advisor to the Scottish Arts Council/Creative Scotland.

About Animate Projects

Animate Projects is the only arts charity in the UK dedicated to championing experiments in animation. We maintain the Animate Collection, a foremost online resource of artist's animation at 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.

Further press information:

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