

Ugly

INFO

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WEB ugly-film.com

FB facebook.com/uglyshortfilm

TRAILER vimeo.com/nikitadiakur/uglytrailer

CLIPS vimeo.com/album/3364397

GIFS giphy.com/channel/uglyfilm

CROWDFUNDING kickstart.ugly-film.com

STILLS, POSTER, MEDIA http://press.ugly-film.com/ugly_pics.zip

FILM TEAM Directors: Redbear Easterman & Nikita Diakur

Music: Enrica Sciandrone, Cédric Dekowski, Felix Reifenberg

Recording, Mix, Sound Design: Nicolas Martigne, David Kamp / studiokamp

Mastering: Bernd Thurig

Animation Assistance: Gerhard Funk, Phil Maron, Nicolas Trotignon

End Titles: Bastian J. Schiffer

Assets & FX: Ozan Korkut, Chris Lühning, Mitch Martinez from mitchmartinez.com, Julia Merkschien, Hannes Raff

Associate Producer: Amid Amidi

Production Funding Liaison: Karsten Matern

LOG LINE A broken simulated short film about kindness, respect and coexistence.

SYNOPSIS An ugly cat struggles to coexist in a fragmented and broken world, eventually finding a soulmate in a mystical chief. Inspired by the internet story 'Ugly the Cat'.

ANIMATION TECHNIQUE Animation in Ugly is a combination of puppeteering and dynamic computer simulation and varies between physically accurate and broken. Similar to marionettes, the Ugly characters are built from interconnected dynamic body parts and connected via simulated springs to animated controllers.

DIRECTOR'S BIO Nikita Diakur is a Russian-born film maker based Germany. He studied Animation at the Royal College of Art in London, where he produced "Fly on the Window" that went on to screen at international film festivals such as Zagreb, Annecy and Edinburgh. Diakur is now making short films influenced by internet stories and animated via the process of computer simulation.

FILMO Fly on the Window (2009, graduation film at RCA), Ugly (2017), Fest (2018)

STATEMENT Traditional computer animation is non-linear. The animator tweaks and adjusts everything by going back and forth between different states of the animation. Thus, he is in control of the outcome. Contrary, when simulating, the animator gives up control by outsourcing several tasks to the computer. The computer executes these tasks based on calculations and outputs a linear simulation result. The animator interacts with the computer and is in control only to a certain degree.

Animating like this feels closer to real-life filmmaking: Like a real actor, the computer follows the action set by the animator and produces results that are unpredictable and personal. Accordingly, the focus shifts from outcome to process. The animator is left with the challenge to find the right balance between staying in control and leaving room for randomness.

ARTICLES ["The Beautiful Side of 'Ugly': How A Film Embraced Errors And Happy Accidents In CG"](#) Cartoon Brew - May 12, 2017

["The ugliest animation at Encounters 2017"](#) Jez Stewart, Sight & Sound - Jan 10, 2018

["Nikita Diakur : malaise en trois dimensions"](#) Arte Tracks - July 7, 2018

["Nikita Diakur's Ugly Dynamics"](#) CGWTF - Apr 17, 2016

["Aimez vous les chats miteux?"](#) L'Oeil de Links, Canal+ - Jan 30, 2017

["New Film Uses Awesome Marionette Animation to Tell the Story of an Ugly Cat"](#) Inverse - Oct 23, 2015

["Nikita Diakur | Ugly Animationsfilm"](#) Selbstdarstellungssucht - Oct 10, 2015

["Ugly Embraces Broken Computer Animation to Tell its Story"](#) Killscreen - Feb 8, 2016

SPECS

Film Type Animation, Experimental, Short
Technique Computer Simulated Puppetery
Genre Drama/Spiritual/Fantastic
Runtime 11:54min
Completion Date 1 June 2017
Country of Origin Germany
Aspect Ratio 1.9:1
Screening Formats DCP flat, 5.1; h264/Prores422 HD letterboxed, stereo
Language no dialogue

AWARDS Special Mention - Animafest Zagreb, 10 June
Honorary Mention - Prix Ars Electronica, Linz, 9 Sep
New Talent - Fantoche, Baden, 10 Sep
Grand Prize - Ottawa International Animation Festival, 24 Sep
Grand Prix - Encounters, Bristol, 24 Sep
3rd Prize - Supernova, Denver, 25 Sep
Student Jury Prize - Brno 16, 14 Oct
Best First Film - Primanima, 21 Oct
Audience Award Best German Animation - International Weekend of Animation, Wiesbaden, 29 Oct
Special Mention - Kuandu International Animation Festival, Taipei, 5 Nov
New Talent - New Chitose Airport Int Animation Festival, Sapporo, 5 Nov
Honorary Mention - Animasivo, Mexico City, 3 Dec
Nominated for the European Short Film Award, Berlin, 10 Dec
Best Director & Technical Merit - Hell Chess Festival, Madrid, 12 Jan
New Talent - GLAS Animation Festival, Berkeley, 25 Mar
Winner International Competition - Animatricks, Helsinki, 28 Apr
Perpetuum Cyberpunk Award, Cinema Perpetuum Mobile Film Festival, Minsk, 1 May
Best National Film, OderKurz Filmspektakel, 2 June
Jury and ASIFA Awards for Best Film in Animation Avantgarde, VIS Vienna Shorts, 4 June

sel. COMPETITION SCREENINGS

2017 Hamburg International Short Film Festival, 8 June
Palm Springs Shorts Fest, 23 June
River Film Festival, Padua, 26 June
Edinburgh International Film Festival, 27 June
Durban International Film Festival, 13-17 July
Rhode Island International Film Festival, 11 Aug
Turku Animated Film Festival, 23-27 Aug
Odense Film Festival, 28 Aug
Calgary International Film Festival, 23 Sep
Paris International Animation Festival, 20-26 Sep
Linoleum, Kiev, 28 Sep - 1 Oct
Milano Film Festival, 3 Oct
Filmfestival Münster, 4-8 Oct
Minikino Film Week, Bali, 7-14 Oct
Braunschweig International Film Festival, 17-22 Oct
Carmel Film Festival, 18-22 Oct
Banjaluka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 23-28 Oct
Indie Memphis Film Festival, 1-6 Nov
Asiana International Short Film Festival, Seoul, 2-11 Nov
Curta Cinema, Rio de Janeiro, 5-6 Nov
Ajayu International Animated Short Film Festival, Peru, 8-11 Nov
Fredrikstad Animation Festival, 9-12 Nov
Alcine47, Madrid, 10-17 Nov
Kurzfilmfestival Köln, 17&19 Nov
PÖFF Shorts, Tallin, 21-26 Nov
Festival Tous Courts, 27 Nov - 2 Dec
Animasivo, Mexico City, 29 Nov - 3 Dec
Anilogue, Budapest, 29 Nov - 3 Dec
Bogoshorts, Bogotá, 5-12 Dec

2018 Flickerfest, Sydney, 12-21 Jan
Prague Short Film Festival, 17-21 Jan
Trieste Film Festival, 19-28 Jan
Minimalen Short Film Festival, Trondheim, 23-28 Jan
Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival, 2-10 Feb
Dam Short Film Festival, Boulder City, 8-11 Feb
Oxford Film Festival, Mississippi, 9-11 Feb
DC Independent Film Festival, Washington DC, 14-19 Feb
Cambodia International Film Festival, 5-11 Mar
Glasgow Short Film Festival, 14-18 Mar
Landshuter Filmtage, 14-19 Mar
Athens Animfest, 15-18 Mar
Mecal Pro, Barcelona, 22-25 Mar
Friss Hús, Budapest, 3-8 Apr
Ismailia International Film Festival, Cairo, 4-11 Apr
Athens International Film and Video Festival, Ohio, USA 9-15 Apr
Go Short, Nijmegen, 11-15 Apr
Animakom, Bilbao, 11-15 Apr
Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival, 12-28 Apr
Flatpack, Birmingham, 17-22 Apr
Cardiff Animation Festival, 19-22 Apr
ITFS, Stuttgart, 24-29 Apr
cellu l'art, Jena, 24-29 Apr
Kyiv International Short Film Festival, 25-29 Apr
Indy Film Fest, Indianapolis, 26 Apr - 6 May
Anifilm, Trebon, 1-6 May
Pictoplasma, Berlin, 2-6 May
Maryland Film Festival, 2-6 May
River Bend Film Festival, Goshen, Indiana, 3-5 May
Northwest Animation Festival, Portland, 23-27 May
Fantaspoa, Porto Alegre, 18 May - 3 June
Sydney Film Festival, 6-17 June
Melbourne International Animation Festival, 18-23 June
Fest Anca International Animation Festival, 28 June - 1 July
Maremetraggio, ShortS International Film Festival, 29 June - 7 July
Insomnia International Animation Film Festival, Moscow/Kaluga, 10-23 July