

CEE Animation Experience— @AnimatekaPRO

CEE Animation
Experience
@AnimatekaPRO,
2.12.2020, online

Live streaming >

Website:
www.ceeanimation.eu

CEE Animation Launches a New Series of Masterclasses in Cooperation With Leading CEE Animated Film Festivals

CEE Animation Experience is a series of masterclasses organized in cooperation with selected partners in the CEE region. This new activity targets animation industry professionals, who will gain new insights as shared by top regional and European experts and get a rewarding experience of film production directly. The first edition will take place on 2 December within the Animateka International Animated Film Festival. The programme will be implemented online and open to the public for free.

The masterclasses will present the most current trends, case studies and strategies to local, national and regional communities of animation professionals, young talent and students. *“Our aim is to bring an interesting programme to a large public with a wide spectrum of specific topics. All activities of our CEE Animation platform lead to increasing filmmakers’ skills and improving the quality of animated projects in the CEE region. CEE Animation Experience will not be an exception,”* explains Michal Podhradský, coordinator of this activity. CEE Animation Experience will be held in 2020/2021 in Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary,

the Czech Republic, Poland, Croatia, whereas there are also other countries under consideration. The main goal of this international connection is to provide a large group of film professionals with improved access and to create a logical dramaturgy of all presentations throughout the year so that the audience can gain as much experience as possible. The cooperation with CEE partners has proven to be very effective, also by avoiding the doubling of efforts by organising similar events.

The first CEE Animation Experience will be held online and be part of AnimatekaPRO, a festival platform dedicated to animated film professionals and students. The programme consists of presentations of two animated feature films with live Q&A, followed by a keynote and case studies of projects in the field of hybrid animation. During the whole day, special emphasis will be given to the development of chosen projects.

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LIVE STREAMING LINK >

PROGRAMME

10.00 – 11.05 | Masterclass

Making of the Animated Feature Kill It and Leave This Town, animated feature film

Speaker: Mariusz Wilczyński, film director (PL)

Host: Petra Meterc (SI)

11.15 – 12.30 | Case Study Discussion

From Idea to Final Film – *Even Mice Belong in Heaven*, animated feature film

Speakers: Vladimír Lhotak, producer (CZ),

Jan Bubeníček, director (CZ)

Host: Aneta Ozorek (PL)

12.40 – 13.10 | Keynote

Expanded and Hybrid Animated Projects; What to Consider

Speaker: Yvonne van Ulden (NL)

13.10 – 13.30 | Case Study

***Sympoietic Bodies*, hybrid short film**

Speaker: Flavia Mazzanti (IT)

13.30 – 13.50 | Case Study

***Microcassette – The Smallest Cassette I've Ever Seen*, hybrid short film**

Speakers: Igor Bezinović, Ivana Pipal (HR)

13.50 – 14.10 | Works in Progress

Transmedia TV Series *Twisted Tales*, transmedia animated project

Speaker: Sara Božanič (SI)

14.10 – 14.40 | Q&A

Hybrid films

Speakers: Flavia Mazzanti, Igor Bezinović, Ivana Pipal, Sara Božanič

Host: Yvonne van Ulden (NL)

Even though the festival goes online this year, the traditional festival sessions will be maintained – such as traditional **breakfasts with the filmmakers** or the 4th edition of the **AnimatekaPRO Pitch**, which will showcase the state of ex-Yugoslav animation with a pitching competition for projects in development. Special focus on the Croatian animation scene will be organized with the help of HAVC (Croatian Audiovisual Centre). **Croatia Visiting** will show funding possibilities, producers' insights and other opportunities for connecting with the Croatian animation industry. The last day of AnimatekaPRO will be dedicated to VR in animation, presenting why and how authors use VR tools in their creative process.

Detailed description of CEE Animation Experience @AnimatekaPRO sessions

KILL IT AND LEAVE THIS TOWN

Mariusz Wilczyński (Bombonierka/ Extreme Emotions/Iam – Adam Mickiewicz Institute/ EC1 Lodz – City of Culture/Letko/Di Factory/Gigant Films/Polish Film Institute), Poland, 2020, 88'

Fleeing from despair after losing those dearest to him, the hero hides in a safe land of memories, where time stands still and all those dear to him are alive. Over the years, a city grows in his imagination. One day, literary heroes and childhood cartoon idols, who in the consciousness of the successive generations are forever young and wearing short pants, come to live there, uninvited. When our hero discovers they have all grown old and that eternal youth does not exist, he decides to return to real life, and the amazing characters living in his imagination lead him back to the real world.

Mariusz Wilczyński

A self-taught artist who has been creating animated auteur cinema for over twenty years. Retrospectives of his films were held, among others, at MoMA in New York, National Museum of Brasília, Tokyo International Forum, The National Museum in Warsaw and The National Gallery in London. He also realizes improvised live animation performances which he co-creates with symphony orchestras from Hong Kong, Paris, Tokyo, Geneva, Lviv and Warsaw. In 2007, the New York Times called him "one of the most important contemporary creators of artistic animation." For the last 11 years, he has been working on feature animation *Kill It and Leave This Town*. He is a professor of animation at the Film School in Łódź.

Petra Meterc

Petra is a freelance journalist and film critic, based in Slovenia. For years, she has been writing and reporting on film and literature for one of the oldest independent non-commercial urban radio stations in Europe, Radio Študent. She writes for Ekran magazine for Film and Television and KINO! magazine, as well as other media outlets, mostly focusing on independent cinema, and has contributed to several film festival dailies. She has also worked as a film education mentor and as a mentor of film criticism workshops. She is a Berlinale Talent Press and IFFR Trainee Project for Young Film Critics alumna.

EVEN MICE BELONG IN HEAVEN

Denisa Grimmova and Jan Bubenček (Fresh Films, Hausboot, Les Films du Cygne, Animoon, Cinemart), Czech Republic, winter/spring 2021, 87'

A film about two mortal enemies – a little mouse Whizzy and Whitebelly the fox, who after an unfortunate accident, meet in animal heaven. They lose their natural instincts and become best friends. Their wish to stay together after their return to

earth comes true, but they are reborn into opposite roles. Thanks to the power of friendship they can even overcome what seems to be impossible.

Vladimír Lhoták

Vladimir is a graduate from the FAMU film school in Prague and alumni of the audiovisual programme at Paris 3, Sorbonne Nouvelle. Vladimir is an EAVE producers workshop graduate. His producer's filmography lists creative documentaries *Hotelier* (2013), *Jenica & Perla* (2015) and *Jiří Trnka – A Long Lost Friend* (2019), and the short film *Austerlitz Advent* (2017). He is a founder of the production company Hausboot based in Prague, which is primarily dedicated to development and production of films, series and interactive content with a focus on animation, creative documentaries, VFX-driven live-action projects and transmedia genres. Hausboot is also participating in the production of the stop-motion animation film *Even Mice Belong in Heaven*. At the same time Vladimir acts as a producer of Fresh Films company, based in Czech Republic.

Jan Bubeníček

Jan is a graduate from Bretislav Pojar's ateliers at FAMU Film School in Prague. He also attended workshops at the Shintoku film festival, Kobe animation festival, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Yamagata film school and Tokyo University of Art and Design, the latter as a tutor. His film *The Three Fuo* was selected among Kodak European talents at the Cannes film festival. His filmography includes successful short films *Lewis' Watch*, *The Three Fuo* and *The Pirate*. His animation feature length debut *Murderous Tales* was released in 2016. Jan has also extensive experience with CGI animation and VFX: for several years, he worked as the Head of 3D in the Emmy-award-winning studio Universal Production Partners in Prague.

MICROCASSETTE – THE SMALLEST CASSETTE I’VE EVER SEEN

Igor Bezinović, Ivana Pipal
(Bonobostudio, Theory At Work),
Croatia, Serbia, 2020, 19’11”

Among the garbage heaps of a big landfill on a Croatian island, Zoki uncovers a microcassette. A close study of the discarded object serves as a tribute to chance and imagination.

Igor Bezinović

Igor graduated in Philosophy, Sociology and Comparative Literature from the Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and in Film and TV Directing from the Zagreb Academy of Dramatic Art. He directed about a dozen short films, the feature-length documentary The Blockade and the docufiction feature-length film A Brief Excursion. He is actively involved in filmmaking both as a professional and an amateur.

Ivana Pipal

Ivana is a freelance visual artist working in the medium of drawing, in illustration, animation, comic books, art books, design, installation, video and film. She earned her MA in Animated Film and New Media from the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb. Ivana is also a member of the art collective Lovers, whose work is based on collaborations with scientists and the artistic interpretation of that process. Since 2014, they have presented a series of installations and exhibitions.

TWISTED TALES

(Institute for Transmedia Design (SI), Sparkle Animation (PT), deFilm (RO), MINYA Film I Animacija (HR), INVR (DE)),
2017, webisodes 6x12’, TV series 26x7’,
AR Books 6x48pg

Fairy tales with a contemporary twist for children of the present.

Twisted Tales is an entertaining and educational universe; our take on the fairy tales of old, told through the medium of 6 x 12’ webisodes, a TV series, AR Books, AR experience and an educational programme for kids, teachers, and parents, empowering children to understand, accept and tolerate differences.

Sara Božanić

Sara is a CEO of the Institute for Transmedia Design. She stands at the intersection of creativity and production of technologically advanced storyworlds. Sara is the producer of the animated storyworld Twisted Tales, consisting of 6 x 12’ webisodes, a TV series, AR Books, AR experience and an educational programme for kids, teachers, and parents. In 2019, the Twisted Tales educational programme received the prestigious SozialMarie prize, honouring projects that provide innovative answers to urgent societal challenges.

Organizers

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