



San Francisco
Film Society
presents

4th san francisco international animation festival

11-15 NOVEMBER | Tickets sffs.org | Landmark's Embarcadero Center Cinema



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Fantastic Mr. Fox and a fabulous party either before or after the screening.
Celebrate Opening Night with Wes Anderson's new animated feature

OPENING NIGHT FILM & PARTY THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

a variety of media-defying entertainments.
2 Blessed 2 Be Stressed (Jacob Crocci and David Wightman) will unveil live animation accompanied by local music duo Pale Hoarse, while American underground avant-garde legend Lawrence Jordan will present. Don't miss this very special celebration of live music and animation.

AND 2 BLESSED 2 BE STRESSED KICKOFF CELEBRATION: A DREAM OF LOVERS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

as a hub for one of the most creative cinematic forms.
International Animation Festival celebrates the region's prominence commercial and industrial media. The five-day San Francisco animation occupies a unique space between artistic, experimental, One of the most fertile practices in contemporary film and television,

San Francisco International Animation Festival

SFFS FALL SEASON

San Francisco Film Society
39 Mesa Street, Suite 110
The Presidio
San Francisco CA 94129

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KICKOFF CELEBRATION

A Dream of Lovers and 2 Blessed 2 Be Stressed

Wednesday, November 11, 8:00 pm
Mezzanine, 444 Jessie Street

SFIAC kicks off with this very special celebration of live music and animation in a vibrant nightclub environment. First, underground avant-garde legend Lawrence Jordan will man a 16mm analytic projector and will improvise the frame rate and rhythm to his cutout short film **Ein Traum der liebenden (A Dream of Lovers)**, based on the live, plaintive musical accompaniment of local duo Pale Hoarse. This historic performance will be followed by **2 Blessed 2 Be Stressed**, a collaboration between Paper Rad founding member Jacob Ciocci and musician David Wightman. Ciocci will present a mix of original videos and animations and his new performance **I Let My Nightmares Go**. Wightman will join in on the fun, then perform solo as Fortress of Amplitude, a guitar-wielding minstrel from another time and place. Don't miss this exceptional evening of art, animation and live music.

OPENING NIGHT FILM

Fantastic Mr. Fox

Wes Anderson (USA 2009)

Wes Anderson (**The Royal Tenenbaums**, **Rushmore**) applies his brilliantly idiosyncratic sensibility to this beautifully animated stop-motion adaptation of Roald Dahl's beloved children's classic, in which Mr. Fox turns his back on a life of crime to spin yarns as a respectable journalist and honest family man. When the Foxes move into a treehouse within sight of three impenetrable poultry farms, Mr. Fox is tempted to pull off one last big score. George Clooney brings Mr. Fox to life with nimble character voicing, aided by a heavy-hitting cast including Meryl Streep, Jason Schwartzman, Bill Murray and Owen Wilson. Offbeat cadences and sly moments of touching grace further enliven this rare gem that is wildly entertaining for all ages.

Bay Area Premiere. Written by Wes Anderson, Noah Baumbach. Photographed by Tristan Oliver. With George Clooney, Bill Murray, Meryl Streep, Adrien Brody, Owen Wilson, Jason Schwartzman, Willem Dafoe, Wes Anderson, Brian Cox, Anjelica Huston. (87 minutes, Fox Searchlight)



The Best of Anecy

The Anecy International Animated Film Festival is widely regarded as the most important festival for animation in Europe. SFIAC is pleased to present a selection of the best shorts to have appeared in Anecy this year. (TRT 80 min)

The Employment People as objects (Santiago Grasso, Argentina, 7 min). **Ex-E.T.** A child makes trouble on an alien planet (Benoît Bargeton, Yannick Lasfas, Rémy Froment, Nicolas Gracia, France, 9 min). **Chick** A story of male-female relations (Michal Socha, Poland, 5 min). **Madagascar, Carnet de Voyage** A Western traveler confronts Madagascan traditions (Bastien Dubois, France, 12 min). **Western Spaghetti** A novel way of preparing pasta (Pes, USA, 2 min). **Slaves** Two children are pressed into slavery (Hanna Heilborn, David Aronowitsch, Sweden, 16 min). **The Man in the Blue Gordini** In an imaginary suburb, it's customary to wear only orange tops (Jean-Christophe, France, 10 min). **For Sock's Sake** A sock finds adventure at a nightclub (Carlo Vogele, France, 5 min). **Please Say Something** A troubled relationship between a cat and a mouse (David O'Reilly, Germany/Ireland, 10 min). **Log Jam** Three animals jam freestyle (Alexey, Alexeev, Hungary, 4 min).



Metropia

Tarik Saleh (Sweden 2009)

Tarik Saleh's debut feature is a chic, chilling, dystopian vision of a future in which corporate domination holds society in an anxious state of (self-)surveillance. In a bleakly beautiful 2024, call-center drone Roger Olafson (Vincent Gallo) begins hearing a voice inside his head that leads him to step out of his dull routine and into a world of would-be espionage. Working with art director Martin Hultman, Saleh utilizes a hyperrealistic animation style that defies conventional description. Using photomontage as its basis, the uncanny and unnerving technique has been described by one critic as the way "Kafka would have painted the Last Supper." Saleh's singular aesthetic lends itself perfectly to his theme of rampant paranoia and conspiracy. A sensation at the Venice Film Festival, **Metropia** is a haunting, devastatingly gloomy thriller.

West Coast Premiere. Written by Stig Larsson, Fredrik Edin, Tarik Saleh. Photographed by Sesse Lind. With Vincent Gallo, Juliette Lewis, Udo Kier, Stellan Skarsgård, Alexander Skarsgård, Sofia Helin. (86 min, Swedish Film Institute)



The Breakdown

Animation is especially suited to analysis of all sorts as it probes bodies, investigates movement and questions nature. Animation breaks down the world, love and desire... and ultimately the unconscious. (TRT 64 min)

Body Besieged A racy homage to ladies who exercise (Kelly Sears, USA, 5 min). **Kid 606: Mr. Wobbles** Kid 606 animates the beats (Joel Trussell, USA, 5 min). **Kroak "Partie de Peche"** An unexpected bounty for ice fishers (Julie Rembauville, Nicolas Bianco-Levrin, 3 min). **Mixed Bag** The push-me/pull-you dynamic inherent in all relationships (Isabelle Favez, Switzerland, 7 min). **Mobitel Mania** Technology fetishized in a modular way (Darko Vidackovic, Croatia, 5 min). **Radostki** When people love each other, anything can happen (Magdalena Osinska, Poland, 11 min). **The Rains** Simple and beautiful rainfall in the city (David Coquard-Dassault, Canada, 7 min). **The Spine** A tour de force of imagination and wit (Chris Landreth, Canada, 11 min). **What Light Through Yonder Window Breaks A** typical room made wonderful (Sara Wickens, England, 5 min). **Wings and Oars** A former pilot travels through his life (Mladimir Lescirov, Latvia, 5 min).

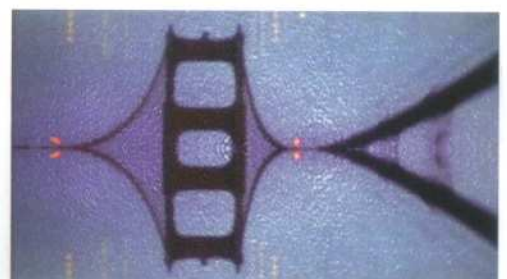
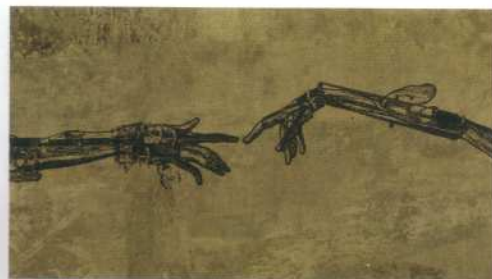


Musashi: The Dream of the Last Samurai

Mizuho Nishikubo (*Miyamoto Musashi: Sōken ni haseru yume*, Japan 2009)

Quite likely the first anime-style documentary, this wholly unique film penned by master anime director Mamoru Oshii (**Ghost in the Shell**, **The Sky Crawlers**) is set in Japan's early Edo period during the early 17th century and focuses on the real-life events surrounding the development of the *Niten Ichi-ryū* (a classical style of Japanese swordsmanship) by Musashi Miyamoto. Oshii playfully questions the tale's—and his own film's—veracity, weaving together facts and myths while alternating between reverence and silliness in this refreshingly offbeat look at militarism and machismo. One of only a handful of true animation auteurs, Oshii states, "My goal is to always make a new kind of movie that nobody has seen before." Once again, he definitely has succeeded with this genre-bending marvel.

U.S. Premiere. Written by Mamoru Oshii. Photographed by Hisashi Ezura. (72 min, Production I.G.)



Play It by Eye

This year's program of recent animated music videos mixes established vets with up-and-comers. (TRT 77 min)

Autokratz: Stay the Same (Laurie Thinot, England, 4 min). **Big Mistake: Tim Fite** (Claire Carré, USA, 4 min). **Britney Spears: Break the Ice** (Robert Hales, USA, 4 min). **The Crips: Mirror Kisses** (Diamond Dogs, Canada/USA, 4 min). **Feist: Honey Honey** (Anthony Seck, Canada, 4 min). **Fleet Foxes: White Winter Hymnal** (Sean Pecknold, USA, 3 min). **The Fray: Heartless** (Hiro Murai, USA, 5 min). **Grizzly Bear: While You Wait for the Others** (Sean Pecknold, USA, 5 min). **The Gossip: Love Long Distance** (Joel Trussel, USA, 4 min). **In-Flight Safety: Model Homes** (Drew Lightfoot, USA, 5 min). **Ladyhawke: My Delirium** (Frater, France, 5 min). **Love Like Fire: William** (Zach Keller, USA, 5 min). **Metallica: All Nightmare Long** (Roboshobo, USA, 9 min). **Linda Perhacs: Paper Mountain Man** (Kelly Sears, USA, 4 min). **Passion Pit: The Reeling** (Hydra, USA, 5 min). **Rex the Dog: Bubblicious** (Geoffrey deCercy, England, 4 min). **Timbaland with The Hives: Throw It on Me** (Justin Francis, USA, 4 min).

Somewhere Where I Don't Know Where I Am

These animated films describe the humor, confusion, anxiety and poignancy of the many places we encounter. (TRT 61 min)

The Adventures of Ledo and Ix A low-res existential comedy (Emily Carmichael, USA, 5 min). **Dark Island** Simply beautiful cutouts and puppetry (Jonas Mellgren, Sweden, 10 min). **Drux Flux** Is this progress? (Theodore Ushev, Canada, 5 min). **Fleet Foxes: Mykonos** Neo-folkies animate heavenly harmonies. (Sean Pecknold, USA, 4 min). **Fly on the Window** What does a fly see? (Nikita Diakur, England, 3 min). **Head Garden** (working title) Insights into headspace (Lilli Carré, USA, 5 min). **Kroak "Retour aux ours"** You should have this much fun (Julie Rembauville, Nicolas Bianco-Levrin, France, 3 min). **Lucky** In real space with neon trails (Darcy Prendergast, Australia, 3 min). **Red and Blue** The bombs come over here and then they go over there (Dusko Pasic, Serbia, 2 min). **Robes of War** When bodies become weapons (Michèle Cournoyer, Canada, 5 min). **Runaway** What awaits us around the bend? (Cordell Barker, Canada, 9 min). **Sound-Shadows** We are surrounded by sound (Julie Engaas, Norway, 7 min).

Super Massive Suspension: Nate Boyce vs. Amy Hicks

The animation catalogs of Nate Boyce and Amy Hicks will be on display in this (not so competitive) animation throwdown. It's no secret that the Bay Area is home to some of the world's biggest, highest-profile animation studios, visual FX producers and animators. Still, many independent animators continue to work and push the boundaries of animation from both creative and technical perspectives. Boyce and Hicks represent two wildly differing approaches to animation, while retaining an independent ethos of personal creativity. Hicks uses stop-motion techniques and optical printing to produce humorous and alluring short films, while Boyce uses degraded video footage and the muse of electronic music to produce intense and vibrant works of abstract color. This program is intended to shine a light on internationally recognized fine artists working in our own backyard. Included will be Hicks' readaptations of **Jaws** and **Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?** and Boyce's collaborative animations with the musicians Eats Tapes and Martin Schmidt of Matmos.



A Town Called Panic

Stéphane Aubier, Vincent Patar (*Panique au village*, Belgium/France/Luxembourg 2009)

One of the rare feature-length animated films to appear in the Cannes Film Festival, **A Town Called Panic** is sure to live up to the cult status of the Belgian TV series upon which it delightfully expands. The town of Panic is populated by an assortment of plastic figurines whose daily activities recall children's illogical narratives in their disjointedness, celebration of the quotidian and profound brilliance. Cowboy and Indian decide to give their friend Horse a birthday present, but thanks to an Internet shopping typo the trio must travel to the center of the earth, trek across frozen tundra and discover a parallel underwater universe populated by dishonest pointy-headed creatures. **A Town Called Panic** is the product of ingenious imagination and a surreal sense of absurdity.

Bay Area Premiere. Written by Stéphane Aubier, Vincent Patar, Guillaume Malandrin, Vincent Tavier. Photographed by Jan Vandenbussche. With Stéphane Aubier, Jeanne Balibar, Bruce Ellison, Vincent Patar, Benoît Poelvoorde (75 min, Zeitgeist)

Walt Disney's Alice Comedies

A little girl filmed in live action and placed in a cartoon world—that's how Walt Disney established his Hollywood studio, producing 56 of these shorts between 1923 and 1927. SFIAP partners with the newly opened Walt Disney Family Museum to present a selection of these charming films. The program will be presented by Russell Merritt and J.B. Kaufman, authors of **Walt in Wonderland** and **Walt Disney's Silly Symphonies**. Experts on the early period of Walt Disney's filmmaking, Merritt and Kaufman have chosen a number of representative Alice films, and will elucidate their significance, style and practice. These lovely Alice films are rarely screened in theaters, and with learned, enthusiastic Disney historians on hand, this program will appeal to families, Disney buffs and general audiences alike.

SF360 LIVE

Data in Motion: Information Design and Animation

Friday, November 13, 4:00 pm

Joy Mountford

The Apple Store, One Stockton Street

Free admission

Visionary information designer Joy Mountford will present a fascinating survey of approaches to organizing data using methods of visually and motion. An expert in the field of presenting data in motion, Mountford has mentored numerous artists and engineers through her work with Interval Research Corporation in Palo Alto and at the Interactive Telecommunications Program at NYU. Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn about future trends in information design with one of the field's leading thinkers.