



Promoting European and Independent
Animation worldwide

8 years
2011-2019

TOP ANIMATION SHORTS 2019 / ALL PARTICIPANT'S VOTES

SOURCE:

<https://www.zippyframes.com/index.php/awards-prizes/top-animation-short-2019-zippy-frames>

CONTRIBUTORS (ALPHABETICAL):

1. Milen Alempijevic, Artistic director of Intl. animation festival ANIMANIMA (Serbia)

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. RAYMONDE OU L'ÉVASION VERTICALE, Sarah Van Den Boom: A bittersweet tale about the deepest feelings of a genuine woman.
2. MY GENERATION, Ludovic Houplain: A dramatic visual storytelling as a sharp critic of world nowadays.

Student Shorts:

1. JACQUES' RAMPAGE OR WHEN DO WE LOSE OUR SELF-CONFIDENCE, Máté Horesnyi: Puzzled animated black&white world overwhelmed by Jacques Tati's light humor.
2. ANIMALS, Tue Sanggaard: Perfectly crafted 3D in service of an illustration of the Latin saying Homo homini lupus est.

2. Kieran Argo, Animation Programmer - Encounters Festival

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. 'Mind My Mind' dir: Floor Adams. 'Mind My Mind' is a beautiful hand-drawn animation looking at the interior mind of an autistic child. The film shines a sensitive light on some of the anxieties and the different perspectives that people with autism have. It's a very strong visual film with a story worth telling
2. 'Five Minutes to Sea' dir: Natalia Mirzoyan. This is a lovely relaxing observational film that transports you to the seaside on a summer's day and conjures up all the sensations that go with it. It watches life go by without imposing any overwhelming interpretation

Student Shorts:

1. 'Daughter' dir: Daria Kashcheeva. 'Daughter' is a superb stop motion puppet film that works on so many levels. I was pleasantly surprised to see such depth and detail and powerful story-telling in this top quality graduation film
2. 'Music and Clowns' dir: Alex Widdowson. This is a poignant subjective family documentary of someone with Down's Syndrome. Alex raises important questions about positive representation and strong familial bonds of love

3. Olga Bobrowska, StopTrik IFF Festival Director

(order non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts

1. Impossible Figures and Other Stories III, dir. Marta Pajek, for capturing blissfulness of desires and irreversible transformations of the mind-set with the means of a simple line that constructs ever-evolving, constantly expanding and shockingly dissolving most intimate structures
2. A Cat is Always Female, dir. Martina Mestrovic, Tanja Vujasinović, for opening up a multi-layered discussion on intersection of documentary and animation qualities that convey an in-depth reflection on art creation and reception, a highly significant subject that finds new resolution thanks to locating it within the gender and feminism contexts

Student Shorts

1. Marbles, dir. Natalia Sychala (Film School Lodz), for an outstanding execution of the technical concept and an ability to translate a complex metaphor into immersing visuality
2. An eye for an eye, dir. Julia Ploch (Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow), for a consistency in merging

a slowly-evolving, surreal storytelling with a daring imagery suspended between sophisticated phantasmagory and pop-cultural echoes

4. Spela Cadez, animation director

(order hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Mr. Mare, Luca Toth
2. Acid Rain, Tomek Popakul

Student Shorts:

1. Daughter, Dcera, Daria KASHCHEEVA.
2. Adorable, Cheng-Hsu Chung

5. Olivier Catherin, Producer

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. The Physics of Sorrow - Theodore Ushev - Beautiful, very personal and upsetting. It's a film that stays in your mind forever.
2. Uncle Thomas, Accounting for the Days - Regina Pessoa - A very tender and moving portrait, magnified by a beautiful and inventive animation.

Student Shorts:

1. Daughter - Daria Kashcheeva - Very moving and innovative. Both heir of traditional Czech stop motion animation and decidedly unique and modern.
2. My Little Goat - Tomoki Misato - Very impressive and innovative. Both heir of traditional Czech stop motion animation and at the same time decidedly unique and modern.

6. Shaun Clark, Animation Director

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. The Physics of Sorrow, Theodore Ushev. Utterly moving piece of filmmaking. This film seeps into

the darkness of the cinema and transports you to a place which is both moving and atmospheric. A cinematic and beautifully crafted film.

2. Roughhouse, Jonathan Hodgson. Gritty and visceral in its style and narrative. Roughhouse is a cautionary tale with great animated performances and guts.

Student Shorts:

1. Sister, Siqi Song. Superb animation with fantastic puppets and sets. This film is both moving and thought provoking piece of filmmaking.

2. Inanimate, Lucia Bulgheroni. Going beyond the frame this story explores the role and thoughts of the animator blurring the worlds of animation and reality.

7. Fabian Driehorst, Distributor, Fabian & Fred

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Acid Rain, Polish Tomek Popakul, outstanding writing, perfectly fitting unique style
2. EGG, Martina Scarpelli, one of a kind personal story and style, a piece of art

Student Shorts:

1. Blieschow, Christoph Sarow, use of color and believable, precise observation of youth
2. Sister, Siqi Song, great storytelling and extraordinary use of animation

8. Nancy Denney-Phelps, Animation Journalist/Historian

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Egg - Martina Scarpelli - The film depicts a young woman's battle with anorexia. The beautiful hand drawn animation is in stark contrast to the horror of the film's subject, a woman's fight with her own body.

2. 5 Minutes to Sea - Natalia Mirzoyan - Natalia has captured the feeling we all had as a child that time passes so slowly when we are waiting for something. The film portrays a child's impatience to get back into the ocean when her mother orders her to rest for 5 minutes with an elderly couple who feel that time is rushing past them. All of this in beautiful watercolour.

Student Shorts:

1. Daughter - Daria Kashcheeva - Daughter is a touching story of a grown daughter finally coming to terms with her father, but what makes this PM exceptional for me is Daria's ability to bring her

puppet's alive. There are places in the film, such as when Daughter was walking up the stairs, that I thought were CG at first, but they are indeed well crafted puppet shots.

2. Nuit Chere - Lia Bertels - The characters charmed me and the backgrounds were lovely. I was taken into the magical night of the sleepless little bear like creature and his monkey friend who go in search of food and make an amazing discovery

9. Petrit Gora, Artistic director, Anibar

(order hierarchical)

Professional shorts

1. Agouro, David Doutel and Vasco Sá
2. I'M GOING OUT FOR CIGARETTES by Osman Cerfon

Student shorts

1. Daughter, by Daria KASHCHEEVA
2. APPLESAUCE by Alexander Gratzner

10. Mikhail Gurevich, film/animation critic/scholar

(order hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Five Minutes to Sea, Natalia Mirzoyan. Beyond and beneath the plot-line, freshly touching in itself, - a pointed instrumental meditation on time and timing; and in execution - a rather sharp cross between the sketchy and the polished.
2. Selfies, Claudius Gentinetta. A seemingly simple move/device witty-dramatically sublimated into the (almost phantasmagorical) outlook of times and mores.

Student Shorts:

1. Daughter, Daria Kashcheeva. A serious take on dramatic capabilities of puppetry in personal narrative; keen sense of texture; not quite conventional shooting and montage strategy.
2. A Demonstration of Brilliance in Four Acts, Lucija Mrzljak, Morten Tšinakov. Quite an interesting intersection of Croatian and Estonian schools/traditions, in design and in narrative structuring; guardedly refined graphics; absurdly-logical deep-dark-sharp humor.

11. Pavel Horáček, Anifilm programme director

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. La Chute / The Fall, Boris Labbé - An immersive cinematographic experience that is not disconnected from reality but linked directly to our present and quite likely the future.
2. Piat minut do moria / Five Minutes to Sea, Natalia Mirzoyan - A poetic, magical film with an amazing work with time and design. The film is a bit of an "old school", but paradoxically, it probably will not get old.

Student Shorts:

1. Dcera / Daughter, Alexandra Kascheeva - Touching and important theme conceived in an unprecedented style. The film has and will have a huge impact not only on Czech animation. For "industry" in our country it is terribly important milestone. At the same time, the film overshadowed a number of different contemporary great Czech (and Slovak) films (Hide N Seek, Apart, The Kite, After, Shi_t Happens...)
2. Sister, Siqi Song - An original and yet accessible film for wide audience. It is technically and narratively perfectly mastered. But the choice is difficult, there are many great student films. In the last two years I'd say better than professional short films.

12. Piotr Kardas, Programme Director O!PLA, CRAFT, Rising of Lusitania

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. DONT KNOW WHAT (Austria 2019, 08:07), Dir. Thomas Renoldner: Not often an experimental film can amuse an audience. Even more rarely, an artist experimenting with the medium has a distance to himself and his art. Thomas Renoldner did it perfectly! Captivating lightness and precision of workmanship. A friendly shake hands with the contemporary viewer, and at the same time an intelligent dialogue with the history of experimental cinema. Contrary to the title DON'T KNOW WHAT knows perfectly well what it is doing!
2. I'M GOING OUT FOR CIGARETTES (France 2018, 13:35), Dir. Osman Cerfon: A deeply touching,

intimate portrait of a family, full of excellent observations. Witty, wise and not and not obvious in the slightest.

Student Shorts:

1. DAUGHTER (Czech Republic 2019, 14:44), Dir. Daria Kashcheeva (FAMU): For the unique visual language reflecting the emotions of the main character, the outstanding acting of puppet actors and a subtle depiction of the relationship of a daughter and father; about understanding and forgiveness that comes with time.

2. MARBLES (Poland 2019, 05:13), Dir. Natalia Spychała (National Film School in Łódź): An audiovisual experience about everyday life, made using simple but not obvious methods.

13. Daria Kashcheeva, Director and Animator

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Acid Rain by Tomek Popakul: A strong and convincing film language. The great example, when imperfect technique works perfectly for the story and creates the feeling of being lost and broken. Perfect and brave timing. The next step in the animated short film.

2. Winter In the Rainforest by Anu-Laura Tuttelberg, Surrealistic combination of techniques, authenticity of film, delicate sound and music create such a tender and magic world you want to escape.

Student Shorts:

1. The Little Soul by Barbara Rupik, Astonishing technique. Incompatible senses of fragility, concurrently cleanliness and impurity, expectations and hopeless, inevitable disaster. The feelings you couldn't explain complete amazing work with sound and music.

2. You are Overreacting by Karina Paciorkowska, A strong visual reflection of reality, which surrounds women in everyday life. Strong message and reflection of our world from women perspective is need to be said aloud.

14. Agnieszka Kowalewska-Skowron, Momakin

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Egg (Martina Scarpelli) - Intimate story with disturbing and ascetic image and sound.

2. Acid Rain (Tomasz Popakul) - In the soup of trend on post-communism and nineties , this film seems to be one of the few authentic voices.

Student Shorts:

1. "Daughter" (Daria Kashcheeva) - For freshness in tradition.
2. "Sounds Good" (Sander Joon) - Visual symphony for people with misophonia.

15. Uri Kranot, Filmmaker

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Kids/ Michael Frei/ For it's whimsical subversive statement , in the disguise of an infantile film
2. Guaxuma/ Nara Normande/ Honest and direct, with such a perfect choice of animation technique(s) to tell a story from the heart

Student Shorts:

1. Sounds good/ Sander Joon/ Sander has a unique sensibility for timing and sound, visualised in such awkward beauty
2. Entropia/ Flora Buda/ I did not understand that film but loved every second of it

16. Kropka, ReAnima Festival and Programme Director

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Mémorable. Bruno Collet made a masterpiece, from the technique, the narrative and the subject it deals with. It is a powerful and sensitive animated exercise. Simple and complex, which is difficult not to connect.
2. Purpleboy. Alexandre Siquiera. It is a necessary and very honest work. The levels of design and animation are brutal. With success and expertise puts imagination and technique at the service of a little explored topic It leaves me with one of the scenes that I will remember most in the animated cinema.

Student Shorts:

1. Daughter. Daria Kashcheeva. The purity of the technique and the mastery of the visual language make it impossible to look away even for a second. Pure talent. From the first frame it catches you until it ends and leaves you amazed.

2. Sounds Good. Sander Joon. Visually fresh and hilarious. As a mushroom lover I must say that it is an exhaustive work of imagination and aesthetic-artistic references. The best animated sarcasm I've seen in a long time.

17. Anders Narverud Moen, Fredrikstad Animation Festival Director

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. I'm going out for Cigarettes, Osman Cerfon: Just a very complete film, nice visual, good use of animation to tell the story and really well scripted. Funny and serious at the same time.
2. Farce, Robin Jensen: A fearful revenge story, a Sami version of the travel of Odysseus. Fun, beautiful and gross.

Student Shorts:

1. Good Intentions, Anna Mantzaris: Dark story in a fuzzy puppet world. Anna Mantzaris establish her as a great storyteller with her stop-motion films.
2. Sound Good, Sander Joon: Because it sounds good...

18. Anna Ida Orosz, Programme director, Primanima World Festival of First Animations, Hungary

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Mr. Mare by Luca Tóth: Filled with Luca Tóth's emblematic odd, intense, wobbling characters, and presented with sensual and dreamlike colors, "Mr. Mare" is a surreal depiction of an everyday story. It is a bizarre and relatable chamber drama about the longing for attention and the melancholy of unrequited love.
2. Lah Gah by Cécile Brun: "Lah-gah" presents us with a tender and joyous moment of a father and a daughter spending some quality time together. Along with the little girl, at one point, we get lost in the soggy mixture of the dough, from where there is no way back to the intimate idyll with the father. Without becoming sentimental, through the combination of classical drawing-on-paper and experimental abstract animation, the film evokes the unimaginable trauma of losing a loved one, which causes the feeling of suffocative helplessness.

Student Shorts:

1. West Question, East Answer by Dal Park: Such abstract notions described by sociology, as the

generational gap, or the East–West dichotomy become personal and tangible in this 6-minute-long little gem. Based on a recorded interview with the filmmaker's own grandma, this short film is an amusing, heartfelt, and to-the-point depiction of the hardships and complexity one faces when attempting to learn about his or her own roots.

2. Hide 'n' Seek by Barbora Halířová: They say, old people, before they die, travel back to their childhood. The main character of "Hide 'n' Seek", a little boy does this the other way round: he travels forward in his life while playing with his sisters and hides in an old pendulum clock. In this utterly wise, touching and sensitive film, his metaphysic travel is a sweeping vision of getting old and of our life-long childhood memories.

19. Jelena Popovic, Producer

(order is hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. ACID RAIN - Tomek Popakul: For its 26 too short minutes of rain sprawling relentlessly into other liquids before slumbering in an acid puddle on the road. Exquisite trip, tale and annals of an era, all at once.
2. DONT KNOW WHAT - Thomas Renoldner: For knowing what and "how much entertainment is possible in avantgarde film, and how much experimentation in animation".

Student Shorts:

1. GRAVEDAD - Matisse Gonzalez Jordan: For its tenderness, and economy, in depicting happiness and its opposite.
2. GRAND BASSIN - Héloïse Courtois, Victori Jalabert, Chloé Plat, Adèle Raigneau: For its innocent sexiness, its playful volumes, perspectives and scales, and its unpretentious poetic observations of social behaviors - all acoustically magnified, just like underwater.

20. Igor Prassel, Animateka International Animated Film Festival Program Director and editor of program at the Slovenian Cinematheque

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Acid Rain, Tomek Popakul - One of the best scripted animated shorts i saw in many years. Great use of UGLY animation aesthetics to tell a story of a stoned and self-centered generation.
2. Physics of Sorrow, Theodore Ushev - A masterfully encaustic painted on beeswax animated

adaptation of a storytelling jewel, Georgi Gospodinov magnum opus novel *The Physics of Sorrow*. As Ushev put it: "The story of sadness and sorrow of a generation that had all the opportunities, hope and the possibility to make a better world. And failed"

Student Shorts:

1. *Daughter*, Daria Kashcheeva - Not because it got the student Oscar, but because it is daring on all levels and it brings stop motion puppet animation to a higher level. Can't wait to see Daria Kashcheeva professional debut film!
2. *The Little Soul*, Barbara Rupik - An extremely rich and artistic animation of the human body out on the journey to the posthumous world.

21. Daniel Šuljić, filmmaker and artistic director World festival of animated film Animafest ZAGREB

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. *Acid Rain* - Tomek Popakul (Poland): With its disturbing atmosphere, movements and innovative images, *Acid Rain* skillfully tells a story on border between reality and LSD trip, about learning to avoid to make the same mistake twice. The film takes us on a fantastic cinematic journey rendered at a perfect pace. Though there are other great films out there this one absolutely stands out in 2019.
2. *Flood* - Malte Stein (Germany): Another film in a world on it's own, showing horror of growing up in a frustrated i-am-a-victim mother controlled environment full of psychological harassment, suppressed violence, emotional black-mails, bullying.. With one word, a theme which is not being mentioned often, a portrait of worlds somewhere out there where flood grabs you by the throat and traps you behind privacy of locked flat doors and windows.

Student Shorts:

1. *My Little Goat* – Tomoki Misato (Japan): Strong film about a horrifying topic - child's abuse - told as nightmarish version of a Wolf and seven goats fairy tale. A student film! Just great!
2. *Entropia* - Flóra Anna Buda (Hungary): Complex and beautiful film by Buda, next visual gem from Mome and Hungary where a whole wave of super talented women are setting new standards in short animation and some of them just graduated. Exciting times in Budapest.

22. Yiorgos Tsangaris, Artistic Director - Animafest Cyprus

(order non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts

1. Cosmonaut, Kaspar Jancis: for its masterful story-telling. This is an allegory for the political shifts of a whole era.
2. The Physics of Sorrow, Theodore Ushev: for its pioneering technique, its atmosphere, its thematic depth, the authenticity of its emotional content.

Student Shorts

1. Flight of Monochrome feathers, Arash Akhgari. A mature, poetic film by a young filmmaker, that celebrates the uniqueness of Iranian culture.
2. Poetika Anima, Kristina Saganova: a sensitive artist, a dreamer, who stands out in her personal style.

23. Péter Vác, animation director

(order non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts

1. Roses in the night by Pencho Kunchev. This film kept amazing me in every five seconds until it lasted. a playful, erotic, fairytale journey.
 2. I'm going out for cigarettes by Osmar Cerfon. The fresh and a bit naive visual style the raw and real family situation made this film really joyful to watch. later I realized it's from the guy who made Sticky ending. It makes sense... It's a great film too.
- Also: The RAIN rež./dir. Piotr Milczarek (a simple idea turned into a great film with clever storytelling spiced with good humor and irony)

Student Shorts

1. Daughter by Daria Kashcheeva. For making a puppet animation feel like a good live-action drama, expanding the technique's possibilities.
2. Facing it by Sam Gainsborough. For making a mature coming-of-age film that inspires people to express their own emotions, as well as see other people's emotions.

24. Karin Vandenrydt, programmer Anima Brussels

(order hierarchical)

Professional Shorts

1. Physique de la tristesse (The Physics of Sorrow), Theodore Ushev An extraordinary mastery of image, sound, technique, storytelling resulting in a very moving and melancholic film. I enjoyed every second of the full 27 minutes.

2. Acid Rain, Tomek Popakul Poignant, bold, refreshing, compelling, menacing. Daring yet functional style - in short, excellent cinema

Student Shorts

1. Daughter, Daria Kashcheeva The story of a difficult father/daughter relationship, portrayed with a lot of nuance using an impressive technique and beautiful camera work

2. Hors Piste, Léo Brunel, Loris Cavalier, Camille Jalabert, Oscar Malet Excellent, well made big fun entertainment, one needs that every now and then...

25. Tünde Vollenbroek, Animation producer, curator and journalist

(order is non-hierarchical)

Professional Shorts:

1. Egg by Italian director Martina Scarpelli is a gorgeous, gripping animated short that does what animation does best: evoke strong feelings through visual metaphors.

2. Si So Mi by Taiwanese director Zhang Xu-Zhan takes you through an absurd, magical ritual around death. I can't quite explain it, but am completely intrigued by it.

Student Shorts:

1. Flower Found! by Dutch director Jorn Leeuwerink had me laughing and crying for about a dozen times since I first saw it. It combines macabre and cute, and adds a portion of sharp social commentary.

2. Bear With Me by Israeli director Daphna Awadish opens up a tough subject through a sweet and soft tone of voice, with a visual style and technique that beautifully fits the story.

26. Steven Woloshen, filmmaker

(order non-hierarchical)

Professional shorts

1. "Girl in Hallway" - A wonderful oeuvre speaking to our hopes and outrage.
2. "Gun Shop" P. Smith - An effective and well positioned provocative film

Student shorts

1. "Daughter" - A quiet, soulful and sensitive education for the filmmaker and the audience.
2. "After" matouš valchář - just wonderful!