735 films from 51 countries were submitted for prize consideration this year. 140 of them made it past the jury’s first round of cuts, and thereby remained in contention for the Golden Nica grand prize, two Awards of Distinction and 12 Honorary Mentions.

The Ars Electronica Animation Festival is a compilation of those 140 works grouped according to formal and substantive criteria, and thus provides a condensed overview of what’s happening here now. The Prix Ars Electronica’s mission ever since its inception has been to single out for recognition works that take new approaches to animation and expand the genre’s productive and creative spectrum.

For years, it seemed impossible to keep up with the impressive new developments coming out of VFX studios serving the movie business giants. In competition with them, films produced by artists and indie filmmakers usually didn’t stand a chance. But the rapid development of hardware and the price reductions that went along with it as well as the growing professionalism of the training that was available brought about a decisive change. Now, VFX has become an essential element of computer animation, a standard of everyday life in this field. Generative and interactive works, projections in an exhibition context or open-air setting, innovative hybrids of analog and digital animation that deliver totally new visual experiences, and found footage—all these developments attest to how this genre’s boundaries have steadily shifted outward and dissolved altogether.

Plus, there’s the fact that the internet and its rapidly growing databases provide artists with access to knowledge to an extent that was utterly unimaginable not so long ago.

Only a few years ago, short films with a linear plot still predominated among entries to the Prix Ars Electronica. Since then, this approach has undergone a quantitative decline, but what has dramatically increased over the same timeframe is narrative and aesthetic complexity that reflects the profound social transformations we’ve been living through.

But by no means should this be construed to imply that the short film genre—be it traditionally narrative or experimental—has lost any of its power to get across a message or to attract viewer interest.

The Ars Electronica Animation Festival’s lineup is complemented by a Young Animations program showcasing excellent submissions to the Prix’s u19 – CREATE YOUR WORLD category for young people under age 19 who live in Austria. Young Animations thus brings together the best of the steadily increasing number of entries to this competition and also prize-winning works from the partner institutions bugnplay (cH), MB21 (DE) and c3<19 (HU). A special treat is a selection of last year’s prize-winning films at the Japan Media Arts Festival, and the special program of Campus Genius Award.

ARS ELECTRONICA animation festival 2014
Expanded Animation

In this program, animation takes leave of its usual screening rooms for venues that include gallery spaces, cathedrals, facades and landscapes, and reconfigures these settings in the process. Unaccustomed perspectives, impressive spatial experiences and bizarrely illuminated realms materialize before our very eyes.

BuBu
Duo Duo de Donder (NL) & Jany van Lith (NL)
Bit & Bob (NL)

THE ARI
Lei Lei (CN)

A million times.
Vanya Pelin (RU)

Lighthouse 3D Mapping.
Yury Pelin (RU)

The Colony: A tale on Text DE
Maxim Meshkov (RU) with Svenja Keune (DE)

Protection
/

Hybrida
Hans-Peter Minihuber, Dominik Pfeffer, Georg Wurz / University of Applied Sciences, Campus Hagenberg (AT)

ESCAPE

deither

Lattice 2.00, Bommel (NL)

U (Dreams)
Los Angeles (US)

Advection
Robert Seidel, David Kamp (DE)

Light Leaks
Kyle McDonald (US), Jonas Jongejan (DK)

The imperceptible
Mihai Grecu (RO)

The Flood Panels
Sci-Fi (AT)

Kihira

The Flood Panels
The Macula (CZ)

Experimental

Tests conducted amidst semi-abstract proving grounds and impressive technological experiments—a completely new way to deploy stereoscopy, for instance, or the use of found footage—produce new visual experiences of space and time.

Recycled

Duo Duo de Donder (NL) & Jany van Lith (NL)

Spinneal Harmonics
Alan Warburton (GB)

Flash

Domiq (Mazen Miski) (RU)

SALIENCE Short Film
Paul Thilen (US)

Hybrida

Hans-Peter Minihuber, Dominik Pfeffer, Georg Wurz / University of Applied Sciences, Campus Hagenberg (AT)

Erra de Forma

Anousk De Clercq (BE)

Object

Masahiro Dhsusuka (JP)

Plastic Inflète

Mihai Grecu (RO)
Mental States
Psychological states of emergency; fears; the ego's dark sides; analyses of experiences in people's pasts and, in many cases, in their earliest childhood; the search for sexual harmony—the quintessentially human perceptions that surface in Mental States call upon us to consider our own self.

Narration
From lovingly poetic to coarsely comic, biting satire to loud-and-clear political statements—today's filmmakers don't shy away from any issue at all in the digital narratives they confront us with, and demonstrate yet again that there are no limits to computer animation's storytelling capabilities.

Lonely Bones
Production: Belgian Animation Network 2014
Director: Roel Verlinden
Diplomatation
Production: KKP 2014
Director: Swadheep Harisinghe (KP)

Encore des Changements
Animation: Rotosciences (FR)
Director: Laurent Witz

Out of Bounds
Production: Defragmentation 2014
Director: Saebyul Hwangbo (KP)

Myopia
Production: The Animation Workshop 2014
Directors: Emmanuel Asquier-Brassart, Ricky Cometa, Guillaume Dousse, Adrien Gromelle, Thibaud Petitpas (FR)

Lonely Bones
11:00 | Prix Ars Electronica 2014
Diplomatation
11:48 | Prix Ars Electronica 2014
Encore des Changements
13:00 | Prix Ars Electronica 2014
Out of Bounds
13:22 | Prix Ars Electronica 2014

Mr. Hublot
Alessandra Kampfner (AT), Laurent Witz (FR) (ZELT productions)

Chipotle Scarecrow
Benoît Guillaume, Barbara Marieville (FR)

Hollow Land
Mikkel Okholm (The Animation Workshop) (DK)

Kangaroos can't jump backwards
Michael and Oli Kranot (DK)

Once Upon a Candle
Humphrey Erm (The Animation Workshop) (SE)

Silent
Moonbot Studios (US)

Home Sweet Home
Pierre Clenet, Alejandro Diaz, Romain Macenet, Stéphane Paccolat (FR)

EscapePod
Lionel Arnaud, Vincent Magnier, Eva Navaar, Pierre Ponzio, Érik Sabatié, Hervé Sumber (FR)

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Comedy

When filmmakers start making up stories, abstruse, hilarious narratives are often the outcome. Giraffes mutate into high divers; a silent community discovers language, though just how they do it is another story altogether; and life on the beach isn’t without its comic moments either.

Superimpose

Minas Tirith

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Superimpose

Minas Tirith

In Inner Worlds, minute organic worlds emerge in breathtaking detail. Microcosms and macrocosms reveal themselves in the alliance of art and science. Computer animation lets one behold what used to be invisible. A must-see excursion into innermost realms.

MIT

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Visual Music

This program features a diverse mix of works and games that demonstrate how images and music can jam. The playlist includes music videos, visual music, and short films in which we found that the look and sound complemented each other very well indeed.

Light Mood

Frederik Springer (DE)

Magma

Dvein (ES)

Ghost Are Dancing

Maxime Causeret, Gilles-Alexandre Deschaud (FR)

Heimcomputer

Sophie Clements (GB), Toby Cornish (DE) (Juttojo)

Beatcam

Oscar Gonzalez Diez (Plastic science) (UK)

Katachi

Przemyslaw Adamski, Katarzyna Kijek (Kijek/Adamski) (PL)

Stop the Show

Takashi Ohashi (JP)

Mouse on Mars - cream theme

Zeitguised (DE)

Rhythm, dynamism, speed, frozen frames—Motion was one of the foremost areas of exploration during computer animation’s formative years. Current examples range from poetic-artistic elaborations to funny stuff. This journey through a world on the go is a totally enthralling trip!
Japan Media Arts Festival Selection

The Japan Media Arts Festival honors outstanding works from a wide range of media in four award categories: Art, Entertainment, Animation, and Manga. It also serves as a platform that celebrates the winners of awards and outstanding creative works of art.

Young Animations

Witty, off-beat, subtle, tragic and serious animated work produced by young filmmakers will be covered during the Arts Electrónica Festival. Every year, gifted young filmmakers submit their movies to be - CREATE YOUR WORLD (AT), bagplay (DE), and Chlickr (AT). The greatest hits will be featured in Young Animations.

Welcome

Schwein ein Lächeln
Melanie Bauer, Tanja Granzer | 17-18 Jahre

Ve gelden – Und wir sind angekommen
Koichiro Tsujikawa (JP)

Koproduktion des Kinderinsel e.V. und des Türkischen Volks Haus e.V. in Frankfurt am Main | 11 Jahre

Not another brick in the wall
Max von Schirndigung | 17 Jahre

Hungry Fish
Monica Schäfer | 13 Jahre

Money, money, hungry
Alexander Schröders, Javier Álvarez, Claudia Schanker, Jörg Wambach, Jacqueline Kohler | 14 Jahre

Dreams

Finnem Chanel - Amme Fenchel
Sarah Oos | 19 Jahre

Das Kind
Ju Hee Park | 17-18 Jahre

A Never Ending Friendship
Anna Haslinger, Sophia Warbanoff | 16 Jahre

A man, a dream, an idea
Tom Winkelmann | 14 Jahre

Slow and steady wins the race
Felix Fox | 17 Jahre

Get the Edge
Rafael Tapia, Dario Luis Rauch, Lukas Schottel | 24 Jahre

Life

von KLEEblatt zu KLEEblatt
Lea Holzer | 19 Jahre

HINQ

Workshop mit Roland Schütz am Bundesarchivmuseum „Am Himmlhof“;
Bild-Derelichtergruppe;
Projektschließung;
Mag. Erich Wolf, Klassen 14b – 14d

beijin kaihe Z
Sakura Inagaki, Shuichiro Nagai, Roland Winkel und Manuel Simonett | 26 Jahre
Schedule Animation Festival

Central Linz, Landstraße 36/2, 4020 Linz

Thu 4. 9.
11:00 Experimental
12:00 Mental States
13:00 Narration
14:00 Visual Music
15:00 Japan Media Art Festival Selection
16:00 Comedy
17:00 Inner Worlds
18:00 Campus Genius Award
19:00 Motion
20:00 Expanded Animation

Fri 5. 9.
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12:00 Visual Music
13:00 Motion
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17:00 Narration
18:00 Comedy
19:00 Experimental
20:00 Inner Worlds

Sat 6. 9.
11:00 Young Animations
12:00 Visual Music
13:00 Pixels & Planes: Music: Visualizations

Sun 7. 9.
11:00 Young Animations
12:00 Visual Music
13:00 Pixels & Planes: Music: Visualizations

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