ARS ELECTRONICA
ANIMATION
FESTIVAL 2020
ON TOUR

≡ Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
European and International
Affairs

ON-SITE

ARS ELECTRONICA
Animation Festival 2020 On Tour

Since the Prix Ars Electronica began in 1987, computer animations have been among the essential elements of our annual worldwide media art competition. The awarded works selected by a jury of experts from among thousands of submissions do not only fascinate the visitors of the renowned Ars Electronica Festival every year. With the "Ars Electronica Animation Festival on Tour", we're presenting a selection of outstanding animations for educational institutions, film festivals and cultural organizations together with the participating artists and in cooperation with the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs.

Like so many other art and culture events, the 2020 Ars Electronica Animation Festival is faced with a great challenge due to the COVID19 pandemic. As every year, the entries in the Computer Animation category of the Prix Ars Electronica serve as the foundation for the screening program.

This year's 930 submissions once again provide an excellent basis for a survey of current digital filmmaking from the fields of art, science, research, and animation-film schools.

This year featured an impressive constellation of themes that raise questions about the far-reaching effects of human behavior on the environment as well as about technological developments like social media, deepfakes, and AI. Particularly striking were sensitive, humorous works on these topics that show alternatives to dystopian universes. In its statement, the jury especially stressed the idea of the "female gaze," which was reflected on the one hand in the way female artists regard current issues, and on the other in the manner in which they utilize their technical tools to challenge a system of dominant values.

ARS ELECTRONICA
Animation Festival 2020 On Tour

ON-SITE PROGRAM

▐ ELECTRONIC THEATRE

▐ AUSTRIAN PANORAMA

▐ YOUNG ANIMATIONS

This programme is not for online streaming.

Electronic Theatre

Since 1987, the Electronic Theatre has compiled a large number of submissions from all over the world, providing an up-to-the-minute survey of animation art in the context of technology and society. It impressively illustrates the dynamic development of artistic computer animation over the past three decades as well as the expansive growth of various fringe areas. A glance at the works selected this year shows a broad range, from animation in the context of performance and installations to real-time animation and multifaceted, subject-based discussions.

The program offers humorous and ingenious commentaries on social media, online dating, data mining, and surveillance capitalism, as well as infographics and data visualizations. A film experiment breaks down a border town into its individual parts, a photographic exploration opens new perspectives on the city of Hong Kong, and another experimental film examines the collective memory of soccer fans. Two Honorary Mentions this year went to VR projects, including a surreal experience based on the childhood memory of the director in Taiwan from around 1970. In an installation with a collage of hundreds of video clips taken in subway stations, the visitor is placed in the role of a voyeur in order to reflect on the cycle of everyday life.

This year's Golden Nica winner combines live performance, sculpture, theater, and animation: the artist places her body at the center of the projection and invites us to reflect on the consequences of material affluence and climate change.

Electronic Theatre long version 139min

Infinitely Yours
Creation, animation, and performance: Miwa Matreyek (US)
All Music: Morgan Sorne (US)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Golden Nica
09:03

Average Happiness, Maja Gehrig (CH)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Award of Distinction
07:03

Bab Sebta, Randa Maroufi (MA/FR)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Award of Distinction
19:00

Pile, Toby Auberg (SE)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
03:23

Recursive Truth, Rachel Rossin (US)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
02:55

Serial Parallels, Max Hattler (DE/HK)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
09:00

The Entropy Gardens (VR screen capture), DEPART (AT)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
08:55

This Means More, Nicolas Gourault (FR)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
23:55

#21xoxo, Sine Özbilge (TR), Imge Özbilge (TR)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
09:50

Underground Circuit, Yuge Zhou 周雨歌 (CN)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
04:14

The Sky is on Fire, Emmanuel van der Auwera (BE)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
15:21

Bodyless (excerpt of VR screen capture),
Hsin-Chien Huang (TW)
Sponsored by Taiwan Creative Content Agency
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
05:00

Toomas Beneath the Valley of the Wild Wolves,
Chintis Lundgren (EE)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
18:00

Electronic Theatre
short version 67min

Infinitely Yours
Creation, animation, and performance: Miwa Matreyek (US)
All Music: Morgan Sorne (US)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Golden Nica
09:03

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#21xoxo, Sine Özbilge (TR), Imge Özbilge (TR)
Prix Ars Electronica 2020 / Honorary Mention
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Austrian Panorama 35min

In this program, animated-film directors from Austria look at problems of our time. In short films—some fictional, some documentary—they challenge daily routines in our everyday digital lives, examine the impacts of social media and new technologies such as VR and AR, and discuss such absurd ideas as sending everyone back to the lands of their ancestors. An interactive, poetic VR experience investigates the nature of post-digital reality, while a touching animated film looks at the fantastic world of an old woman suffering from dementia. The spectrum ranges from dystopian visions of the future to empathetic, humorous inner worlds.

Time o´ the Signs, Reinhold Bidner (AT)
08:36

In Her Boots, Kathrin Steinbacher (AT)
06:03

The Entropy Gardens (VR screen capture), DEPART (AT)
08:55

Coming Home, Benjamin Swiczinsky (AT)
04:00

Thicc Seams, iheartblob (AT)
05:41

Young Animations

Every year young gifted filmmakers submit their weird, subtle, witty, utopian, critical and dystopian works for the Prix Ars Electronica's category of "u19-create your world", for the mb21 (DE) and the c3<19 (HU). They show us their strong imagination, their deep understanding of certain topics, and all expressed with their abilities within one media. This Program is a selection of Animations coming from young creatives and young professionals from different age-groups and skill-sets.

u19-create your world | Ars Electronica Linz (AT), mb21 | Medienkulturzentrum Dresden (DE) and <19 Freestyle Computing Competition |c3 Budapest (HU) curated by Sirikit Amann (Chair u19—create your world Jury, Head of Department for Education and Society OeAD)

Young Animations   59min

Now. and the future?
 Time's Up, Larissa Koudela, Sophie Dojaczek, Daniel Nitsch Male und Verena Hinterberger (AT) 00:30
17 years | u19

Date of expiry 2020, Pupils of BG/BRG Stainach (AT)
02:56 19 years | u19

This Human World, Pupils of BORG Deutsch-Wagram (AT)
03:00 18 years | u19

Searching for...
 Chicko, Pupils of BG/BRG Laa a.d.Thaya (AT) 05:01
15 years | u19

T, Pupils of BORG Hegelgasse 12 (AT) 04:04
16 years | u19

Die zwei Euro, Pupils of Grundschule im Moselviertel, Berlin (DE) 04:06 10 years | mb21

Create your World
 AOU in Drosendorf, Pupils of BORG Hegelgasse 12 (AT)
02:07 16 years | u19

Erfinderstadt, Pupils of Carl-Humann-Grundschule (DE)
03:22 7 years | mb21

Mint aki a sínek közé esett / Like someone who's fallen between the traintracks, Bálint Duma (HU)
06:31 18 years | c3<19

Frische Fische (en: fresh fish)
 Lattice, Pupils of AHS Kreuzschwestern Linz (AT) 12:59
19 years | u19

Ugrott a busás vacsora? / That's it for dinner?, Réka Márta (HU) 02:54 16 years | c3<19

A lény nyaral / The Creature on vacation, Emma Pásztor (HU) 00:22 11 years | c3<19

Dreaming
Somebody Is Trying To Kill Me, Pupils of BG Klosterneuburg 03:55 16 years | u19

Samen, Anna Fachbach, Franziska Gallé, Jona Lingitz, Lisa Rass, Pupils of HTBLVA-Graz Ortweinschule (AT) 03:49
18 years | u19

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