

Sad Beauty (2020) – 9:50 min

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Script, direction, animation & music by Arjan Drentjes

Voices: Dart van der Schaaf, Anne-May de Lijser & Peter Baker

Script coaching by Job, Doris & Mariëtte - Audio mix by Dob Kommer Studios

This film was supported by The Netherlands Film Fund

Arjan Drentjes 2020

Festival distribution:
ursula@klikamsterdam.nl

International sales:
info@sndfilms.com



Biography Arjan Brentjes (Gorinchem, Netherlands, May 9, 1971)

Arjan Brentjes started his career as a painter, and in 2008 he switched to moving images. Since 2010 he is dedicated to making short film, the last years mostly animation. Arjan often takes the viewer back to a visual style from the past, to look at our present, or future from there. Thereby wittily commenting on the development of our technological society and the haughtiness of man.

Logline Sad Beauty

When mankind causes its own demise, what could bring consolation?

Synopsis Sad Beauty

Short teasing synopsis:

In a heavily polluted world, a young woman mourns the disappearance of animal species. When she falls ill due to a bacterial infection, nature appears to send her a message in her hallucinations.

Longer synopsis with some spoilers:

In a heavily polluted world, a young woman mourns the disappearance of animal species. We see her go against the stream of the indifferent masses, and make daily visits to the museum of natural history to make drawings of the ever increasing number of extinct animal species. Her considerate character doesn't protect her from a bacterial infection, when a global pandemic strikes. When her health deteriorates, nature appears to send her a message in her hallucinations.

Sad Beauty is a short animation film in Art Nouveau style, that eventually deals with how to find consolation while accepting the fact that at some point mankind will cease to exist.

Director's statement

This production dates mostly from 2019. It started as a way for me to deal with the feeling that mankind, or at least what we call western civilization, began to go downhill. What gave me the most consolation was the wonder of nature, from the infinity of the universe to the smallest micro-organisms. In this short film I let nature take back control in the form of a pandemic. Not knowing how fast current events could catch up with this fiction.

Animated short, drama

Environment, pandemic, death, nature, evolution, social criticism.

Festival distribution

KLIK Distribution, Ursula van den Heuvel

ursula@klikamsterdam.nl

International Sales

SND Films, Sydney Neter

<https://www.sndfilms.com/>

info@sndfilms.com

Crew Sad Beauty

Script, direction, animation, music -	Arjan Brentjes
Voices -	Bart van der Schaaf, Anne-May de Lijser, Peter Baker
Script coaching -	Job, Joris & Marieke
Audio mix -	Bob Kommer Studios

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Screenings Sad Beauty

Red coloured selections are not to be made public yet

Dec 2020	NewFilmmakers Los Angeles, InFocus: Dutch Cinema, Los Angeles, USA
Nov 2020	Animasivo, Mexico City, Mexico
Nov 2020	RIFF Awards, Rome Independent Film Festival, Rome, Italy > ANNOUNCEMENT DATE – OCTOBER 15?
Nov 2020	IKFF, International Kids Film Festival, online, international
Nov 2020	Shorts That Are Not Pants, Toronto, Canada
Nov 2020	Soria International Film Festival, Soria, Spain > ANNOUNCEMENT DATE – NOVEMBER ?
Nov 2020	Rome International Film Festival, Rome (Georgia), USA
Nov 2020	Interfilm, Berlin, Germany
Nov 2020	Animest, Bucharest, Romania
Nov 2020	St. Louis International Film Festival, St. Louis, USA
Nov 2020	Red Rock Film Festival, Cedar City, USA
Nov 2020	Aesthetica Short Film Festival, York, UK
Nov 2020	Braunschweig International Film Festival, Braunschweig, Germany
Nov 2020	Miami Short Film Festival, Miami, USA
Oct 2020	Film Front, Novi Sad, Serbia
Oct 2020	Raindance Film Festival, London, UK
Oct 2020	Evolution! Mallorca International Film Festival, Palma, Spain
Oct 2020	TAF, Thessaloniki Animation Festival, Thessaloniki, Greece
Oct 2020	Indie Memphis Film Festival, Memphis, USA
Oct 2020	Balkanima, Belgrade, Serbia
Oct 2020	Videomedaja, Novi Sad, Serbia
Oct 2020	PEFF 2020, Int. Environmental Film Fest. of Patagonia, Puerto Madryn, Argentina
Sep 2020	Dutch Film Festival, Golden Calf competition, Utrecht, Netherlands
Sep 2020	Encounters Film Festival, Bristol, UK
Sep 2020	Oldenburg International Film Festival, Oldenburg, Germany
Sep 2020	Fantoche Int. Animation Film Festival, Baden, Switzerland

Filmography Arjan Brentjes

'Sad Beauty' (2020)

- Nominated for Best Animated Short at Miami Short Film Festival, Miami, USA (November 2020)
- Nominated for Best Animation Short at Raindance Film Festival, London, UK (October 2020)
- Nominated for Best Short Film Oldenburg International Film Festival, Oldenburg, Germany (September 2020)

'So It Goes' (2019)

'Sand' (2017)

- Best animation at Siciliambiente, San Vito Lo Capo, Italy (July 2019)
- Best animation at Miami Short Film Festival, Miami, USA (November 2018)
- 3rd place Best Animation at Open Eyes FilmFest, Marburg, Germany (July 2018)
- Best Animation Film at Boomtown Film and Music Festival, Beaumont, USA (April 2018)
- Prix des Lycéens at Micro & Films, Aubenas, France (March 2018)
- Best Professional Short Fiction at RAW Science Film Festival, Santa Barbara, USA (January 2018)
- Best Animation Film at Ouchy Awards, 1st season of 2018, Lausanne, Switzerland ((January 2018)
- Nominated for Golden Calf for best short at Dutch Film Festival, Utrecht, Netherlands (September 2017)

'Tempo' (2016)

- Best One Minute Film at Galway Film Fleadh, Galway, Ireland (July 2017)
- Special Jury Mention at Cineminutos, Córdoba, Argentina (April 2017)
- Third place winner Best Professional Short at Raw Science Film Festival, LA, USA (December 2016)
- Best One Minute Film at FICME, Medellín, Colombia (November 2016)

'Next Man' (2016)

'Hybris' (2014)

- Best in Festival at TIFF, Thurrock, UK (October 2015)
- Best International short film at TIFF, Thurrock, UK (October 2015)
- Best Experimental at FIC 2015, Buenos Aires, Argentina (October 2015)
- Best Experimental at FICPA, Pasto, Colombia (September 2015)
- Best Short Film at Cinecien, Buenos Aires, Argentina (June 2015)
- Best Fiction Award at CineGlobe 2015, Geneva, Switzerland (March 2015)

- Best experimental shortfilm, FECl 4, Ituzaingó, Argentina (March 2015)
- Best Fiction Award at Bio-Fiction, Vienna, Austria (October 2014)
- First Prize International Selection at Cine Toro, Colombia (October 2014)
- Nowa Amerika Award at Szczecin European Film Festival, Szczecin, Poland (September 2014)

'Glass' (2013)

'Il était une fois un Artiste' (2011)

- Best international short film, Almería en Corto 2012
- Ballon Prize, Crosstalk 2012, Budapest

'The 21st Century' (2010)