

THE CONQUEST – short film by Sarolta Szabo and Tibor Banoczki

Last year, two animated short films were produced thanks to the **Artists-in-Residence program** : *The Circus*, by Nicolas Brault and *The Bare-wolf*, by Joke Van Der Steen and Valère Lommel. In 2010, **Tibor Banoczki** and **Sarolta Szabo** are in Folimage studio to realize their short film, *The Conquest*. This short film project won the SACD and Canal+ prize during the International Animation Film Festival of Annecy, 2009. *The Conquest* will be 7 minutes long (coproduction Folimage/NFB, with Arte).

Here is a presentation of this film by the authors :

CONCEPT:

The Conquest is a highly entertaining, adventurous but also thought-provoking concept for an animated short film. It tells the story of a shipwrecked couple – they are like Adam and Eve - trying to survive on a tropical desert island.

As they discover the island they start to use its resources simply to survive but soon they also start to destroy its flora and fauna. As time pass the couple give birth to one baby then to more, until a small population creates and start to build a civilization. Later other people appear, and they start to fight for the island, then they build roads and towns, mines and factories; right up until the day they are about destroy the island entirely. So far it could be a typical fable of human civilization and its effect on the globe. But there is a slight difference here.

The island is not a common island. For the first look it has a weird shape and not only the shape is unusual. Giant insects and worms rule the island, strange plants and flowers all around. Where are they? Is it a real island? Is it only a dead stone in the middle of the ocean? Maybe all the answers are closer than we think.



VISUALS:

We shoot and animate the film in the style of early 20th Century silent films and burlesques. All the characters will be real human characters dressed up in costumes before we take photo series from them as they move. It will be pixilation therefore its imperfectness, jerkiness will refer to the movements of the early silent films – when they were shot 16 frames per second.

We build all the backgrounds from photographic elements and composite them together in a 3D environment.

MUSIC AND SOUND:

As the visual style strongly refers to the early days of cinema it also determines the music and sound styles. The movement of the figures and sets will be surreal enough to allow experimental music and sound effects. As the story goes on, the style of sound effects will transform from more natural to more industrial one.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Domestic Infelicity is a collaborative duo of **Tibor Banoczki** and **Sarolta Szabo**. After studying at the Hungarian University of Crafts and Design they formed their partnership and went to London, where Tibor was graduated from the National Film and Television School with Animation Direction MA, while Sarolta has graduated from the Royal College of Art, with an MA in Photography. In their work they connect art and commerce where intriguing ideas seep over from the ether into the practical world. They are currently working on various film, photography and design-based projects.



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