



Tribute to Hungarian Animation

The International Animation Film Festival is delighted to highlight the dazzling heritage of Hungarian feature films and shorts, as well as a glimpse at the dynamic world of contemporary Hungarian production which recently won awards at Annecy.

"Despite political upheavals, the rich history of Hungarian animation has never wavered. For more than twenty years, many student films have heralded the arrival of a real new wave, while the recent successes of films by Flóra Anna Buda (27), Balázs Turai (Amok), Nadja Andrasev (Symbiosis) and Áron Gauder (Four Souls of Coyote) have come and reinforced this emergence to demonstrate the cultural vibrancy and profound originality of this country's production. The significant digitisation and restoration work carried out by Hungary's National Film Institute will enable Annecy 2025 to present the great classics of Hungarian animation in the best possible way."

Marcel Jean, Artistic Director, Annecy Festival

At the Festival

The spotlight will be on Hungarian animation. To mark the occasion, film historian and animation specialist at the Hungarian National Film Institute's Film Archive, Anna Ida Orosz, has selected 6 short film programmes and 4 feature-length films.

"While professional animation film production started in the 1930s in Hungary, it was in the second half of the 20th century when Hungarian animation artists greatly contributed to the Central and Eastern European animation scene. In Hungary, it was Pannónia Film Studios that earned worldwide renown within just a few decades for the strikingly fresh and creative take on the animated form.

Alongside the animation feature films that were produced for the general public since the early 1970s, stylistically bold, experimental feature films were also made. On the one hand they included such films as the adult documentary musical Bubble Bath (1979), which accurately encapsulated the spirit of the age, while on the other hand, Marcell Jankovics's mythological tale Son of the Whiter Mare (1981) was inspired by ancient myths, fairy tales and folk art. József Gémes' painterly animation, Heroic Times (1984), which erects a memorial to the age of chivalry that flourished during the 14th century, won the Award for a feature film in Annecy in 1985.

Nevertheless, it was short films that had a pivotal role in the revival of animation art, such as the Academy-Award-nominated Sisypheus or the Academy-Award-winner The Fly. Through their metaphoric and symbolic depictions, these animation films proved to be particularly effective in



conveying indirect subliminal criticism of social and historical issues. These more experimental-type works – in both form and content – served as a showcase for the communist regime in the West when they were screened at major festivals such as Cannes, the Berlinale and Annecy, or the short film festivals like in Oberhausen in West Germany.

With the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, Pannónia lost its key role and small production companies, such as Kecskemétfilm took over the lead in Hungarian animation. Today, most artistic animation films are produced at various educational institutions. Among them, the animation department of Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design Budapest (MOME Anim), which stands out with its more than 40-year-long tradition of animation education.

Recently the spotlight has been taken over by female animation artists with distinctive styles and these are currently probably the most striking films from a visual and a thematic point of view. Having unique and whimsical visual and narrative styles, Réka Bucsi's films have earned many awards, and were all premiering in the short film programme of the Berlinale. Many female artists from Hungary, such as Nadja Andrasev, Zsuzsanna Kreif, Luca Tóth and the Annecy Crystal Winner Flóra Anna Buda dedicate their films to criticising social preconceptions, a major force shaping today's society, and their films can engage their viewers in the complex social issues of the female body and women's role in today's society."

Anna Ida Orosz

(Animation specialist at the Film Archive of the Hungarian National Film Institute)

6 short film programmes and 4 feature films:

This spotlight on Hungarian animation will be an opportunity for festivalgoers to explore the rich diversity of this production, through **a selection curated by Anna Ida Orosz**, the animation specialist at the Film Archive of the National Film Institute in Budapest. A collection consisting of commercial films to award-winning films, shorts and feature films, from heritage films to graduation films from the prestigious MOME University, the whole history and diversity of Hungarian animation will grace the Annecy cinema theatre screens.

Classic 1: Lifeline

Monday 9th at 9.30 am and Saturday 14th at 7:30 pm – Pathé 5

From the earliest commercials to the award-winning shorts of the year 2000s (such as the 1930s and 1940s commercials, the films by Marcell Jankovics, József Nepp, Péter Szoboszlai, Tibor Bánóczki, and Tomek Ducki), human beings and their condition are the theme at the heart of today's world.

Lucky Jim by Gyula Macskássy, György Szénásy – production: Macskássy Studio, 1942

Duel by Gyula Macskássy, György Várnai – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1960

Kidnapping of the Sun and the Moon by Sándor Reisenbüchler – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1968

Koncertisszimó by József Gémes – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1969

Sisyphus by Marcell Jankovics – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1974

Scones by Gyula Nagy – production: Kecskemétfilm, 1984

Fenyek virradat előtt by Sándor Békési – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1984

Jonah by Líviusz Gyulai – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1997

Another Day by Pál Tóth – production: Paja Film, 1998

Maestro by Géza M. Tóth – production: KEDD Animation Studio, 2004

Life Line by Tomek Ducki – production: MOME Anim, 2006

Jacques Rampage or When We Lose Our Self-Confidence by Máté Horesnyi – production:
METU, 2018

Amok by Balázs Turai – production: Boddah, 2022





Classic 2: Anima verite

Monday 9th at 7.30 pm and Saturday 14th at 9.30 am – Pathé 5

Films depicting the world around us through a variety of artistic approaches, including cutting-edge animated documentaries (films by György Kovásznai, Kati Macskássy, István Oros)

The Year of 1812 by Sándor Reisenbüchler – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1973

Nights in the Boulevard by György Kovásznai – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1972

Scenes with Beans by Ottó Foky – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1976

Hey, You! by Péter Szoboszlay – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1976

The Fly by Ferenc Rófusz – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1980

Moto perpetuo by Béla Vajda – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1980

Our National Holidays by Katalin Macskássy – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1984

Mind the Steps! by István Orosz – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1989

Stills: Drawings about a Landscape of a Life by Mária Horváth – production: Kecskemétfilm, 2000

Balcony by Dávid Dell'Edera – production: Metropolitan University, 2015

Female Directors

Tuesday 10th at 9.30 am and Friday 13th at 7.30 pm – Pathé 5

A selection of classic and contemporary short films as seen through the eyes of female directors.

Limbo Limbo Travel by Zsuzsanna Kreif, Borbála Zétényi – production: MOME Anim, 2015

The Noise of Licking by Nadja Andrasev – production: MOME Anim, 2016

Superbia by Luca Tóth – production: Boddah, 2016

Volcano Island by Anna Kata Lovrity – production: MOME Anim, 2016

Mermaids and Rhinos by Viktória Traub – production: DDK Productions, 2017

Symbiosis by Nadja Andrasev – production: Miyu Production, SALTO Films, 2019

27 by Flóra Anna Buda – production: Miyu Production, Boddah, 2023



Fine Art and Animation

Tuesday 10th at 7.30 pm and Friday 13th at 9.30 am – Pathé 5

Short films and series from Hungary's oldest studio, Pannónia, founded in 1971.

Honeymation by Ferenc Varsányi – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1975

The Wind by Csaba Varga – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1985

Wizards by Dóra Keresztes, István Orosz – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1985

Ab ovo by Ferenc Cakó – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 1987

Culture-Historical Manœuvre at Night by Zoltán Szilágyi Varga – production: Kecskemétfilm, 1991

Dead Water by Tibor Bánóczki – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 2001

Arlequin by Kinga Rofusz – production: Pannónia Film Studio, 2003

Before by Gábor Ulrich – production: Kecskemétfilm, 2004

Wasps, Geese, Pear-Tree by László Csáki – production: Magyar Filmunió, 2005

Hanne by Éva Magyarósi – production: MOME Anim, 2005

Fin by Kati Glaser – production: MOME Anim, 2008

Avant by Marcell Mostoha – production: MOME Anim, 2021

Resting Fog by Nikolett Fábián – production: MOME Anim, 2022

MOME Animation

Wednesday 11th at 9:30 am and Thursday 12th at 7:30 pm – Pathé 5

Showcasing student films from the last 20 years at MOME University.

I Am Simon by Tünde Molnár – production: MOME Anim, 2009

Rabbit and Deer by Péter Vác – production: MOME Anim, 2013

Party by Dániel Bárány – production: MOME Anim, 2015

Take Me Please by Olivér Hegyi – production: MOME Anim, 2017

Bye, Little Block! by Éva Darabos – production: MOME Anim, 2020

Above the Clouds by Vivien Hárshegyi – production: MOME Anim, 2022

From the Corner of My Eye by Domonkos Erhardt – production: MOME Anim, 2023

Fox Tossing by Kristóf Zénó Mira – production: MOME Anim, 2023



Réka Bucsí

Wednesday 11th at 2:30 pm and Thursday 12th at 9:30 am – Pathé 5

A focus on 4 of the director's films.

Symphony no 42. by Réka Bucsí – production: MOME Anim 2013

LOVE by Réka Bucsí – production: Boddah, 2016

Solar Walk by Réka Bucsí – production: Boddah, 2018

Intermission by Réka Bucsí – production: Boddah, 2022

The 4 Feature Films

Bubble Bath by György Kovásznai, 1980: *Monday 9th at 9.30 pm – Pathé 3*

Son of the White Mare by Marcell Jankovics, 1981: *Tuesday 10th at 9.30 pm – Pathé*

Heroic Times by József Gémes, 1984: *Friday 13th at 9.30 pm – Pathé 3* (First feature film to win an award in 1985)

The District! by Áron Gauder, 2004: *Thursday 12th at 9.30 pm – Pathé 3 – Cristal for Feature Film at Annecy 2005*

ANNECY FESTIVAL



[The full programme is available online](#)

Official Selection

This year's competition features several Hungarian works in various categories:

- Official Short Films

Dog Ear by Péter Vacz – production: Boddah, Filmfabriq, Hungary

- *Off-Limits Short Films*

Capriccio by Gábor Ulrich – production: Vertigo Média, Hungary

- TV Films and Commissioned Films

Kippkopp and Tiptopp by Tama Mikori – production: Loom Film Production, Hungary





The Jury

For this 2025 edition, the Festival welcomes 6 Hungarian jurors:

- **György Ráduly: Official Feature Films Jury**



György Ráduly worked for 12 years in France as a producer and distributor specializing in Hungarian and Central European heritage cinema. He was a founding member of the Kino Visegrad Association in Paris, initiated the creation of the screening room at the Institut Liszt Hungarian Cultural Centre in Paris and co-organised numerous festivals and retrospectives in collaboration with French arthouse cinemas and cinémathèques. Since 2017, György Ráduly has been Director of the Film Archive at the National Film Institute Hungary, where he leads the institution's development and modernisation project. Since 2024, as Director of the Film Preservation and Technology Division, he has also been responsible for modernising the NFI FilmLab. He is founder and director of the Budapest Classics Film Marathon and Deputy Secretary General of FIAF (Fédération Internationale des Archives du Film).

- **Nadja Andrasev: Contrechamp Feature Films Jury**



Nadja Andrasev is an animation filmmaker with a Master's degree from the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design (MOME) Budapest. She was part of the Animation Sans Frontières programme and the Open Workshop Residency. Her films, *The Noise of Licking* and *Symbiosis*, have been screened at numerous festivals and received over 40 awards, including joint 3rd prize ex- at the Cannes Cinéfondation selection, and the Jury Award for Best Animated Short at SXSW. After years of experience in the live-action film industry, she is currently an freelance production manager, executive producer and director of animation films.



- **Réka Bucsi: Graduation Films & Off-Limits Short Films Jury**



Réka Bucsi graduated with a master's degree in animation filmmaking from the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design in Budapest. Her graduation film *Symphony No. 42* was shortlisted for the Oscars in 2014. Her films have been screened at numerous festivals around the world, including three of them premiering at the Berlinale Shorts Competition, and two at the Sundance Film Festival. *LOVE* was nominated for Best Short Film at the European Film Awards in 2017, while *Solar Walk* won the Audi Short Film Award at the Berlinale 2018, the Grand Prix at the 2018 Ottawa International Animation Film Festival, was nominated for an Annie Award and is now part of The Criterion Channel. Réka has served on 17 festival juries, including the Berlinale Shorts International Jury. She is also a juror for the Red Dot Design Award. She was a guest speaker at Pictoplasma, the Pratt Institute NYC, the FMX Animation Conference in Germany, and as a teacher at CalArts. Réka's clients include Cartoon Network, Adult Swim, Netflix, Hulu, YouTube and FX Networks. In addition, Réka became a European Film Academy member in 2017 and an AMPAS member in 2021.

As well as **Máté Józsa**, **Emma Nyári**, and **Máté Horesnyi** on the Perspectives jury.

At the Mifa

Mifa will be hosting a Hungarian pavilion in the new space on the 1st floor of the Exhibition Area, a new area dedicated to Mifa companies and delegations. The presence of a substantial delegation is a strong sign of how dynamic this industry is in the international market.

Industry Content

- **Pitch Session: Spicing Up Animation! Hot Pitches of Hungarian Talents – Tuesday 10th, 1:45 pm – Impérial Palace, Haendel**
Pitch presentation of projects in development that illustrate the creativity and vitality of contemporary Hungarian animation.



- **Industry Panel: Production Power, Global Vision: Futureproofing Hungarian Animation** – Thursday 12th, 11:30 am – Impérial Palace, Salle de l'Europe.

Gain a 360° view of Hungary's animation industry — from robust financing and production capacity to its strengths in co-productions and service work. The discussion explores talent management, education, and development as key pillars for long-term success and global relevance. A must for anyone eyeing strategic opportunities in the region.



Talent Content

- **Talent Panels: "Four Souls of Coyote": Behind the Scenes** – Tuesday 10th at 9:00 am – Le Campus Mifa, salle 4

Director Aron Gauder, winner of the 2023 Annecy Jury Prize for *Four Souls of Coyote*, **will be the patron of Le Mifa Campus**, a space entirely dedicated to future animation professionals. He succeeds Regina Pessoa, Jorge R. Gutierrez, Guillermo del Toro, Richard Williams, Nora Twomey, Marguerite Abouet and Masaaki Yuasa.

He will be presenting a Masterclass about the behind the scenes of his film to the students gathered at Annecy who come from around the world.

- **Prestige vs Paycheck: Educating Animation's Next Generation** – Wednesday 11th at 4:00 pm – Le Campus Mifa, salle 4

This panel brings together educators, artists, and a rising talent to explore how institutions can prepare students for both creative fulfilment and industry realities —equipping them with the skills needed for a sustainable career in today's animation world.



The Hungarian Animation Market

Hungarian studios that are present at the Mifa:

Derengő Animation, Kedd Animation Studio, Krakout Film Bt., Loom Film Production, PIROS Animation, RUMEXR, Sparhelt Animation, United Illusions

Schools that are present at the Mifa:

Budapest Metropolitan University, Eszterházy Károly, MOME – Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design

Contacts:

Hungarian animation contacts:

Anna Ida Orosz / orosz.anna.ida@nfi.hu

Florence Alexandre / florence@anyways.fr / +33 6 31 87 17 54

Press contacts:

Véronique Dumon / veroniquedumon@citia.org / +33 (0)6 20 32 01 15

Estelle Lacaud / estellelacaud@citia.org / +33 (0)6 32 42 50 39

Claire Vorger / clairevorger@citia.org / +33 (0)6 20 10 40 56