



The Video Clip Geniuses

This year the Annecy International Animation Film Festival puts **music videos** centre stage with "**The Video Clip Geniuses**", 5 programmes of video clips interspersed or followed by discussions with some of the creators and leading studios that have contributed to animation film's more recent history: **Michel Gondry, Raman Djafari, Steve Cutts, Victor Haegelin, Jérôme Combe and Fortiche** as well as a programme dedicated to Hungarian music videos.

"Our programmes dedicated to the Video Clip Geniuses will allow us to meet some extraordinary creators including Michel Gondry, a magician with images, Raman Djarfari, designer of the vibrant Annecy 2025 official poster, Englishman Steve Cutts, Frenchman Victor Haegelin, and Jérôme Combe, one of the key creators of the Arcane series. A programme of Hungarian music videos, curated by Maud Ahmadnia, will tie this year's Festival themes together."

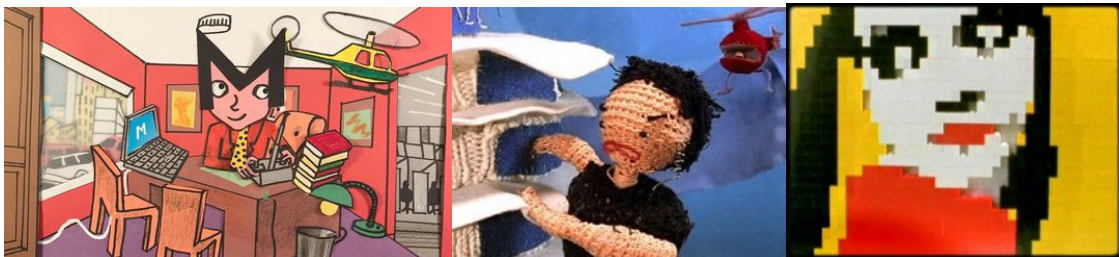
Marcel Jean, Annecy Festival's Artistic Director

The programme

Michel Gondry

Sunday 8th at 1:30 pm – Bonlieu Petite salle

There are film, literature and theatre classics... But music videos also have their own classics and some of them are by Michel Gondry. Here's your chance to check out the video clips that have made their mark in this format!



©Michel Gondry ©Capitol Records Inc. ©Michel Gondry, Partizan Films

Ma Maison by Oui Oui, Michel Gondry – 1990

Human Behavior by Björk, Michel Gondry – 1993

Like a Rolling Stone by The Rolling Stones, Michel Gondry – 1995

Sugar Water by Cibo Matto, Michel Gondry – 1996

Everlong by Foo Fighters, Michel Gondry – production: Gil Norton, 1997

Around the World by Daft Punk, Michel Gondry – 1997

Let Forever Be by The Chemical Brothers, Michel Gondry – production: Partizan Films, 1999

Fell in Love with a Girl by The White Stripes, Michel Gondry – production: Partizan Films 2002

Come Into My World by Kylie Minogue, Michel Gondry – production: Partizan Films, 2002

ANNECY FESTIVAL

The Hardest Button to Button by The White Stripes, Michel Gondry – production: Julie Fong, 2003

Walkie Talkie Man by Steriogram – Michel Gondry – production: Partizan Entertainment, 2003

Soleil du soir by Dick Annegarn Michel Gondry – 2008

Grand petit con by M, Michel Gondry – production: Partizan Films, 2019



A visionary artist and a real wizard with images, **Michel Gondry** has transformed the world of music videos through his work with artists such as Björk, The White Stripes, Steriogram and Daft Punk. For Marcel Jean, the Festival's Artistic Director, "*Michel Gondry assumes the legacy both of Georges Méliès and Norman McLaren. His abundant creativity and innovative approach have brought hand-crafted animation back into the mainstream – as brilliantly illustrated by The Science of Sleep.*" While *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* immediately became a cult film and *Is the Man Who Is Tall Happy?: An Animated Conversation with Noam Chomsky* was awarded the Prix André-Martin for best French

animated feature in 2014, Annecy has never had the pleasure of welcoming Michel Gondry. The Annecy Festival 2025, which will highlight the links between animation and music videos, will offer a journey into the heart of the creative process of the director who brought us *Maya*, *Give Me a Title*. The visit will be an opportunity for the Festival to present him with an Honorary Cristal, in recognition of his exceptional contribution to the vibrancy of animation.

Steve Cutts

Monday 9th at 2:30 pm – Bonlieu Petite salle

Famous for his scathing take on society and his collaboration with Moby, Steve Cutts won an award at the 2018 Annecy Festival for his music video *Are You Lost in the World Like Me?* He will be at Annecy for the first time this year and will be presenting an exclusive Making of on his captivating universe.



In the Fall, Steve Cutts – 2011

Are You Lost in the World Like Me? by Moby, Steve Cutts – production: Steve Cutts, 2016

Why Does My Heart Feel So Bad? by Moby, Laurence Hotessa, Filipe Alçada, Susi Wilkinson – production: Belzebu Films LTD., Laurence Hotessa, 1999

In this Cold Place by Moby, Steve Cutts – production: Steve Cutts, 2017

Happiness, Steve Cutts – production: Steve Cutts, 2017

The Turning Point by Wantaways, Steve Cutts – production: Steve Cutts, 2020

Praise (ft. Gunna) de Tchami, Steve Cutts – production: Steve Cutts, 2020

A Brief Disagreement, Steve Cutts – 2022

The Simpsons "LA-Z RIDER" Couch Gag, Steve Cutts – production: Gracie Films, 2017

ANNÉCY FESTIVAL

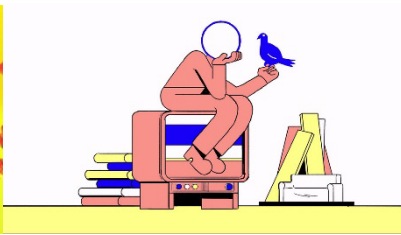


Steve Cutts is a UK-based illustrator and animator specializing in 2D animation. As well as creating several viral YouTube shorts, he has produced work for *The Simpsons*, Moby, Alok, Tchami, HBO and UNESCO. His work has been featured on various TV channels, including Adult Swim, Fox in the US and Channel 4 in the UK.

Raman Djafari

Monday 9th at 5:30 pm – Bonlieu Petite salle

Raman Djafari, who designed the swirling, multi-coloured poster for the 2025 Festival, made a name for themselves with their baroque, queer and ever-surprising music videos, such as the spectacular *Traveler* for Lucky Chops, co-directed with Daniel Almagor and an award-winner at the Annecy Festival in 2020.



Snow by FJAAK, Raman Djafari – production: Raman Djafari, 2017

Magnetism by Vacationer, Raman Djafari – 2018

I Could Never Live Without You By My Side by FJAAK, Raman Djafari, Daniel Almagor – 2018

Traveler by Lucky Chops, Raman Djafari, Daniel Almagor – production: Studio Vogel, 2019

Pamphlets by Squid, Raman Djafari – production: Blinkink, 2021

Cold Heart (PNAY Remix) by Elton John and Dua Lipa, Raman Djafari – production: Blink Industries, 2021

RIP TXL by DJ Piper, Raman Djafari – production: Raman Djafari, 2022

Worms by Ashnikko, Raman Djafari – production: Blinkink, 2023

Feelslikeimfallinginlove by Coldplay, Raman Djafari – production: Blinkink, 2024



Raman Djafari is an illustrator, animator and filmmaker working in both 2D and 3D and currently living in Berlin, Germany. Through poetic imagery and fragmented narratives, they hope to reach into a realm of honest emotionality, creating surreal worlds and characters that oscillate between the familiar and the fantastical. Raman has directed music videos for artists from across the globe, like Elton John, Dua Lipa, Coldplay and Ashnikko, as well as having worked with clients like Adult Swim, Spotify and *The New Yorker*. The London-based production studio Blinkink currently acts as Raman Djafari's representative as a filmmaker.

ANNECY FESTIVAL

Victor Haegelin

Wednesday 11th at 5:30 pm – Bonlieu Petite salle

Self-taught animator and DIY enthusiast, discover the life and work of Victor Haegelin, French musicians' favourite animator. He was at Annecy in 2022 with *La Quête* by Orelsan, and again last year with the music video *Too Late* by Chinese Man.



©WIZZ, Victor Haegelin ©Victor Haegelin ©WIZZ, Victor Haegelin

Jolie coquine by Caravan Palace, Victor Haegelin – production: Partizan Films, Midi Minuit, 2008

Wire and Flashing Lights by Professor Kliq, Victor Haegelin, 2013

Clash by Caravan Palace, Victor Haegelin, 2013

Y Se Fue by La Pegatina, Victor Haegelin – production: Midi Minuit, 2016

Too Late by Chinese Man feat. Stogie T, KT Gorique & FP, Victor Haegelin – production: Wizz, 2023

La Quête by Orelsan, Victor Haegelin – production: Wizz, 2022

Love of a Girl by The Avett Brothers, Victor Haegelin – production: Wizz, Ilona Marcus, 2024

Paper Dance, Victor Haegelin, 2025



Victor Haegelin discovered cinema, and animation in particular, during his studies at the FAMU Prague film school. Inspired by Eastern European animation masters such as Jan Švankmajer and Jiří Trnka, Victor decided to teach himself stop motion. He began his career by directing a film for Radio Nova, which was subsequently an award-winner. Since then, he has directed stop-motion films for Wax Tailor, Caravan Palace, McDonalds, KitKat, Lego, Daily Mirror, Nestlé, Disney, Galeries Lafayette and Berluti, to name but a few. Victor loves bringing everyday objects to life. He considers himself to be the fastest animator in Paris and is working on being the fastest in France! And his biggest goal is to be the fastest in the

woooOOOooooorld! © Mylène Comte

Jérôme Combe: The Music Video, a Visual Lab

Thursday 12th at 5:30 pm – Bonlieu Petite salle

Well before *Arcane*, Jérôme Combe and the team from Fortiche Studio made their mark with their highly inventive and dynamic music videos. Anyone over the age of 30 will remember the impact of the music video clip for Mickey 3D's hit *Respire*, which Jérôme Combe co-wrote with Stéphane Hamache.

ANNECY FESTIVAL



©André Bessy, Jérôme Combe, Stéphane Hamache, Amazing Digital Studios ©Fortiche Production

Respire by Mickey 3D, André Bessy, Jérôme Combe, Stéphane Hamache – production: Amazing Digital Studios, 2003

Deux pieds by Thomas Fersen, André Bessy, Jérôme Combe – production: Le Village, 2003

Enemy (from the series *Arcane – League of Legends*) by Imagine Dragons x J.I.D – production: Fortiche Production, 2012

Get Jinxed for *League of Legends*, Jérôme Combe, Arnaud Delord – production: Passion Paris Production, 2013

La Gaviota by Limousine, Jérôme Combe – production: Fortiche Production, 2012

POP/STARS by K/DA (ft. Madison Beer, (G)I-DLE, Jaira Burns) – production: Fortiche Production, 2018

Warriors by Imagine Dragons – production: Fortiche Production, 2014

Ma Meilleure Ennemie by Stromae et Pomme – production: Fortiche Production, 2025



Jérôme Combe, Co-Founder of Fortiche Production, is behind the visual style of the *Arcane* series. An industrial design graduate, he began teaching himself about 3D animation in 1991. He then worked as a director of photography and character designer in video games, while directing award-winning music videos (including *Respire* by Mickey 3D, which won the 2004 Victoire de la musique award), and advertising for Nexus London. By collaborating with Pascal Charrue and Arnaud Delord, together they founded Fortiche Production, a Paris-based studio renowned for its hybrid 2D/3D style and its partnerships with Ubisoft, Carbine Studios and Riot Games. Spotted by Riot in 2012 after seeing the *La Gaviota* video, they began a long-term collaboration, which continued with *Get Jinxed* (2013) and the Emmy-winning *Arcane* series (2021).

Hungarian programme

Hungarian Music Video Clips

Sunday 8th June at 5:30 pm – Bonlieu Petite salle, Monday 9th June at 2:00 pm – La Turbine, and Saturday 14th June at 1:00 pm – Bonlieu Petite salle

ANNECY FESTIVAL



A trip through Hungarian music videos from the last few decades, a perfect opportunity to discover the diversity of Hungarian animation in music. Enjoy this rich, fully-packed programme of melodies and styles ranging from Hungarian pop, rap and heavy metal. Meet both directors László Csáki, who was at Annecy last year with *Pelikan Blue*, and Péter Váczy, who is here this year with *Dog Ear* in the Official Short Film competition.

Just Like by Beat Dis, Andras Szabó – production: MOME Anim, 2007

Mornings in the Bathtub by Péterfy Bori & Love Band & Lovasi András, László Csáki – 2008

Kaktusz by Bioberber, Zsuzsanna Kreif – 2010

All I'm Saying by James, Péter Váczy – production: Picasso Pictures, 2014

Sunwalk by Amorf Lovagok, László Csáki – production: Umbrella Collective, 2013

Illuminair by Middlemist Red, Nóvé Soma – production: Piros Animation, MOME Anim, 2017

Re by Nils Frahm, Simon Balázs – production: Umbrella Collective, 2014

Demons on the Beach by Fran Palermo, Henri Gonzo – production: Piros Animation, 2019

Where Blue Meets Red, by Tamás Patrovits – production: REANIMATION, 2024

Together, Kata Fodor – production: Budapest Metropolitan University, 2025

Meteor by Architects, Jeb Hardwick, Peter Batory – production: Umbrella Collective, 2021

Walking on the Planet by Gábor Antal Trio, Tamara Bella, Gábor István Gurka, Kata Hollós, Kornél Pittmann – production: Gábor István Gurka, 2023

Keringő by Dzsudlő, Boglarka Aszity, Réka Anna Szakaly – production: Sparhelt Animation, 2023



[The full program is available online](#)



Meet the artists at these other events

At the Festival

As part of the Festival Meetings and Masterclasses:

Michel Gondry Masterclass

Sunday 8th at 4:00 pm – Bonlieu Grande salle

"Inside Victor Haegelin's Mind: Stop-Motion Production Secrets" Workshop

Saturday 14th at 11:00 am – Le Brise Glace

At the Mifa

As part of the Talent Panels:

An Animated Conversation with Michel Gondry

Tuesday 10th 12:15 pm – Le Mifa Campus, Salle 4

A first-time Festival guest in 2025, Michel Gondry will be at Le Campus Mifa to discuss and meet with the animation talents of tomorrow. His visit will be the ideal opportunity for the Festival to present him with an Honorary Cristal in recognition of his exceptional contribution to the vibrancy of animation. This exclusive conversation with one of animation's leading figures is an absolute must-attend event!

A Glimpse Behind the Scenes of Victor Haegelin's Work

Wednesday 11th at 9:30 am – Le Mifa Campus, Salle 1

A fascinating encounter between a personal journey and the creative process of a stop-motion video clip. Animated music videos are a theme at this year's Annecy Festival, and this is one of Victor Haegelin's special talents. A stop-motion genius, he makes commercials and music videos with unique creativity and humour enabling him to work with some of the biggest names out there. His diverse collaborations with prestigious brands and artists such as Wax Tailor, Caravan Palace, and Orelsan for his track *La Quête*, which won an award at the Victoires de la musique (Victories of Music) 2023, demonstrate the breadth of his expertise.

The students will have the chance to meet Victor Haegelin and discuss with him about his career and inspirations, a must-attend meeting!

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