



ACTON-BOXBOROUGH
CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council presents

Our World Film Series: A Short Night

Friday, April 27, 2018

“Hold the Phone”

Directed by Valerie Langlois

Running Time 2:14

A girl repeatedly calls a boy that has recently broken up with her. When he doesn't reply, she goes a little crazy.

Valerie Langlois is a high school student at Groton-Dunstable High School. She values creativity, and loves to read and write scripts and books. She writes, “My passion is making films, I like directing the most but I also love to do special effects makeup. I am hoping to go to college for filmmaking and make a career out of it.”

“Overactive Imagination”

Directed by Patrick Snow

Running Time 7:47

Two girl walking home from school encounter a supernatural monster conjured directly from their imaginations and together must find a way to overcome it.

Patrick Snow is a 28-year-old filmmaker from Chelmsford MA, and the Programming and Training Coordinator for ActonTV where he leads educational programs on video production for kids and young adults.

“The Adventures of Mopy”

Directed by Dennis Tsai

Running time 4:39

Mopy, the dog hero from the video game tries to rescue Dennis, a lousy game player.

Dennis Tsai a senior at Massachusetts College of Art and design, double-majoring in Animation and Film/Video. He is a motion graphic designer and videographer, directing and producing comical animation, music videos, and

documentaries. He tells us “My Pekingese dog Mopy was a part of my family for almost 20 years. He was like a brother to me. Most of the time, we shared the same bed - and food too. I miss him. So, now I make animations that reunite us. My latest short is an adventure story for Mopy and me as we move between two different worlds to battle a video game boss together.”

“An Aural Anthropocene”

Directed by Julia Sagaser

Running time 6:00

Raw materials: light and sound, extracted. You don't know the worlds they came from, just this world they are a part of now.

Julia Sagaser is from Maine, and studies film at Smith College. Her obsession for collecting light, time and sound has recently blossomed into a love of filmmaking.

“The Shepherd”

Directed by Luke Catena

Running time 9:42

A look into the life of Yu Xizhong, a shepherd in the ancient Yongtai Village located in China's Gansu Province.

Luke Catena is a member of the Boston University class of 2017. *The Shepherd* won 3rd-place Film, Best Cinematography, and Best Editing awards at the Boston Redstone Film Festival, and Second Prize Best Picture, Best Cinematography, Best Editing, and Best Sound Design awards at the Los Angeles Redstone Film Festival. The film has also played at the Chinese American Film Festival in California.

“Monkey”

Directed by Troy Lustick

Running time 9:37

Monkey follows a backup high school quarterback plotting to take out the golden boy starter during a routine practice.

Troy Lustick was born in São Paulo, Brazil. Youngest of three, Troy grew up in Nashua, NH. He is a writer, director, actor, and student at the University of Massachusetts.

“Hanging by a Thread: Home Free”

Directed by Anne-Suze Pierre

Running time 3:45

Hanging By a Thread is part of a series of short homelessness documentaries. The purpose of this documentary is to show characters of the homeless people and try to get their story out to the world.

Anne-Suze Pierre (Anne) is a student at Bunker Hill Community College. She made *Hanging by a Thread: Home Free* at Cambridge Community Television Summer Media Institute. She writes “I am a 19 years old black independent woman just going through life doing whatever. I am a graphic designer as well as a Documentarian of life. Every day, I am learning, and experiencing. When I was producing this film, I was really into raising

awareness about homelessness in my community. The truth is, everybody knows homelessness exist, people love the ignore them and make them feel like they're not part of the society. I hope to use these videos to open people's mind about homelessness, to make viewers understand that it can happen to anyone and everyone should be treated fairly. Treat them the way you would want to be treated if one day you happened to become homeless."

"XianSe"

Directed by Dennis Tsai

Running time 6:23

In a morning, in the Temple of XianSe (the Agriculture God), we see a devout man's worship routine.

Dennis Tsai is the first filmmaker to place two films in the same year at the ABCC Short Night. Of *XianSe* he writes, "Born in Taiwan, I have always had a deep feeling for this land. Now living in the United States, I try to go back and visit Taiwan at least twice a year. Every time I go back, I visit the temple of XianSe located in where I grew up. It was there that I could always find the peace. To document the sacredness and beauty of this temple, I have made a film about it and recorded worshipers praying and performing rituals."

"Breakdown"

Directed by James Alexander

Running time 9:41

A couple en route to a wedding are forced to reevaluate their relationship after they run over the runaway bride.

James Logan Alexander graduated with an MFA in Cinema and Media Production from Boston University in 2017. *Breakdown* was a finalist in the Boston Redstone Film Festival.

"The Boswell Incident"

Directed by Wes Palmer

Running time 19:03

When an alien abduction rocks the small town of Boswell, a skeptical deputy sheriff is determined to prove it's a hoax.

Wes Palmer received a B.A. in Film Production, and an MFA in Cinema and Media Production from Boston University in 2017. *The Boswell Incident* won Best Film and Best Screenplay at the Boston Redstone Film Festival, and took 3rd place at the Los Angeles Redstone Film Festival.

Wes is a three-time ABCC Short Night director. Last year, his film *Pick Your Own* won 2nd Place Film, Best Editing, and Best Screenplay at the 2017 Boston Redstone Film Festival. His short *You Are Here* won Best Film, Best Editing, and Best Screenplay at the 2016 Redstone Film Festival, and screened 2016's ABCC Short Night. He was selected by Variety as one of 110 students who represent the future of film, media, and entertainment. He is a two-time national College Emmy award-winner whose work screens internationally. Palmer's professional credits include work on "Top Chef" and "NBC Sports." He currently works as a Director's Assistant on high-budget TV shows while developing feature material with the William Morris Endeavor Agency.



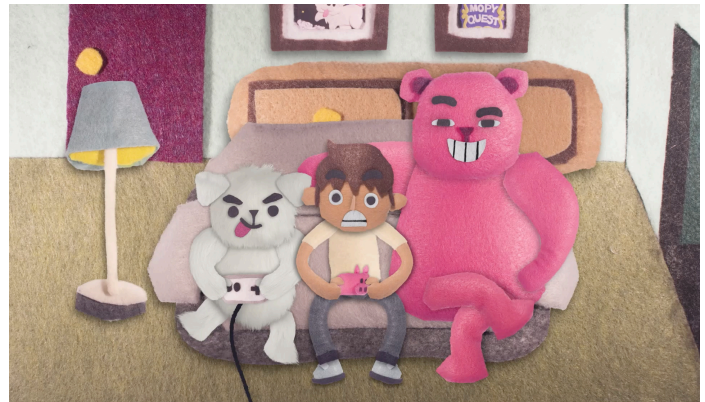
A production still from “Monkey” by Troy Lustick



From “XianSe” by Dennis Tsai



From “Overactive Imagination” by Patrick Snow



From “The Adventures of Mopy” by Dennis Tsai

The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council (www.actonboxboroughculturalcouncil.org) was established in 1982 to promote the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, to help develop cultural programs in the Acton and Boxborough communities and to award and administer Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) Grant funds. We accomplish these goals by:

- Reviewing grant applications from individuals, schools, and arts organizations and awarding MCC grant funds to projects that provide a local public benefit;
- Sponsoring annual cultural programs for the Acton and Boxborough communities using funds generously designated by the towns. These funds have been used by the ABCC to present jazz and classical music concerts, vocal performances, opera, public art installations and more;
- Advocating for the arts through community outreach and publicity.



Power of culture

The Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that promotes excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.