

Isaac King
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ISAAC KING CV

Isaac King is an award-winning animation artist, filmmaker, and teacher in Toronto.

Education

- Master of Fine Arts Degree (Interdisciplinary Animation) 2022, OCAD University.
- Bachelor of Media Arts Degree (Animation) 2000, Emily Carr University of Art and Design.

Professional Independent Art Practice

For nearly 20 years I have been creating award-winning animated short films. My experimental and interdisciplinary practice encompasses all aspects of filmmaking including writing, directing, producing, animating, sound design, and post-production. Recent projects have combined outdoor animation with installation, creating immersive spaces with projectors and materials. My films include *Inbetweening Beings* (2023), *WhateverTree* (2020), *Fly Away* (2017), *Sticks and Stones* (2014), *Second Hand* (2012) and *Puffing Away* (2006). See awards and screening details below.

Professional Applied Animation Experience

As a director at Head Gear Animation (2000-2017) and independently, I have directed, designed, and animated many award-winning commercials, educational clips, and PSAs for clients including Netflix, TVOKids, MTV, YTV, Sesame Street Workshop, The Discovery Channel, YMCA, Toyota, Air Canada, RBC, and humanitarian organizations Seva Foundation and The Stop Community Food Centre. Other commissions include animation for "American Made" (2017 feature film directed by Doug Liman), videos for recording artists Marker Starling and Final Fantasy, and illustrations for the Walrus and iRun magazines.

Teaching Experience

- Sessional Professor of Experimental Animation, OCAD University, Winter 2020 to Present.
- Character Design Instructor, Bachelor of Animation program, Sheridan College, 2015/2016.
- Taught workshops at the Toronto Animated Image Society (TAIS): Stop-motion Character Design (2017) and Outdoor Animation (2021). I have since become an active board member of TAIS.
- Guest lectures and masterclass presentations include School of Visual Arts of New York, Maryland Institute College of Art, OCAD University, Emily Carr University of Art and Design, Sheridan College, iAcademy (Philippines), Cutout Fest (Mexico), AnimaAnima (Serbia) and The Canadian Animation Seminar (Taiwan).

Awards and Distinctions

- Invited as Visiting Guest Animator at the *Sweaty Eyeballs Animation Festival*, Baltimore, Oct 5-8, 2023. I will screen a retrospective of my films, lead a masterclass, and exhibit artwork in the *Expanded Animation* Exhibition at Current Space Gallery.
- Recipient of the Canada-Korea Connections Grant, awarded by the Canada Council of Arts for an upcoming animation collaboration with Korean Filmmaker Dahee Jeong in Spring 2024.

- Presented research and artwork at the Society for Animation Studies' 34th annual conference "The Animated Environment", Rowan University, NJ, USA, June 12-16, 2023.
- Received funding from the Canada Council of Arts and the Ontario Arts Council for *WhateverTree*, completed in June 2020.
- Received funding from the Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council, and the National Film Board for production of my short films *Fly Away*, *Sticks and Stones*, and *Second Hand*.
- My films have won over 15 awards including the Annecy Audience Prize, screened at over 150 international film festivals, televised in Europe and Africa, twice chosen as a Vimeo Staff Picks, and have been included in youth/environmental education curricula. See details below.
- My commercial work has won multiple Applied Arts, Broadcast Design, Art Directors' Club of Canada, New York Festivals, Oneshow and Lotus Awards.
- Director on the board of the Toronto Animated Image Society since 2022.
- Featured on the Animation Industry Podcast, Episode 142, 2021.
- Jury member for the Toronto Animated Image Society's 2016 International Film Showcase.

Selected Awards, Exhibitions, and Screenings

Awards for *WhateverTree*, *Second Hand*, *Sticks and Stones*, and *Puffing Away* include:

- **Audience Award**, Annecy Animation Festival, France
- **Best Children's Film**, KUKI, Berlin, Germany
- **Best Children's Film**, Animafest, Zagreb, Croatia
- **Best Short Film** award at CromaFest, Mexico City
- **Best Short Film** award at Cinanima, Espinho, Portugal
- **Best short film**, VIEW Conference and Festival, Turin, Italy
- **Grand Prix Award**, 11th Energy Film Festival, Switzerland
- **Best Ultra Short Film**, Reel Earth Film Festival, New Zealand
- **Best Fiction Film**, Cineglobe at CERN, Geneva, Switzerland
- **Best Educational Short Film**, Anirmau, Spain
- **Children's Award**, EarthVision, Japan
- **Best short film**, Earth Port Film Festival, USA
- **Best Animation Award**, Siciliambiente, Italy
- **Best Short Film Award**, Cine de las Yungas Film Festival, Argentina
- **Green Image Award**, (twice) Green Image Film Festival, Tokyo
- **UNICEF Award Finalist**, Japan Prize for Educational Media, Tokyo
- **Children's Award**, 16th Environmental Film Festival, Tokyo
- **Best "One Planet" Global Short**, SCAD Savannah Film Festival, USA
- **Colour Box Award**, Flatpack Film Festival, Birmingham, UK
- **Honorable Mention**, Ottawa Int'l Animation Festival
- **Honorable mention**, EcoFocus Film Festival, Georgia, USA
- **Honorable mention**, GIRAF Animation Festival, Calgary, Canada
- **Special Mention**, Animatricks Festival, Helsinki, Finland
- **Special Mention**, KIKI Festival, Zabok, Croatia
- **Vimeo Staff Picked** twice
- **BOOOOOOOOOM.tv** selection

- **Cartoon Brew** Short of the day
- **Films included in the International Children's Media Center (Chicago), Reel Canada Catalogue, Green Image archive (Japan)**

Exhibitions

- *Expanded Animation* group exhibition at Current Space Gallery, Baltimore, Oct 5-8, 2023
- *Past-Forward* group exhibition at Ignite Gallery, OCAD U, Sept 5-Oct 8, 2023
- *OME: Object/Material/Experience* group exhibition at the Etobicoke Civic Centre Art Gallery, June 6-July 6, 2023
- *Inbetweening Beings: An Ecology of Relational Animation* MFA exhibition, OCAD U's Great Hall, April 10-16, 2022
- *Returning* at Big Art TO, Outdoor projection at Princess Park, North York, Nov 3-6, 2021
- *WhateverTree* in KEAXU Landings, an OCADU online exhibition, Nov 24-Dec 23, 2020
- *WhateverTree* at Big Art TO, Outdoor projection at the Etobicoke Olympium, Nov 14-19, 2020

Selected international film festival screenings to date:

Animasivo, Mexico City, **Animac**, Lleda Spain, **Anima Mundi**, Sao Paulo Brazil, **Byron Bay Int'l Film Festival**, Australia, **London Int'l Animation Festival**, London UK, **Ottawa Int'l Animation Festival**, Ottawa Canada, **IndieLisboa**, Lisbon Portugal, **SICAF**, Seoul Korea, **Chicago Int'l Children's Film Festival**, USA, **Milano Int'l Film Fest**, Milan Italy, **Anibar**, Peja Kosovo, **HAFF**, Utrecht Netherlands, **Les Sommets du Cinema d'Animation** de Montreal Canada, **Cinegiocando**, Siracusa Italy, **CFC World Of Shorts /NFB**, Toronto Canada, **San Francisco Green Film Festival** USA, **Cortoons**, Rome Italy, **Wild and Scenic Film Festival**, CA USA, **Regent Park Film Festival**, Toronto Canada, **Viewster Film Festival**, London UK, **Planet in Focus**, Toronto Canada, **Human Rights Int'l Film Festival**, Buenos Aires Argentina, **UploadFest**, Kemio Finland, **Future Film Fest**, Bologna Italy, **Andorra Kids Film Festival**, Andorra Spain, **Atlantic Film Festival**, Halifax Canada, **Wiz-Art**, Lviv Ukraine, **KLIK Animation Festival**, Amsterdam Netherlands, **Filmets Badalona**, Barcelona Spain, **Hsin-Ye Childrens Animation Awards**, Taiwan, **Cucalorus**, NC USA, **Animateka**, Ljubljana Slovenia, **Skeptto**, Caligliari Italy, **Play Kid's Film Festival**, Lisbon Portugal, **Ecozine**, Zaragoza Spain, **KIKI Int'l Children's Film Festival**, Zabok Croatia, **FICMA**, Barcelona Spain, **Linoleum Festival**, Moscow Russia, **St. Louis Int'l Film Festival**, St. Louis USA, **FilmAmbiente**, Rio Di Janeiro Brazil, **Istanbul Animation Festival**, Turkey, **Cinemare**, Kiel Germany, **Tutti Nello Stesso Piatto**, Trento Italy, **Cine-Court Anime**, Roanne France, **TIFF KidsFest**, Toronto Canada, **Festival de Cine CreatRivas**, Madrid Spain, **ReelEarth**, Palmerston North New Zealand, **Flickerfest**, Sydney Australia, **Durango Film Festival**, CO USA, **RiverRun Int'l Film Festival**, NC USA, **Animex**, UK, **Tehran Animation Festival**, Iran, **Sapporo Short Film Fest**, Sapporo Japan, **PISAF**, Seoul Korea, **CurtaCinema**, Rio Di Janeiro Brazil, **Filmets Badalona**, Barcelona Spain, **Animax Skopjefest**, Macedonia, **Sofia Animationn Festival**, Bulgaria, **Fest Anca**, Slovakia, **FICA**, Goias Brazil, **ViennaShorts**, Austria, **Int'l TriKfilm Festival Stuttgart**, Germany, **Adelaide Film Festival**, Australia, **Uppsala Film Festival** Sweden, **Fest de Cine Zaragoza** Spain, **Carmel Int'l Film Festival** Israel, **Anima Brussels** Belgium, **SunCine** Barcelona Spain, **Icona Animation Festival** Greece, **Catch the Moon Festival** Italy, **Glas Animation Festival** USA, **Zoom Festival** Poland, **FilmFest Dresden** Germany, **Minimalen** Norway, **Cardiff Animation Nights** UK, **Athens Animfest** Greece, **Zlin Film Festival** Czech Republic.

Other interests:

Ecological advocacy, decolonization, community building, youth art education, outdoor activities, gardening, sports.