

BLUE CURRY

PRESSKIT



Magali
Dunyach

Chien-Ju
Hung

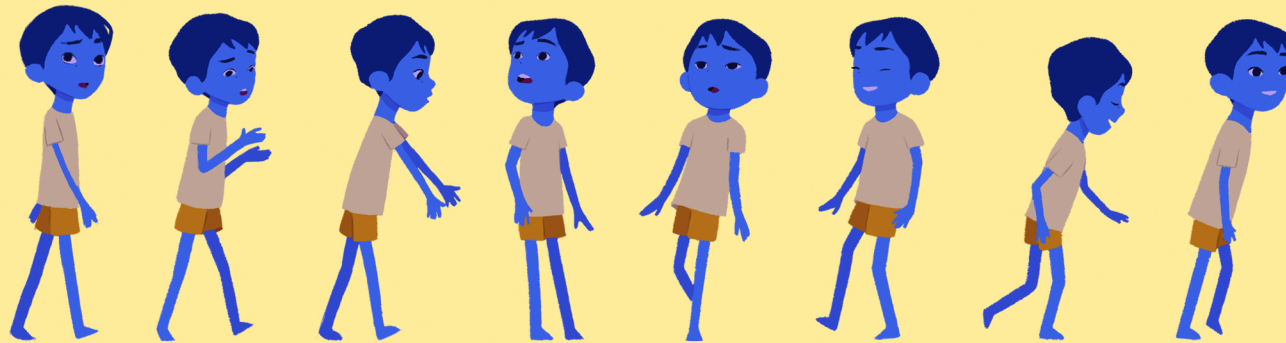
Jimin
Jung

Vajra
Pancharia

Léa
Pietrzyk

PITCH

The greatest life lessons are learned through simplest of experiences. When your regular kitchen turns into your biggest classroom... and Mom just serves you a plate of wisdom.



Blue Curry is a conversation in which a mother invites her child to understand the beauty of Diversity on Earth, through the preparation of a Curry together. It's a universal story that starts from a simple question of a child to his mother, questioning his identity and differences between people. It's a very complex question, yet pertinent and essential to the understanding of the World in which we live.



SYNOPSIS

In their living room, Neel and his mum Dara are busy preparing for the school play of the boy in which he will play the role of the Earth. While Neel is rehearsing his lines, Dara is sticking paper pieces on his costume. By mistake, Neel reads a line from the Sun's part, and realises he finds the role pretty cool. His mum observes that he chose to play the Earth, and that the blue planet is also a nice role. While reassuring him, she takes his costume off, and Neel appears, all blue. He asks her about his blue hint, and, keeping on questioning her, about the fact that people are all looking different from one another.

She takes him to the kitchen, and decides they will make a curry for dinner. Following the recipe they're cooking together, she invites him to think, by unwrapping metaphors, about life, diversity, and human interactions.

She first tells him about the variety of life forms, while adding salt to the water in the pot. In Neel's imagination, the grains turn into micro-organisms, fishes, birds, all swimming in a wide ocean. He asks Dara to keep on explaining, and she sends him to the fridge to fetch veggies.

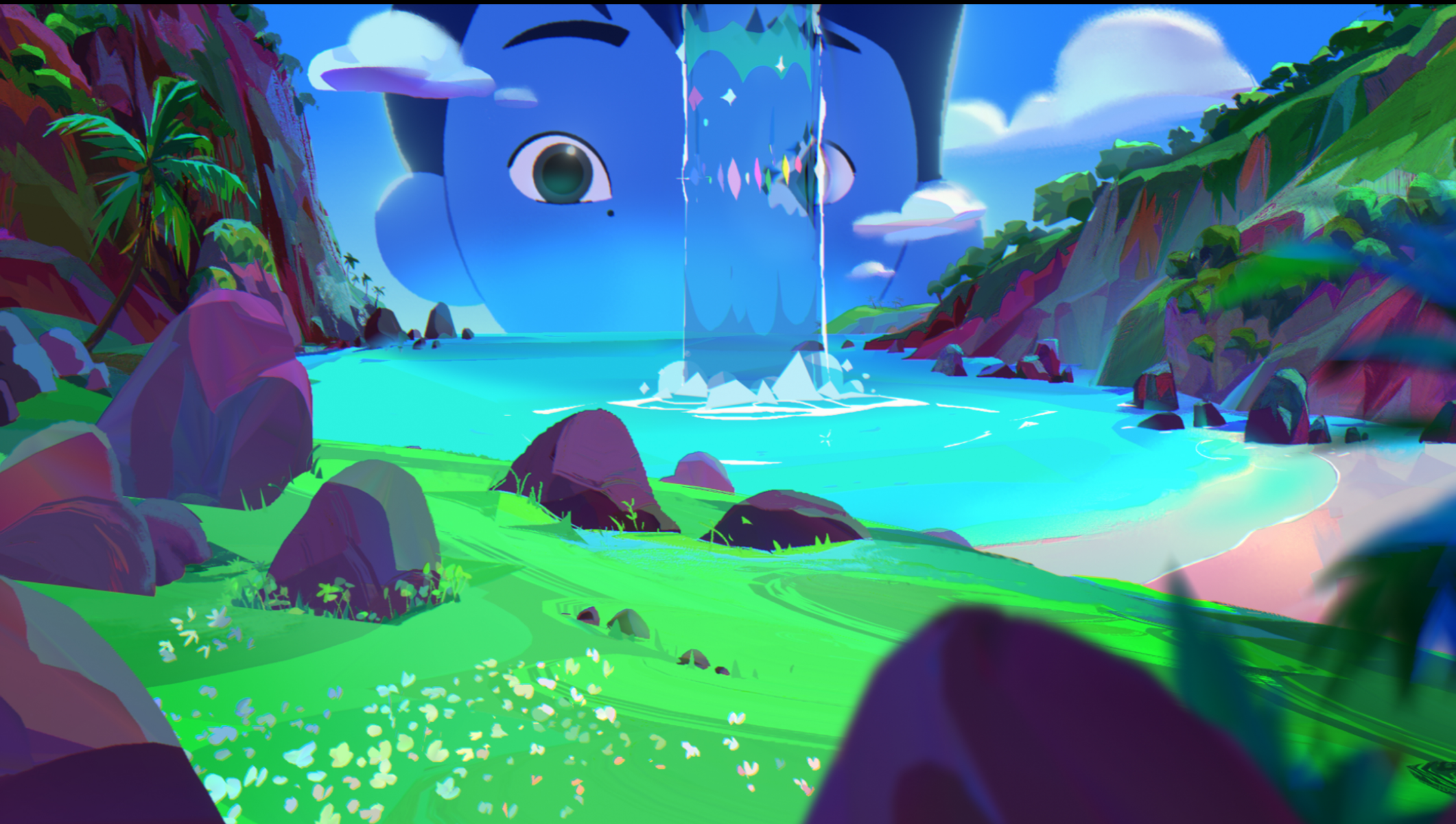
He enters in an orchard, bathed in sunlight. While he picks up veggies, she explains to him that he should stay open to new flavors, to keep on discovering. He meets a yellow kid, who is eating a mango. When Neel tries to share his veggies, the kid refuses, and many other kids appear, each of them carrying fruits matching his own color. Neel, a bit disconcerted, hands all the veggies to his mother, and keeps on walking.

Dara is cutting the veggies and throwing the spices to fry in the pan. The spices shape into people, dancing in a colorful and warm carnival. Neel joins the dance, while Dara explains to him how important each flavor is to a dish. Suddenly, the pan starts to crackle, and the shapes sizzle into sparkles. Neel, worried, asks about the noise. Dara explains that the heat makes everything sizzle, by pushing the ingredients to react to one another. Neel is thrown out the pan by a spike, back to the kitchen.

Dara takes him to the sink, to put his hand under water. He got burnt by a drop of oil. While she reassures him, they both start to cry. Surprised, he asks her why she cries. She replies that she cries because of the onions, laughing. She cuddles him, and they finish cooking the curry.

While stirring, she tells him how important it is to take the time to mix everything well. They sit at the table, Neel completing his plate with coriander. He looks at his Earth costume on the living room table, smiling, and starts eating.





ABOUT THE DIRECTORS



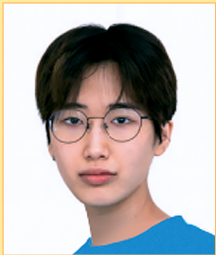
Magali DUNYACH

I am a French visual development artist and character designer, willing to work both in animation cinema and live action. I've developed my interest for cinematography by studying cinema theory in highschool and practicing color and narrative composition ever since. Co-directing Blue Curry with my amazing teammates was the final project of four years of animation Master at Gobelins, and pushes me towards film direction projects.



Chien-Ju HUNG

I am a life observer who wants to visit all the places on the planet and go skydiving before getting heart disease.



Jimin JUNG

I am a person who is creative and loves having fun. I aim to observe the world with an intuitive eye and imagination. Above all, I design characters to capture the moment of their lives and stories. After working as a 2D animator for three years in Korea, I am currently a final year student in Gobelins Paris with my amazing team. We have put the things that we love into one film called Blue curry.



Vajra PANCHARIA

I am an Animation film maker and a storyteller from India, Currently a Final year student of Masters in animation at Gobelins, Paris. I have been a professional artist and a design educator in India for ten years before moving to Paris. Blue Curry is my final year graduation project, a heart warming film created with a beautiful team. In the future I wish to work in Europe and abroad to direct films that are culturally enriching and meaningful.



Léa PIETRZYK

Just Graduated from Gobelins, L'Ecole de l'Image, I am a 2D Animation Filmmaker, Story Artist and Visual Development Artist. Storytelling is my passion and through the medium of Animation I wish to create films that are universal and have a positive message. My love for Cinema, Music, Science and Nature is the key driving force to my stories. Blue Curry is my Graduation film at Gobelins which I co-directed with my fellow talented teammates and I strive to meet other filmmakers and make more films.

The five of us met in Gobelins, in our first year of Master. We soon reunited around dishes we would cook for each other, and multicultural exchanges and discussions. Blue Curry came from this gathering.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where did the concept/idea come from ?

The very first sparkle of this idea came from an Indian myth, in which the god Krishna, as a kid, comes to his mother with mud in his mouth. She forces him to spit it out, and when he opens his mouth, she sees the whole universe in it. This image gave us the will of treating our subject in a subtle and poetic tone, using visual metaphors. Since we met, we were often gathering around food, and this link between us made the idea of using the cooking process as a story structure come quite naturally. The curry embodies the vision of diversity and the necessity of gathering that we wanted to express, in a warm and sweet way. All of this served our wish to tell a multicultural story, that would be enriching, that would push parents to talk to their kids and kids to think about their identity.

Several graphic styles are visible throughout the film, how did you come up with this artistic direction ?

We wanted the artistic direction to follow the emotional journey of Neel. The “real” world he’s sharing with his mother is rather realistic in proportions, though the backgrounds design fits with the papercut shapes his Earth costume is made of, to express that the audience follows his point of view, through his excitement for the school play that occupies his mind. From the moment he enters into his imagination, Neel’s body is getting simplified to focus on his head, eyes and ears, the center of his curiosity. His surroundings on the contrary are getting more and more organic and complexified in texture, more sensible, to emphasize his experience and creative imagination. He still has to experience rejection from the other kids, so the characters

remain detailed, but as soon as he arrives in the spices carnival, he dives into his feelings more than ever, and his surroundings become more raw, focusing on sensation and movement, bright colors and strong shapes. The images technically become more abstract, but the importance given to emotions increases, as Neel understands more and more what Dara is explaining to him.

Who is the audience the film is aiming for ?

We wanted a story that could be felt by a maximum of people. For that we choose to address it to different generations, through different levels of understanding. The children can follow Neel’s perception and get amazed by how life is diverse, perhaps even acknowledging the importance of each and everyone for the oldests. Meanwhile, the parents can think about the necessity of talking about diversity with their kids, helping them understand who they are and how good that is.

Who are the voice actors ?

Neel’s voice is Aarush Chowdhery, he’s a bright kid from New York, and Dara’s voice, the mom, is Monika Sharma who stays in Mumbai. It became quite clear during our first storyboard recordings that we had our definite voices for our characters and despite the distance between them, their chemistry and energy was what we wished for our characters.



TECHNICAL SHEET

TITLE
Blue Curry

YEAR OF PRODUCTION
2021

GENRE
Animation, fiction,
experimental

TECHNIQUE
2D and 3D computer
animation

DURATION
5 min 47 sec

FORMAT
FHD, 16/9 ; 5.1

LANGUAGE
English

SUBTITLES
French, english



CREDITS

DIRECTORS / CONCEPTION / ANIMATION / COMPOSITING
Magali Dunyach, Chien-Ju Hung, Jimin Jung, Vajra Pancharia &
Léa Pietrzyk

MUSIC
Antoine Duchêne

SOUND DESIGNER
Laurent Jimenez

SOUND MIX
Benjamin Cabaj

SOUND ENGINEER
Laurent Chassaigne

FOLEY
Marie Mazière

COLORGRADING
David Chantoiseau

VOICES
Monika Sharma &
Aarush Chowdhery

PRODUCTION
GOBELINS l'école de l'image
Charlotte Baly, Louise Cardenas
& Rebecca De Queiroz

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MIYU

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