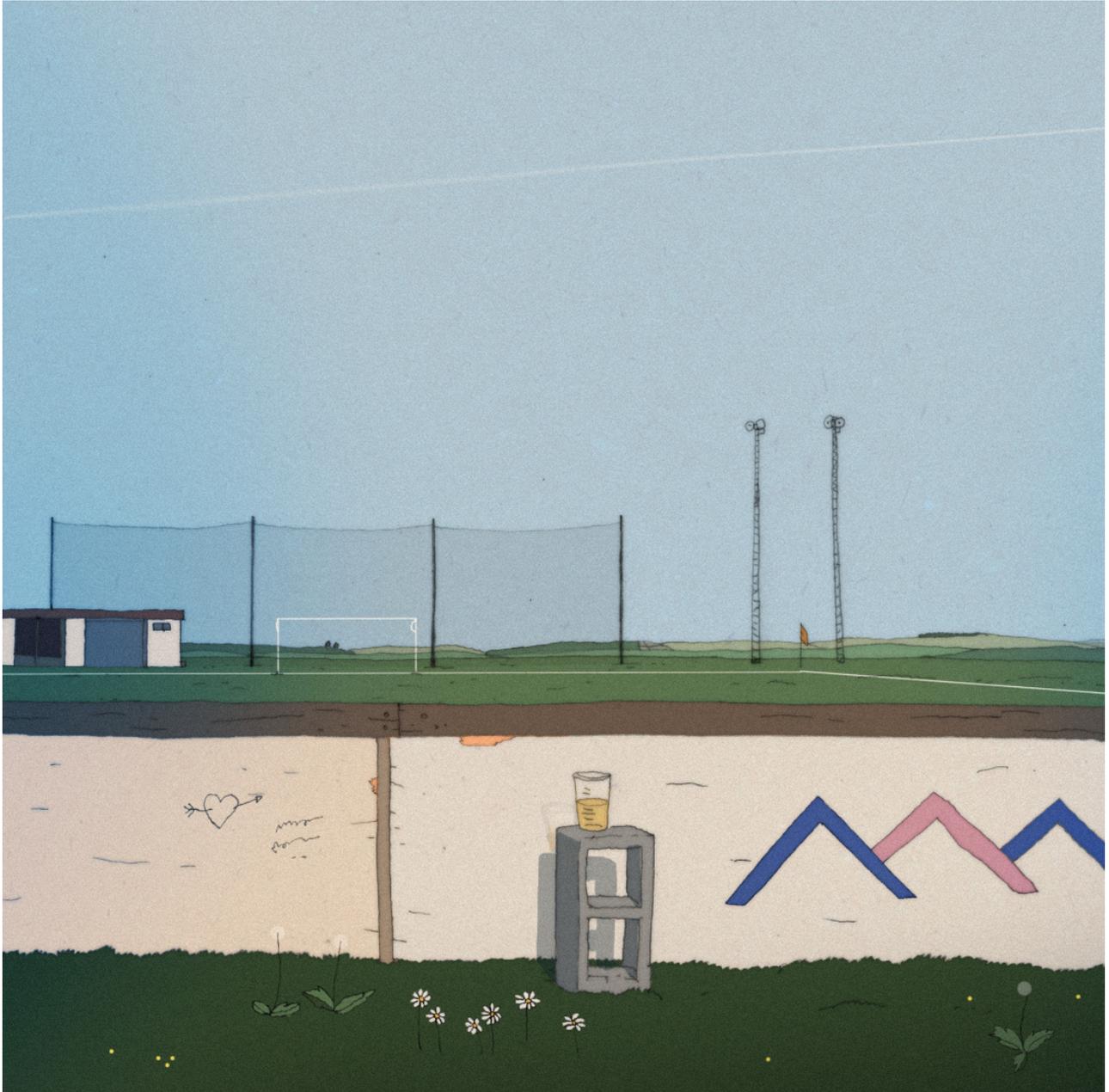


An Animal Tank, Miyu Productions
and Ka-Ching Cartoons production

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED
BY NICOLAS KEPPEMS



EASTER EGGS

(On Good Friday)



ANIMAL_TANK

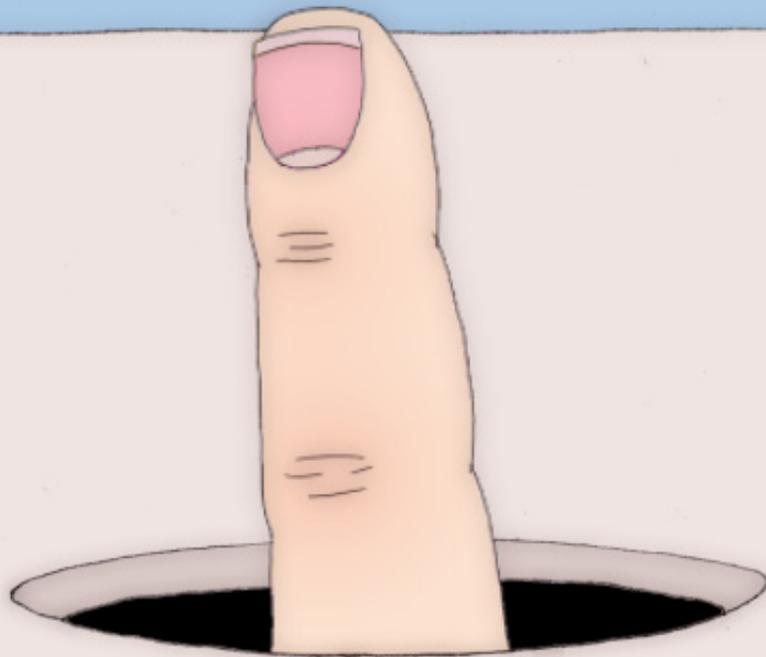
MIYU flanders®

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LNK





EASTER EGGS

(On Good Friday)

In an ordinary Belgian village, two bored teenagers are looking for something extraordinary.

LOGLINE

In a small town, word goes around that Mister Ping's exotic birds are on the loose. Two bored teenagers go on a quest to find them. During their adventure, they find that escaping daily life isn't quite the same as escaping each other. Easter Eggs is a short animated film about finding extraordinary things in ordinary places.

SYNOPSIS

No one knows what really happened to Mr. Ping of Ping's Palace. Jason's uncle says he committed suicide. Twelve-year-old Jason is always looking for ways to make extra money. He wants to buy a mountain bike with suspensions.

Jason is small, he has a round head with dark hair. His best friend is Kevin, for as long as he can remember. Kevin is 3 years older and that was never really a problem until a few months ago. Kevin started to get pubic hair, he has shown that to Jason, he doesn't feel like playing games anymore, or at least he tries to make that strong for himself.

When Mr. Ping disappeared he left his bird cage full of expensive parrots open. Jason suggests they go look for them in the garden of the Chinese restaurant, but Kevin doesn't like that at first. Eventually Kevin comes around, he can use the money from a parrot sale. When Kevin arrives at the deserted restaurant, Jason and Kevin go their separate ways.

Jason wants to show his friend that he has good ideas but in his enthusiasm he gets his head stuck between a fence. Kevin is tired of the hassle with Jason and leaves him behind when night falls.

A few hours later, Kevin regrets it. He returns to the fence in the garden as quickly as possible but there is no trace of Jason. Suddenly, however, Kevin is startled by his friend emerging from the bushes. Jason comes running towards Kevin with a large cake box. He actually wanted to get bread but the baker hadn't finished it yet. "Parrots eat kiwi and banana, don't they?", on which Jason opens the box of fruit tarts. Kevin is angry, he is angry at Jason and himself. Jason with his stupid ideas and himself because he can't deal with them, with nothing really. He punches Jason in the face and then himself.

They fall asleep next to each other, there by the fence in the garden. The night gradually becomes morning. Suddenly, from the sides of the screen, colorful birds come flying, they go to pick up the cakes around the boys, the boys stay asleep, the birds eat quietly.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

'Easter Eggs' brings my childhood together. The intention was to approach it in the same way as how I myself see childhood and adolescence. On the surface a naive quest, an adventure. Episodic as a series of comic books. But underlying with much more complex feelings, struggles and with no real beginning or end. In retrospect, there are moments that you can try to figure out whether or not they were of any great influence, but even then it's usually too vague.

The title 'Easter Eggs' comes from the metaphor I saw in the search for easter eggs on the morning of Easter Sunday. In Belgium, children believe that the Easter eggs are left behind by bells from Rome. Children search for all the colorful hidden candy while the parents are looking. This search also only makes sense as long as you believe in it yourself. Afterwards, you are on the other side. This is also applicable to many children's dreams, to become famous, rich, a top football player or a queen. So too to Jason's desire to catch and sell escaped parrots.

Jason and Kevin are two friends with a few years difference. For Jason, it's an adventure, a naive quest that he still fully believes in. He has heard all sorts of things, which could make the story more complex in itself, but he does not lose sight of his goal, his dream. Kevin is already older and has doubts about whether he should participate. Sometimes he loses himself in the adventure, and can even react more violently than Jason but at other times more complex feelings overwhelm him and he just wants to go home, doesn't know a way with himself.

With 'Easter Eggs' I wanted to make a coming-of-age story, based on the comic book adventures I loved so much as a child, but with the complexity that afterwards bit by bit made me unable to go along with the stories about two friends who went treasure hunting in the woods and had a crazy professor as a friend.



FILMOGRAPHY NICOLAS KEPPEMS

EASTER EGGS - 2020 - 14' 42"

In a small town, word goes around that Mister Ping's exotic birds are on the loose. Two bored teenagers go on a quest to find them. During their adventure, they find that escaping daily life isn't quite the same as escaping each other. Easter Eggs is a short animated film about finding extraordinary things in ordinary places

Screener link: <https://vimeo.com/484349155> (with English subtitles)

password: wallaroo

WILDEBEEST - 2017 - 19' 20" (co-directed by Matthias Phlips)

Going on a safari is a dream for many. For middle-aged couple Linda and Troyer, it turns into a horribly real adventure when they get left behind in the wilderness.

screener link: <https://vimeo.com/235306140> (with English subtitles)

password: safari

AWARDS - (among others)

EFA - European Film Awards 2018: nominated in the short film category

Fantoche International Animation Film Festival 2018 (Baden, Switzerland) // Award Best Film

Encounters Film Festival 2018 (Bristol, UK) // Animated Encounters Grand Prix Award

Anima Festival 2018 (Brussels, Belgium) // Award for Best Belgian Shortfilm + Authors prize SACD

'Ensor for best short animation film' at Oostende film festival 2020

International Short Film Festival Leuven 2017 (Leuven, Belgium) // Audience Award for Best Flemish Animation Shortfilm

Brussels Short Film Festival 2018 (Brussels, Belgium) // Award Le Prix Canal+ France

Guanajuato International Film Festival 2018 (Guanajuato, México) // Award Best Animated Short Film

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CREWLIST

Writer / Director: Nicolas Keppens (BE)

Producer: Brecht Van Elslande (Animal Tank) (BE), Emmanuel-Alain Raynal & Pierre Baussaron (Miyu Productions) (FR), Joost van den Bosch & Erik Verkerk (Ka-Ching Cartoons) (NDL)

Associate producer: Bert Lesaffer (Animal Tank) (BE)

Actors:

Victor Polster as Jason

Rik Verheye as Kevin

Animator supervisor: Camiel Hermans (BE)

Animators: Digna van der Put (NDL), Pascal Vermeersch (BE), Camiel Hermans (BE), Carl Van Isacker (BE)

Assistant 2D animators: Eno Swinnen (BE), Laura Piette (BE), Mirte Tas (NDL), Sacha Brauner (BE), Tiemen Focke (BE), Flore Van Holderbeke (BE), Felix Ysenbaert (BE)

Backgrounds: Nicolas Keppens (BE)

Technical support: Joes Roosens (BE)

Compositing: Nicolas Keppens (BE)

VFX: Raf Schoenmaekers (BE)

Title design: Matthias Philips (BE)

Sound design & mixage: Greg Scheirlinckx (BE)

Sound studio: studio Thinkntalk (BE)

Studio mixage: Herculeslab (BE)

Editing: Nicolas Keppens (BE)

Color grading: Joachim Vansteelant (BE)

Postproduction: VC Studios (BE)

Music:

Original music by Greg Scheirlinckx (BE)

Supported by:

Flanders Audiovisual Fund (VAF)

the Netherlands Film Fund

the Centre National du Cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC)

participation of ARTE FRANCE - Unité de programmes Cinéma

Tax Shelter of the Belgian Federal Government

CONTACT

Distribution / sales:

Miyu Distribution: distribution & sales in worldwide (excl. Belgium)
Luce Grosjean - luce@miyu.fr / <https://www.miyu.fr/distribution/>

Dalton Distribution: distribution & sales in Belgium
An De Winter - an@fonk.be / <https://www.daltondistribution.be>

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Erik Verkerk - erik@ka-chingcartoons.com

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Title original: Easter Eggs
Title English: Easter Eggs
Title French: Easter Eggs

Year: 2020
Length: 14' 42"
Sound: 5.1
Aspect ratio: flat
Genre: coming of age
Style: 2D animation
ISAN number: ISAN 0000-0005-61A5-0000-H-0000-0000-N

