

ABOUT

ASIFA was founded in 1960 in Annecy, France by a group of international animators to increase world-wide visibility of animated film. ASIFA's membership includes animation professionals and fans from more than 50 countries.

ASIFA-East, based in New York City, is the Northeast US chapter. We host screenings, workshops, and panel discussions on all things animation, and our film festival, which debuted in 1969, is the oldest animation-only festival in the US.

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Poster by Rachel Shim

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my speech from our festival.

It's so great seeing you all here.

It's been a pretty good year for ASIFA-East and I'd like to mention some of the highlights.

Our NYC Animation Weekend event, to celebrate International Animation Day, was again held at Hostos Community College.

We held discussions on AI and Social Media at the Hudson Park Library. Our amazing panelists brought incredible insights to the subjects and we all learned a lot. A big thank you to Nate Ziller, who appeared on both panels. Nate, if you're here, I won't be offended if you avoid me for fear of signing you up for more.

The ASIFA-East Book Club, not a real thing (yet), met at the Jefferson Market Library. We gathered to discuss animation books by local authors such as Robby Gilbert's *New York Animation, 1966-1999*. As a teacher, I just want you to know that this is required reading for everyone in this room and you will be graded on this.

Ronan has been killing it this year: organizing and increasing our figure drawing sessions at Titmouse, Buck and Hornet while taking over as our social media director. I think I read that we have a TikTok account somewhere. Someone will have to tell how that's going as I'm prohibited by age to join.

We entered 5 RISD films into the ASIFA International Student Award Competition. In the past they were from SVA and Pratt. NYU is next, so Dean, if you're here, expect an email.

We have a store on our website! At the moment all you can purchase is an ASIFA-East t-shirt, but, seriously, why would you want anything else?

It's important for ASIFA-East to be a hub for the animation scene in the northeast United States and thanks to a donation from an anonymous member, we have years of our newsletter, the aNYmator, digitized and uploaded to our website. Thanks to Hugo for leading the charge. It's not complete and, of course, because the goal is to have every one of them available to academics, fans and anyone else interested in our history. History like Linda Simensky's home phone number and John Dilworth's address. That information and more is there. I've browsed through some of them and it's fascinating.



Carrie Hawks



Ash Suh, Mulan Fu, McIntry, John Lustig



Board member Ryan Castrillo (middle) at the reception



Biljana Labovic, Momo Cau, Mike Enright, Aaron Augenblick, Nate Ziller, Emmett Goodman



Friend , Jak Ritger, Friend



Tom Eaton (middle) at the reception

If you don't know, we've been posting the current issues on our site. Started 2 years ago this month, we presently have 21 issues up. Just this past year we've interviewed such fantastic artists as Aaron Augenblick, Peter Ahern, Mark Stansberry, Daniel Garcia, John Canemaker, Marina Zurkow, Robby Gilbert, Pilar Garcia-Fernandezsema, Andy & Carolyn London and Mulan Fu.

When the aNYmator was reinstated, we interviewed a plethora of senior talents in our region like Pat Smith, Signe Baumann, Julian Glander, Jen Oxley, John Morena. Afterwards I began to worry about who would we talk to next. The nagging question was: are there enough animators to keep this thing going.

Of course the answer is "Hell, yeah." And this is why...

At the "Made In New York" screening at the Metrograph last fall, when the filmmakers were asked "why New York?" and "why animation?", there were 3 common answers:

I like to have creative control
I prefer working alone
and
3. I need to make art

I'm guessing that if you're here at this near capacity event (another "Hell, Yeah!"), that you feel the same way. And, if so, I don't think we'll ever run out of animators to talk to.

Hi Everyone,

I am very happy to say that this year's festival was a massive success. For the first time in almost a decade, our community gathered at The New School in Manhattan. More than 200 people came to watch the Award Ceremony and the screening of those films.

Let me express a huge thank you to our Exclusive Media Partner, Cartoon Brew, for sponsoring the brand new Cartoon Brew Award for Excellence in Animation. As well as to WIA NYC for helping us to bring back the WIA Award, and Animation Resources for gifting free year-long memberships to each of the Student Film winners (ASIFA-East members can get their own memberships 15% off with code **asifaeast**).

Also, major thanks to our intern from the New School, Rachel Shim, who did so much of the behind-the-scenes work, including designing the beautiful poster for the event, as well as the WIA Award certificate. To our Signal Film interns from Kutztown University, Rishell Avent, Ella Sweeny, and Owen Christian and Jazz Thomas, student volunteer from CUNY City College. Lastly board members Bill Lorenzo, Emily Compton, Ronan Madden and Josué Advincola for helping set up this wonderful event.

Next year is only going to be bigger and better soz stay tuned for updates!

Sincerely,

David Eisman,
ASIFA-East Festival Chair



Festival Director David Eisman



ASIFA-East President Douglas Vitarelli



John Lustig and Larry Ruppel



Emily Compton and Rachel Shim



Friend and Hong Ming Chua



Liz Van Verth, Emily Compton, David Eisman, Douglas Vitarelli, Candy Kugel, Ryan Castrillo Josue Advincola



Alex Budovsky, Bill Plympton, Candy Kugel, Biljana Labovic, Signe Baumane, Jeremiah Dickey



Alison Stern, Peter Ahern, Douglas Vitarelli



Student Film - First Place
Wendy Cong Zhao
"A Grieving Heart"

Music Video - Third Place
Hong Ming Chua
"Freehand - Fangbanger"



Music Video - Second Place
Ash Suh
"Coworker Crush"





Music Video - First Place
Mike Enright
"Lethe"

Experimental Film - Third Place
Sakshi Jain
"So Many Different Things"



Best in Show
K8 Howl & Jak Ritger
"Shapes"



Experimental Film - Second Place
Karl Staven
"Crain Plaisy"





Independent Film - First Place
Mike A. Smith
 “Epic of Enkidu”



Experimental Film - First Place
Steven Subotnick
 “Impromptu”



Signe Baumann presents the Cartoon Brew award



Cartoon Brew Award for Excellence in Animation
Momo Cao
 “S.T. 100”

Commissioned Film - Third Place
Sean P. Lattrell
 “DS&Durga ‘I Don’t Know What’ Murder Mystery”



Kelly-Ann Krawchuk and Ashley Gerst of WIA/NYC



WIA Award
Dylan Baddeley
 “Worcestershire Sauce”



Commissioned Film - Second Place
Aaron Augenblick
 “Good College”



Commissioned Film - First Place
John Schnall & Holly Carter
"Stories in Motion"



Craft Prize in Storytelling
Nate Ziller
"AI Hype"

Craft Prize in Animation
Aaron Blaise
"Snow Bear"



Craft Prize in Education
Biljana Labovic
"The Clever Trick Used by Sports Betting Apps"



Craft Prize in Design
Yulia Ruditskaya
"The Hare"



Independent Film - Third Place
John W. Lustig
"I Beg Your Pardon"

Craft Prize in Sound
Mulan Fu
"Just One Peek"



Independent Film - Second Place
McKinley Benson
"Two Ships"

