



NATIONAL FILM INSTITUTE HUNGARY







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WISH YOU WERE EAR

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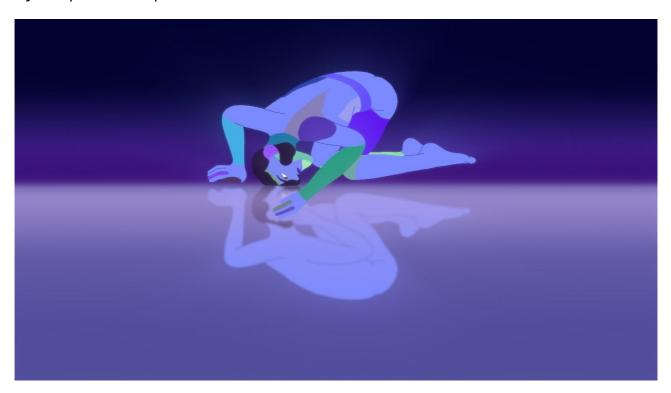
a film by Mirjana Balogh

Hungary, 2025, 11 min., Colour, animation World premier: 2025 Berlinale Generation 14plus

TEASER TO WATCH

LOGLINE

In a world, where after each break-up, ex-partners must exchange a chosen body part, Wish You Were Ear follows a fragmented protagonist who, upon seeing their lost ear, embarks on a journey of self-acceptance.



SYNOPSIS

In a world where ex-partners must exchange a chosen body part after a break-up, Wish You Were Ear explores the lasting impact of relationships. Each split leaves people visibly marked - not just losing a piece of themselves but carrying literal fragments of their past loves. The protagonist, feeling incomplete and disfigured, yearns for their original, whole form. However, when they encounter someone else wearing their former ear, it sets them on the path of accepting themselves. The film reflects on how relationships - whether willingly or not - transform us, shaping both our identity and self-image. Some might view these changes as losses, while others might feel them completely a part of themselves, but usually it is a journey of self-acceptance and that is what *Wish You Were Ear* is about.

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Format (shooting): Digital

Duration: 11 min

Genre: Animation

Created in 2024 as a diploma film at the Animation programme of Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design (MOME) with support from the National Film Institute - Hungary (NFI).



"In my film, I wanted to capture how we can – or cannot – accept the changes brought about by past relationships once they have ended, and how these changes become a part of our self-image. Some people perceive the transformation as a loss, while others feel it has fully become part of who they are. I believe this is a profound process of self-acceptance, and that is what the story is about." Mirjana Balogh

Directed by
Mirjana Balogh
Written by
Mirjana Balogh
Designed by
Mirjana Balogh
Mirjana Balogh
Judit Czakó
József Iszlai
Music by
József Iszlai
Melinda Kádár
Ádám Polhodzik

7. 6.5....

Produced by József Fülöp

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The core idea behind the film is to explore how two people in a relationship inevitably shape each other, whether consciously or unconsciously. Even after a relationship ends, these changes remain with us—they become a part of who we are.

To symbolize this transformation, I chose to represent these changes through different body parts. Each time a character goes through a breakup, they physically lose a piece of themselves, yet they also carry fragments of all their past relationships.

At its heart, the film is about self-image and self-acceptance after separation. When a character comes to terms with the breakup and embraces their new body part, it gradually merges into their form—visualized through color transitions. However, the protagonist is unable to do this. Their altered body remains a patchwork of mismatched parts, visibly separated from their original self. They see themselves as deformed, longing only to return to the way they once were.

MIRJANA BALOGH

Mirjana Balogh is a Hungarian animation director, graphic designer, and illustrator whose work spans diverse fields, from live-action art department to editorial illustrations.

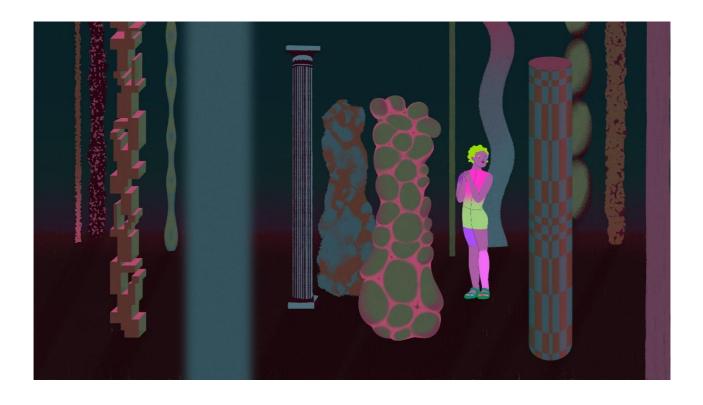
A recent graduate of MOME Anim, she debutes her first animated short film, Wish You Were Ear. Passionate about printed materials as well, she volunteers as an organizer for Budapest's Ukmukkfukk zine festival.

Inspired by the visuals of machines, wires, and motherboards, her work blends reality and abstraction, crafting imaginative worlds that she would find exciting to live in.



IG @mirjna



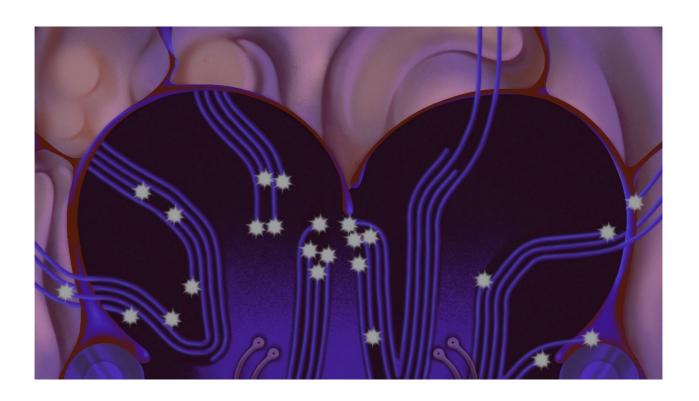


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