



School of Life

Filmmuseum Potsdam 15.–19. Mai 2006

Pädagogisches Dossier

City Paradise

UK 2005

Director: Gaëlle Denis, Producer: Erika Forzy

Running Time: 6 Minutes

Won „Best Animated Short Award“ at the Los Angeles Film Festival 2005

SYNOPSIS

London is a big city, and for those new to it, it can sometimes seem quite scary. But Tomoko, who arrives from Japan to learn English, accidentally discovers a mysterious, secret city underground, inhabited by friendly little aliens and beautiful blossom. After she's found it, everything changes ...

INHALTSANGABE (deutsch)

London ist groß und kann auf Neuankömmlinge fremd, kalt und abweisend wirken. Ähnlich ergeht es auch der Japanerin Tomoko – bis sie durch Zufall eine geheime und geheimnisvolle Unterwasserwelt entdeckt, in der seltsame freundliche Lebewesen und wunderschöne Blumen zuhause sind.

CAST

Tomoko	Hiroe Takei
Next Door Neighbour	Robert Stevenson
Alien	Rachel Phillips
Alien	Katerina Athanasopoulou

PRODUCTION NOTES

City Paradise has been commissioned by Channel 4 as part of the MOMI Artist in Residence (AIR) animation scheme. The film which Gaëlle Denis designed and animated uses a combination of live action, 2D and computer animation. The animation is a mixture of traditional hand painted drawn animation and 3D computer animation.

Gaëlle had the idea of portraying how London can seem to people who are new to it. A lively and beautiful yet surreal city. A slightly scary yet comical place populated by creatures with strange walks.

GAËLLE DENIS – FILMOGRAPHY

„City Paradise“ 6 min, Channel 4+ Passion-Pictures, in production 2003

„Fish Never Sleep“ 6 min17sec, RCA, Kyoto Geidae 2002

„Abubacar and the Afrodisiac“ 2min10sec, RCA 2001

„Cho wa dada?“ 4 min37 sec, ENSAD 2000

„Emma“ 1 min 1999, 16mm, ENSAD 1998

SOME PRIZES AND AWARDS FOR PARADISE CITY 2005

Imagina	Art Direction Award
Tricky Women (Austria)	First Prize Audience Award
Birds Eye View	Birds Eye View Innovation Award
	Birds Eye View Development Award
Aspen Shorts	Innovation Award
ViewFinders (Canada)	Award for Best Animation Honourable Mention
Oberhausen	Prize of the Ecumenical Jury
Annecy	Jury Award
Melbourne Int. Anim. Fest.	Audience vote
Arcipelago Film Festival (Rome)	Best Short Film in Digital Video
Ars Electronica	Computer Animation / Visual Effects Award of Distinction
Los Angeles Film Festival	Jury Award for Best Animated Short
Imago International Film Festival	Jury Award
Mill Valley Film Festival	Best Short Film
Sitges Film Festival	Méliès d'Argent
Back-Up Festival	1st Prize Jury Award
	Special Mention in the Werkleitz Award
Uppsala	Special Jury Prize
BitFilm 2005	1st prize FX Mix
ResFest 2005	Special Jury Award for Short Film
Animated Dreams 2005	Best Design