

Nicolas Provost

BIO I

Nicolas Provost is a filmmaker and visual artist living and working in Brussels, Belgium. His work is a reflection on the grammar of cinema and the relation between visual art and the cinematic experience. His films are screened worldwide on both visual art platforms and film festivals and have earned a long list of awards and screenings at prestigious festivals as among others The Sundance Film Festival, The San Francisco International Filmfestival, Cinevegas, The International Film Festival Rotterdam, The Viennale, The Locarno Film Festival,...

BIO II

Nicolas Provost (B) graduated from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Gent, Belgium in 1994 but spent the last two years of his studies as an exchange student experimenting with video at the academy in Bergen, Norway. Provost spends the next 8 years in Oslo working as an illustrator, graphic designer and art director. In 1999 he starts making films again that quickly find their way to international film and visual art platforms. His work is a reflection on the grammar of cinema and the relation between visual art and the cinematic experience. His films 'Plot Point', 'Gravity', 'Papillon d'amour', 'Oh Dear' and 'EXOTICORE' have been awarded at prestigious festivals as among others The Sundance Film Festival 2004. In 2003 Provost decides to make his first midlength fiction film EXOTICORE, a social critical film as a goodbye to Norway, and moves back to Belgium shortly after the shooting of the film. He is now developing a first feature film script 'The Invader' based on the main character of EXOTICORE.

BIO III

Nicolas Provost is a visual artist and recently moved back to Belgium after a 10 years stay in Oslo, Norway. Now he lives and works in Brussels, Belgium. His work is to be seen worldwide on both film- and visual arts platforms. His films have earned a long list of awards and screenings at prestigious festivals as among others The Sundance Film Festival, The San Francisco International Filmfestival, Cinevegas, The International Film Festival Rotterdam, The Viennale, The Locarno Film Festival, The Ann Arbor Film Festival, Clermont-Ferrand, Impakt Film Festival, The Asian International Film Festival (Seoul),

The works of Nicolas Provost can be seen as cinematic experiences as much as they are poetic audiovisual paintings. They intend to walk on the fine line between dualities and balance between the grotesque and the moving, beauty and cruelty, the emotional and the intellectual, between cinema and fine arts. Time and again his phantasmagorias provoke both recognition and alienation and succeed in catching our expectations into an unravelling game of mystery and abstraction forcing the viewer to reflect on the phenomenon of the audiovisual. With manipulations of time, codes and form, cinematographic and narrative language is analysed, accents are shifted and new stories are told. Apart from the use of film and visual language, sound is also a constant factor in Provost's body of work, as a rhythmical spine or an emotional guideline.

In his found footage work, filmic memory and perception are stimulated by the use of film historical fragments, but Provost is as likely to write and direct contemporary cinema. Provost wrote, produced and directed the midlength fiction film EXOTICORE, which tells the tale of an immigrant's integration nightmare in Norway.

His acclaimed art film 'Papillon d'amour' received numerous awards and a Special Mention at The Sundance Film Festival in 2004 where he was in competition again in 2006 with EXOTICORE and in 2007 with INDUCTION, a cinematic deconstruction.

Provost is now developing THE INVADER, a feature film about the psychological decline of a man set against the background of illegal immigrants in Brussels. Again, a poetic nightmare on a universal and actual theme that at the same time questions the cinematic matter and its emotional impact.

Statement

'My field of interest is to analyse and question the phenomenon of cinema, its various elements, its influence and conventional rules. My work is a reflection on the grammar of cinema and the relation between visual art and the cinematic experience. I try to grasp our collective film memory to make poetry.'

Filmography

Plot Point, 2007
Gravity, 2007
Suspension, 2007
Induction, 2006
The Divers, 2006
Exoticore, 2004-2005
Oh Dear, 2004
Papillon d'amour, 2003
Bataille, 2003
Yellow Mellow, 2002
I hate This Town, 2002
Pommes d'amour, 2001
Madonna With Child, 2001
Need Any Help?, 2000

Awards

Suspension	Honorable Mention, Sundance Film Festival 2008, USA
Plot Point	Best European Film Award, Festival Du Film De Vendôme, France Prix UIP Vila Do Conde 2007, Portugal Nomination European Film Academy Award, Berlin Jury Award, Imago International Film Festival, Portugal Onda Curta Portugese Television Prize Imago Shortfilm Festival, Portugal Special Jury Prize, International Shortfilm Festival Clermont-Ferrand. France Prix de Signes, International Shortfilm Festival Signes de Nuit, Paris, France
Gravity	Onda Curta Portugese Television Prize Vila Do Conde Shortfilm Festival, Portugal
The Divers	Bronze Impakt Award, Impakt Audiovisual Festival, Utrecht, The Nederlands
Induction	Third Prize, Courtisane Shortfilm, Video and Media Art Festival, Gent, Belgium Best Experimental Short, Sapporo International Shortfilm Festival, Japan
Exoticore	Grand Prize, Asian International Shortfilm Festival, Seoul, Korea
Exoticore	Grand Prize, De Kortste Nachten Shortfilm Festival, Antwerp, Belgium
Exoticore	Best European Film Award, Festival Du Film De Vendôme, France
Exoticore	Best Actor Award, Festival Du Film De Vendôme, France
Exoticore	Special Jury Award, Uppsala Shortfilmfestival, Sweden
Exoticore	BlueFIRE Special Commendation, Kinofilm Manchester International Short Film Festival, UK
Exoticore	Jameson European Award, Brussels International Shortfilm Festival, Belgium
Exoticore	Best Actor, Brussels International Shortfilm Festival, Belgium
Exoticore	Urban Culture Award, Brussels International Shortfilm Festival, Belgium
Exoticore	Audience Award, International Bunker Film Festival, Ventimiglia, Italy
Exoticore	Audience Award, Silhouette Film Festival, Paris, France
Exoticore	Honorable Mention, The Norwegian Shortfilm Festival, Grimstad, Norway
Exoticore	Special Mention Fiction, Vila Do Conde International Shortfilm Festival, Portugal
Exoticore	Best Actor, Abidjan International Shortfilm Festival, Ivory Coast
Oh Dear	Grand Prize Experimental, Vila Do Conde International Shortfilm Festival, Portugal
Oh Dear	Onda Curta Portugese Television Prize Vila Do Conde Shortfilm Festival, Portugal
Oh Dear	Grand Prize One Minute Rushprint Shortfilm Festival, Norway
Bataille	Honorable Mention, International Shortfilm Festival Clermont-Ferrand. France
Bataille	Founding Director Award, Cinematexas International Shortfilm Festival, Austin, USA
Papillon D'amour	Golden Gate Award For The Best New Visions Work, 47th San Francisco International Film Festival
Papillon D'amour	Grand Prize Experimental Film, Athens International Film And Video Festival, Ohio, USA
Papillon D'amour	Best Experimental Film Award, Nashville Film Festival, USA
Papillon D'amour	Honorable Mention, Sundance Film Festival 2005, USA
Papillon D'amour	Honorable Mention, The Norwegian Shortfilm Festival, Grimstad, Norway
Papillon D'amour	Gus Van Sant Best Experimental Film Award, 42nd Ann Arbor Film Festival, USA
Papillon D'amour	Grand Prize Best Film, V-Art Festival 2005, Sardinia, Italy
Papillon D'amour	Wgte Public Broadcasting Award For Best Use Of Music In A Film, 42nd Ann Arbor Film Festival USA
Papillon D'amour	Stimulate My Brain Award, Minnesota Bearded Child Film Festival, USA
Papillon D'amour	Founding Director Award, Cinematexas International Shortfilm Festival, Austin, USA
Pommes D'amour	Honorable Mention, Lausanne Underground Film & Music Festival, Switzerland,
Pommes D'amour	Honorable Mention, The Norwegian Shortfilm Festival, Grimstad, Norway

Exhibitions 2008

June Plot Point + Retrospective programmation - Musée d'art moderne et contemporain, Strasbourg, (FR)
June Plot Point + Retrospective programmation - Second Nature Festival, Aix-en-Provence, (FR)
May Plot Point – Canvascollection, Centre for Fine Arts, BOZAR, Brussels (B)
April - June Plot Point & Oh Darkness - POPEYE, The Art of Music - Oude gevangenis, Hasselt (B)
April - May Retrospective exhibition - De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam (NL)
April Retrospective programmation - Festival de court métrage de Nice, (FR)
April Retrospective programmation - Festival de court métrage de Bruxelles, (B)
February Error 8, Group exhibition at Projector Rotterdam (NL)

Exhibitions 2007

December - Retrospective at PLATFORMA VIDEO, Athens (GR)
November - Open Archive, Argos arts, Brussels (B)
October - Kunstwerk – Sammlung Alison une Peter W.Klein, Stuttgart (D)
September - Art Forum Berlin (D)
June - HyperMonochrome: Strategies of Ink Aesthetics in Contemporary Art, Slade Research Centre, London (UK)
June - ASIA - EUROPE Mediations, Warsaw, Lodz (P)
April - July, Yokohama Museum, Fukuoka City Public Library and Aichi Arts Center in association with Image Forum Festival, Tokyo, Kyoto, Fukuoka, Nagoya, Yokohama, Niigata (J)
April - Solo Exhibition, Tim Van Laere Gallery, Antwerp (B)

Exhibitions 2001 – 2006

Art Cologne artfair (D)
ART FORUM Berlin (D)
Retrospective Nicolas Provost IMAGO Film festival, Fundao (P)
ERROR ONE, een zwerfend initiatief voor hedendaagse beeldende kunsten (B)
EXIT video art exhibition, Ottawa (CAN)
Cité-Action, Assenede (B)
ARCO, Madrid (ESP)
Fresh from Belgium, Montevideo/ Nederlands Instituut voor Mediakunst, Amsterdam (NL)
The Biennial Supermarket of Art, Warsaw (PL)
Musee Reina Sofia de Madrid (ESP)
Rencontres Audiovisuelle Lille 2006 (FR)
Centre of Contemporary Art, Videozone 2, Tel Aviv (IL)
Bienale Romania, Bucarest (RO)
Big M, Mediakunst Tour (NL)
Melkweg, Amsterdam (NL)
Cinematics, Solo Exhibition, Tim Van Laere Gallery, Antwerp (B)
American Museum of Moving Image, Astoria, NY, (USA)
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Fransisco, (USA)
Centre de Cultura Contemporania de Barcelona, (ESP)
Cheekwood Museum of Arts, Nashville (USA)
Exploratorium, San Fransisco, (USA)
RMIT University Library, Melbourne, Victoria (AUS)
Baton Rouge Gallery, Los Angeles, (USA)
Vanderbilt University Library, Nashville, (USA)
Media city, Windsor, Ontario, (CAN)

The Dabora Gallery, New York (USA), Chicago Museum Of Contemporary Art, Curated by The Chicago Filmmakers and Columbia College Chicago (USA), Lille 2004 Monde Parallèle Delta (FR), Bewogen Tongeren, Culture Centre De Veliinx, Tongeren (B), Solar Galeria de Arte Cinematica, Vila do Conde (P), Høstutstillingen 2003, The Yearly National Norwegian Autumn Exhibition, Kunstneres Hus, Oslo (NO), French Institute, Vienna (A), Musikk Under Byen, Videoinstallation in the National Theater Undergroundstation, Oslo (NO), Helsinki Act 2001, Arts and Debate (FIN), Where! De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam (NL)

Selected screenings

2008

Official Selection Shortfilm Competition Sundance Filmfestival 2008 (Plot Point & Suspension)

International Film Festival Rotterdam, (Plot Point, Suspension, Gravity)

Clermont-Ferrand Shortfilm Festival (Plot Point, Suspension, Gravity)

Courtisane Short Film, Video And New Media Festival, Gent (B)

BAM, Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York (USA)

IndieLisboa Film Festival, Lissabon (P)

European Media Art Festival, Osnabrück (DE)

2007

Festival Du Film De Vendôme (F), Rio De Janeiro International Short Film Festival (BR), Ismail International Film Festival (Egypt), Tirana International Film Festival (ALB), International Short Film Festival Winterthur (CH), Festival du Nouveau Cinema, Montréal (CAN), Milano Film Festival (I), Festival International du Film d'Amiens (F), **INDUCTION - Official Selection Shortfilm Competition Sundance Filmfestival 2006, Park City (USA), Clermont-Ferrand Shortfilm Festival (F), International Film Festival Rotterdam, (NL)**, The Norwegian Short Film Festival, Grimstad (NO), Villa do Conde International Short Film Festival (P), Tate Britain, London (UK), Rencontres Internationales Paris Berlin (DE), Festival Européen du Court-Métrage de Bordeaux (F), European Short Film Festival of Reus (ESP), Image Forum/Daguerre Press Inc. (J), 35^e Edition du Festival de la Cité, Lausanne (CH), The NEWFEST, New York (USA), Inventa un film Lenola film festival (I), 14th european film festival palic, Subotica (Serbie), Sapporo International Shortfilm Festival (J), Anonimul International Independant Film Festival, St Gheorghe (ROM), Mecal, International Short Film Festival of Barcelona (ESP), Exground Filmfest, Wiesbaden (DE), ...

2006

Courtisane Short Film, Video And New Media Festival, Gent (B), Vidéographie(s) 06 Midi-Minuit, Liège (B), Belfort International Film Festival (F), Festival Du Film De Vendôme (F), Rencontres Internationales Paris Berlin (F) (DE), **INDUCTION Cinevegas Film Festival (USA)**, Brussels International Shortfilm Festival (B), Swansea Film Festival (UK), **EXOTICORE - Official Selection Shortfilm Competition Sundance Filmfestival 2006**, Manchester Kinofilm Film Festival (UK), European Media Art Festival, Osnabruck (D), IMAGO Film Festival (POR), Polly Magoo Arts Center, Marseille (FR), Mexico International Film Festival (MEX), Cinevegas Film Festival, Las Vegas (USA), Abidjan Film Festival, Ivory Coast, Africa, Songes Film Festival, Paris (FR), TEK Festival, Rome (I), MostralNVIDEO, Milan (I), De Nachten, Antwerp (B), De kortste nachten Film Festival, Antwerp (B), ... Festival Rencontres audiovisuelles Lille 2006 (F), Festival Mediawave 2006 (H), Festival Alpine 2006 (AUS), Festival Monofaktur de Munich 2006 (DE), Festival 4FF Bolzano 2006 (I), Kolkata West Bengal 2006, India, Festival Ljubljana 2006, Slovénie, Festival de Cork 2006 (IRE), Festival de Brest 2006 (F)

2005

California College of the Arts, San Fransisco, (USA), Southern Illinois University Carbondale, (USA), University of California at San Diego, (USA), University of Winsconsin, Milwaukee, (USA), SAW Video, Ottawa, Ontario, (CAN), Amakula Kampala International Film Festival (UGANDA), **The Milano International Film Festival (I)**, Belgrade International Film Festival, (Serbia and Montenegro), The Dutch Film Festival, Utrecht (NL), Morbegno Film Festival (I), Corto Imola International Film Festival (I), Ismail International Film Festival (Egypt), European Shortfilm Biennale Ludwigsburg, Stuttgart (D), **Locarno International Film Festival (CH)**, Expresion En Corto (MEX), Aye Aye Film Festival, Paris (F), Arcepelago Short Film Festival, Rome (I), Incurt Film Festival, Tarragona (E), Festival Du Court Metrage De Bruxelles (B), De Kortste Nachten Short Film Festival, Antwerp (B), Africa Film Festival (B), InCurt Film Festival (E), Clermont-ferrand International Shortfilm Festival (F), Festival Du Film De Vendôme (F), Silhouette Film Festival, Paris (F), Hong Kong International Film Festival (HK), Sonar Film Festival, Agliana (I), **International Film Festival Rotterdam, Netherlands (NL)**, The Norwegian Short Film Festival, Grimstad (NO), **Cinevegas, Las Vegas (USA), New York Underground Filmfestival (USA)**, Brooklyn Underground Film Festival (USA), ...

2004

BATAILLE Viennale, Vienna (A), Courtisane Short Film, Video And New Media Festival, Gent (B), Culture Center Network, Aalst (B), Readymade, Beursschouwburg, Brussels (B), Cinema Nova, Brussels (B), Rio De Janeiro International Short Film Festival (BR), Images Festival, Toronto (CDN), Festival Du Nouveau Cinema, Montréal (CDN), Canadian Film Centre's Worldwide Short Film Festival, Toronto (CDN), International Short Film Festival Winterthur Festiva (CH), Interfilm Festival, Berlin (D), Oldenburger Kurzfilmtage (D), International Shortfilmfestival Hamburg (D), Aarhus Film Festival (DK), Festival Internacional de Filmets, Barcelona (E), **International Shortfilmfestival Clermont-ferrand (F)**, Nemo Art Film Festival, Paris (F), Belfort International Film Festival (F), Festival Du Film De Vendôme (F), Videozarts, Nantes (F), Transat Vidéo, Caen, France (F), La Chapelle des Pénitents Blancs, Falicon (F), Festival du Film Court de Brest (F), Association Polly Maggoo, Marseille (F), La Chapelle des Pénitents Blancs, Falicon, France (F), Festival des Cinémas Différents, Paris (F), Athens International Film Festival, Opening Night (GR), Filmvideo 2004, 55th International Short Film Festival of Montecatini Terme (I), Interferenze Media Art Festival, S.Martino (I), Festival Il Cinema Ritrovato, bologna (I), International Film Festival Rotterdam (NL), Artoteek, Den Haag (NL), Impaktfestival, Utrecht (NL), Cinematiek, Utrecht (NL), Stad als Film, Schiedam (NL), Zien, Kijken, Filmen, education programme IFFR, Netherlands tour (NL), Amsterdam Dance Event, Bitterzoet, Amsterdam (NL), Crossing Border Festival, Den Haag (NL), Kriterion, Amsterdam (NL), Media Art Friesland, Leeuwarden & Harlingen (NL), The Norwegian Short Film Festival, Grimstad (NO), Haugesund International Film Festival (NO), Zoomin Film Festival (NO), Villa do Conde International Short Film Festival (P), Indie Lisboa (P), Radiotelivisao Portuguesa, Broadcast rights (P), Semarang International Film Festival, Central Java (RI), Asian International Short Film Festival, Seoul (ROK),

Uppsala International Short Film Festival (S), **Edinburgh International Film Festival, Scotland (UK)**, Institut Francais, London (UK), Brief Encounters Festival, Bristol (UK), Nashville Film Festival (USA), Chicago Underground Film Festival (USA), 47th San Francisco International Film Festival (USA), The Utah Arts Festival, Salt Lake City, Utah (USA), Resfest, TriBeCa, New York (USA), 42nd Ann Arbor Film Festival, Michigan (USA), **PAPILLON D'AMOUR Sundance Film Festival (Frontier Shorts program) Park City, Utah (USA)**, San Francisco Independent Film Festival (USA), Eastern Europe Tour, Derek Holzer & Sara Kolster...

Stipends

Work Stipend 2007, Flemish Community (B), Work Stipend 2006, Flemish Community (B), Work Stipend 2005, Flemish Community (B), Ingrid Lindback Langaards Fond (N), Visual Arts Project Stipend (N), Billedkunsternes Vedertagsfond (NBK, National Union For Norwegian Artists), Visual Arts Stipend (N), Victoria, Alexis Dallièrè Fund (B)

Residencies

IdeA, Institute for Drama and Audiovisual Arts, Erasmushogeschool Brussels, Departement Rits (B)
Higher Institute of Fine Arts Antwerp, Residency New York, Autumn 2005 (USA)

Workshops

Premiers Plans Ateliers d'Angers – Curated by Jeanne Moreau (F)
Tanzquartier Vienna, East - West Curated by Martina Hochmuth and Georg Schoellhamer (A)
Mauritz Binger Filmlab Scriptwriting Spring 2006, Amsterdam (NL), www.binger.nl

Symposiums

Videogast, Videokunst vandaag, Filmpplateau, Gent (B)
Videogast, Muhka Media, Museum of Contemporary Art, Antwerp (B)
PLATFORMA VIDEO – Athens, (GR)
Université Libre de Bruxelles, mediated by Muriel Andrin, PhD Doctor in cinema (B)
Netherlands Media Art Institute, 50%BEELD, mediated by Bart Rutten, Amsterdam (NL)
Musee Reina Sofia de Madrid, mediated by curator Céline Brouwez (ESP)
Festival du film de Vendôme, mediated by festival director Fabrice Bassemon (FR)
IMAGO Film Festival, Fundao, Portugal

Texts

Retrospective Exhibition Nicolas Provost, De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam, Catalog text by Jeroen Laureyans
ARTFORUM, Review on 'Plot Point' by Jos Van den Bergh
'Plot Point' Exhibition text by Muriel Andrin, Docteur es cinéma, Université Libre de Bruxelles
'Emoticore - L'image sensible' by Muriel Andrin.
'Miroirs, mouvement, plis et amour. Le cinéma – origami de Nicolas Provost' by Muriel Andrin for 'Exploding – Revue d'analyse de l'expérimentation cinématographique', Spring 2005
'Best Of Clermont- Ferrand Film Festival', Cahiers du Cinema, March 2005
'Re-voir - Usage de la citation dans la video contemporaine' by Matthieu Chéreau, Cahiers du Cinema, June 2004
'Het doorklieven van de symmetrie', Peter Verhelst, 'What are you doing?', Essays on videoart, edited by Robrecht Vanderbeeken
'Erotics' by Alison de Lima Greene, Curator Modern and Contemporary Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
'Cinematics' Exhibition text by Muriel Andrin