OSCAR® WINNER 2014
SHORT FILM - ANIMATED

Mr Hublot.
From STEPHANE HALLEUX's Universe

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY LAURENT WITZ - CO-DIRECTED BY ALEXANDRE ESPICARES - ART DIRECTION PASCAL THERAUDY - SUPERVISING ANIMATION MIKAEL DIOEL - LEAD ANIMATION / DEVELOPMENT DAVID CARRERE - LAYOUT SUPERVISION JEAN-CHRISTOPHE CRAPS - CREATIVE ASSISTANT GHAYTH CHEGAAR - RENDERING FOX RENDER FARM - ANIMATION STUDIO ZEILT PRODUCTIONS - WATT FRAME - POST-PRODUCTION 3D LEVELS 3D - ORIGINAL SONGS BY U-10 - ORIGINAL SCORE BY FRANCOIS ROUSSELOT - PRODUCED BY LAURENT WITZ WITH THE SUPPORT OF FILM FUND LUXEMBOURG - WITH THE SUPPORT OF "CENTRE NATIONAL DU CINÉMA ET DE L'IMAGE ANIMÉE" WITH THE SUPPORT OF "RÉGION LORRAINE" AND THE CNC, IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH WATT FRAME & ARTE FRANCE - BASED ON AN IDEA BY STEPHANE HALLEUX

www.mrhublot.com - www.zeilt.com

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INFORMATION

Title: MR HUBLOT
Country of production: LUXEMBOURG
Coproduction: FRANCE
Year of production: 2013
Duration: 11'48"
Versions: 2D & 3D STEREOSCOPIC
Formats: DCP / PRORES / DIGITAL FILE / BLURAY (PAL / NTSC)
Ratio: 2:35 / 16:9
Language: NO DIALOGUE
Audio: 5.1 / STEREO
AWARDS

Dimension 3 / France, 2013
Grand Prix

Best shorts competition / USA, 2013
Best in Show

California International Shorts Festival (Fall) / USA, 2013
Best Animated Short

FreeNetWorld International Film Festival / Serbia, 2013
The best animated film / The best film of the festival

Kerry Film Festival / Ireland, 2013
Best Animation

3D Image Festival / Poland, 2013
Best Animation

Urban Mediamakers Film Festival / USA, 2013
Best International Animation

Animago / Germany, 2013
Best Short Film

Glovebox Short Film & Animation Festival / USA, 2013
Best in Show

**Courant 3D / France, 2013**  
Grand Prix

**3D Stereomedia / Belgium, 2013**  
I3DF - 3D animation short films / I3DS - Best stereography-animated

**Les Nuits magiques / France, 2013**  
Audience Choice Award category « Fantastic »

**Anchorage International Film Festival / USA, 2013**  
Best Animation

**Irvine International Film Festival / USA, 2014**  
Best Short Animation

**Flickerfest Film Festival / Australia, 2014**  
Highly Commended Animation

**Spokane International Film Festival / Australia, 2014**  
Best Animation

**I3DS / USA, 2014**  
International Short – Animation

**Festival Travelling / France, 2014**  
Prix Éléphant d'Or / Prix École & Cinéma
Mr Hublot.

**Academy Awards** / USA, 2014
Oscar for Best Animated Short Film

**Filmpraïs** / Luxembourg, 2014
Meilleur Court-métrage d'Animation
Mr Hublot lives in a world where characters made partially of mechanical parts, driving huge vehicles, rub shoulders with each other. A world where the giant scale of machines and the relentless use of salvaged materials reign supreme.

A withdrawn, idiosyncratic character with OCD, Mr Hublot is scared of change and the outside world. His solution: he doesn't step foot outside his apartment! The arrival of the dog Robot Pet will turn his life upside down: he has to share his home with this very invasive companion...
Mr Hublot.

How Mr Hublot came to be

Mr Hublot lives in a postindustrial environment where nature has totally disappeared and so have most of "human" feelings.

Making this film was an extraordinary adventure led by a team of passionate artists who were seeking to bring a unique universe and story to life...

At the origin of this project are sculptures by Stéphane Halleux, a sculptor with a rich and original universe: leather-stitched characters, accessorized with salvaged materials, and surprising, disproportionate vehicles. Laurent first discovers Stéphane's wonderful work in 2008 and, convinced of the potential of this original universe, he knows that an animated movie should be done around some of these unusual characters. Together, they start talking and thinking of an idea, a concept for a short film, which leads to some great brainstorming sessions.

Stéphane suggests one of his sculptures, a round deep-sea diver. Laurent isn't really convinced by the potential of this character. The sculptor is working on an upcoming exhibition and, among his new pieces, he shows the director a character named « le comptable », which will later become the Mr Hublot of the movie. Laurent absolutely loves it! The hero the film needs!

Stéphane then submits a first script about an old accountant, single, who lives a well-ordered life with his dog, “Robotpet”. He hates noise. His tranquility is disturbed by his loud soccer fan of a neighbor. Unfortunately, it isn't approved by the different reading committees. Yet, Laurent is still...
The ZEILT productions team does animation tests, thus defining Mr Hublot's obsessive nature. The tests are amazing and Laurent’s new script hits the nail on the head! Film Fund Luxembourg makes funds available and production can start. But most of the challenges are still ahead for the ZEILT productions and WATT frame teams...

The story – This small accountant is mostly preoccupied by his work and obsessed by time management and routines. His habits will soon be disturbed by an intriguing event... Have emotions and the ability to care about others survived in this industrialized environment? Are events inevitable and bound to happen again as the days go by?

At this time, Laurent has a precise idea of what the film could look like when complete. He's convinced it can be original, intimist, poetic, emotional and visually very rich. This belief is what will help Laurent stay on target when things get difficult.

He constitutes the team and looks for more financing. Making a movie is mainly to create a family; a group of people who understand the directors' ideas and help them reach a common goal.

Pascal, Mikael, David, Ghayth, Jean-Christophe, Jamaal, Thierry, etc. are those artists who went all out on this film.
The team then spends one year on preproduction: Pascal Thiebaux, Sam Oeun, Stéphane Lecocq, Eric Toubal do a wonderful job in design and colour research for the sets and props of the movie. They work a lot to create the ambiances and colours of the film.

Alexandre Espigares then joins the team to codirect the film, focusing on 3D animation and layout.

Mr. Hublot is a short animated movie that took three years to make on a very small budget in relation to the huge effort needed to complete the film. Later, there were over thirty artists taking turns at modeling the 3D sets and characters, then animating the scenes and finally lighting, rendering and compositing the shots. It was a tremendous amount of work from June, 2010 to May, 2013.

Today, the film is having international success in the world festivals, and we hope to keep sharing Mr Hublot and our passion for animation cinema with a majority of people.
LAURENT WITZ
PRODUCER & DIRECTOR’S BIO

Born in Haguenau on November 21st, 1975, Laurent Witz gets rapidly passionate about graphic arts. He attends the Metz Fine Arts Institute where he obtains his diploma with honors. He is very interested in painting, and exhibits his work for several years in Galleries and cultural centers. Self-taught, he learns 3D creation and animation during his studies and directs four short films between 1997 and 1998.

The following year, he works for Ex-Machina, where he continues his learning process as an artistic director, an animator or an assistant director on some projects. He arrives in Luxembourg in 2002 to work on the « Roman de Renart ». From then on, he regularly works for studios where he supervises, directs and develops animated projects. Among other projects, he is a 3D supervisor on the television series Wordworld, T’choupi and Noukies.

In 2007, Laurent founded ZEILT productions Luxembourg, to further his vision of animation and audiovisual production. He creates in 2009 the Animation Café, « the cultural haunt for animation in Luxembourg ».

In 2012-2013, he produces, writes and directs Mr Hublot, his first professional short movie.

He is now thinking about creating and developing new projects within his company; projects with humor, soul, poetry and great visual quality. He already has various projects in development, ranging from integrated animation into live action films, to cartoons and other great artistic movies.
ALEXANDRE ESPIGARES
CO-DIRECTOR’S BIO

Alexandre Espigares is a half Spanish, half Luxembourgish animator with an education in traditional animation and a career spanning 12 years and 7 countries.

He graduated from The Luxembourg Technical College for Arts and Crafts (Lycée Technique des Arts et Métiers-LTAM) in 2000 and has been working internationally as a CG animator since, bringing to life characters for the big and the small screen.

Recent projects include the feature films Iron man 3, Happy Feet 2 and the Lucasfilm TV show Star Wars – The Clone Wars. He also just finished production on his first animated short film, Mr Hublot, which he co-directed with director and producer Laurent Witz.

He currently lives in Munich, Germany where he works as a freelance animator.
STEPHANE HALLEUX  
FROM STEPHANE’S UNIVERSE

Stéphane Halleux was born in Belgium on 6 July 1972. He discovered the magic pull of fantasy constructions aimed exclusively at creating fun without having the slightest utilitarian purpose at a very early age. In his workshop filled with bits of iron, leather, suede and dismembered machines, Stéphane Halleux goes rummaging and salvages, recycles and grafts motley collections of items together with surgical precision creating a universe that is full of wonder and burlesque fun. Since 2005, Stéphane Halleux has held a large number of exhibitions in international cities such as San Diego, Sao Paulo, Oxford, Berlin, Amsterdam, Luxembourg, Paris, and Brussels. They were a giant hit and his work drew international recognition. Tim Johnson, Animation Director of Dreamworks, for instance said of his work: “I’m drawn to Stephane’s work as a fellow storyteller. His sculptures all seem to have popped out of an animated universe. It’s their narrative quality that I find so arresting. They tell you a rich and complicated tale – while simply standing there”.

Today, his sculptures and his universe have been animated and Mr Hublot and his fellow creatures, magical robots, friendly hand-sewn monsters, futuristic means of transport whose operating functions are hardly what one could call futuristic, come to life in the short film called Mr Hublot.
LINKS AND CONTACTS

MR HUBLOT
WEBSITE : MRHUBLOT.com
FACEBOOK : facebook.com/MRHUBLOT
TWITTER : twitter.com/MRHUBLOT
YOUTUBE :youtube.com/user/MrHUBLOTofficial

TRAILERS
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbHYMGkX6Ro
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3PUqY6Hl20

DOWNLOAD
Pictures (HD – 2048 px)
Pictures (VERY HD – more than 4096 px)
Movie Poster (internet version)
Trailers

CONTACT
Laurent Witz – Producer / Director
Mail : laurent.witz@zeilt.com
Phone : +352 691 109 108
Mr Hublot.

FULL CREDITS

Producer LAURENT WITZ
According to STEPHANE HALLEUX's Universe
Written and Directed by LAURENT WITZ
Co-directed by ALEXANDRE ESPIGARES
Sculptures STEPHANE HALLEUX
Art Director PASCAL THIEBAUX
Design / Color script SAM OUEN YIN
Paintings FIFAX
Storyboard PASCAL THIEBAUX
Modeling-Texturing DAVID CARRIERE
GHAYTH CHEGAAR
JEAN-CHRISTOPHE CRAPS
DIMITRI LUCY
BENIGNO PEREZ
EMILIE MUSZCZAK
GIL PINHEIRO
Mr Hublot.

Modeling-Texturing (interns)
- ANNA MASQUELIER
- LISA FENOLL
- VINCENT TOUACHE
- DAMIEN PIERLOT
- OLIVIER ANTIGNAC
- QUENTIN BUCHKREMER
- CYRIL BOSSMANN
- HADRIEN BRISSAUD
- VIVIEN RISER

Layout Supervisor
- JEAN-CHRISTOPHE CRAPS

Layout artist
- FREDERIC EVESQUE

Animation Supervisor
- MICKAEL COEDEL

Lead Animator
- DAVID CARRIERE

Animators
- MICKAEL COEDEL
- JAMAAL BRADLEY
- JEAN-CHRISTOPHE CRAPS
- THIERRY DEZARMENIEN
- ADRIEN XHIBITTE
- JACOPO ARMANI

Secondary Animators
- GHAYTH CHEGAAR
- GERALD DEDEL
- JEAN-LUC DELHOUGNE
- SAMUEL ISTACE
- BENJAMIN LAUWICK
Mr Hublot.

MARIE MOET
ABDELALI REDDANE

Cloth Simulation : KYLE WINKELMAN

Research & Development - Rigging DAVID CARRIERE

Time Lapse Photography MATHIEU FERRERA

Lighting-Rendering-Compositing WALT TERUNZI
JEREMIE BOUVIER
JEROME BRACK
DAVID CARRIERE
GHAYTH CHEGAAR
REMY DALMAS

Calculations and Render Farm FOX RENDER FARM

Postproduction 3D - color grading LEVELS 3D

Stereography YANNICK FOLLIARD

Original Score FRANCOIS ROUSSELOT

Sound Mixing MARC GUEROUL

Equinox Production Luxembourg

Sound Mixing RALPH POPOV
Mastering RALPH POPOV and NICK ROLLINGER
Lady Ice
Sound Mixing and Sound Design  MATTHIEU MICHAUX
Assistant  JACQUES ANDRIES

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With the support of the Lorraine region in partnership with the CNC

Produced by
ZEILT productions

An Arte France coproduction
Cinema Department / Head of short films :
Hélène Vayssières

WATT frame
A WATT frame Coproduction
"Mr Hublot"
Music and vocals : LI-LO*
Ukulele, Bass : STANY LECHARLIER
Percussions : HUGO ADAM

"Robot Pet"
Music, vocals and ukulele : LI-LO*
Guitars, Keyboards, ... : JEROME MARDAGA
Bass : CALOGERO MAROTTA
Art Production : JEROME MARDAGA

Acknowledgments

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