



Yorkton Film Festival

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LE NOEUD CRAVATE (THE NECKTIE)

National Film Board of Canada

Category: Animation

Producer: Michèle Bélanger, Julie Roy

Director: Jean François Lévesque

Running Time: 12:26

“The Necktie is fifteen years in the life of Valentine, A faithful employee working a useless task in a dead end job, deceived by a two-dimensional boss.”

This film showcases interesting and very well done animation. Created with puppets and animated drawings the film is visually stunning. Influenced by such filmmakers as Tim Burton, director, Jean François Lévesque has developed a unique style and imagery for the film.

The film exposes the darker side of how a work environment can effect our mood. The message and story of the film are something almost everyone can relate to. People spend much of their time in the work environment -- many jobs or even careers can offer a unsatisfying feeling.

Around two years in the making from storyboard to final cut Lévesque has created a film of epic proportions. There are many great scenes where concepts like a ‘dead-end job’ are given visual interpretations. The film seems somehow poetic in its visual representations of characters, actions or places.

The character arc was really well played out through the story and created a rare time in my life in which I was glad to hear music from an accordion. As a creative and slightly musical person myself I appreciated the ending of the film. Apparently Lévesque had ended things on a less uplifting note in earlier drafts of the script (Pun intended).

Overall the film was amazing and very entertaining. Lévesque has created a short film which contends with the very best in its genre.

‘What if music could change life...’

by Mitch Doll