

James Roberts - 1706516

Portfolio of Work for Carmarthen Bay Film Festival 2019

CAMF5001 Live Project Module

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Email Correspondence

Re: CBFF Films

James Roberts (1706516)

Fri 03/05/2019 02:30

Sent Items

To: Kelvin Guy (1704517) <1704517@student.uwtsd.ac.uk>;

Hi Kelvin,

Thanks, I'll make a start looking through them as soon as possible.
Managed to log into my account with no problem too.

James

From: Kelvin Guy (1704517)
Sent: Thursday 2 May 2019 08:32:35
To: James Roberts (1706516)
Subject: CBFF Films

Hi James,

The films I recommend are

Paris Song and Say My Name,

Troll Bridge (Extended)

Shut Up & Dig

Imaginary Bullets

Gerry Anderson's Firestorm

If you take a look at the programme you'll be able to see which are screening.
The above are just suggestions

Thanks
Kelvin

Review draft upload and questions

Live Project CBFF CAMF5001;



James Roberts (1706516)

Wed 15/05/2019 10:41

Hello all.

I have just uploaded a draft of my Troll Bridge review. It can be found in the "Reviews" folder on SharePoint.
Let me know if there is anything I could work on; Make it longer/shorter, go into more specifics, etc.
I can then apply this feedback not only to any further drafts of this review, but also to my reviews on the other films.

Also, where would the written reviews be published? (if they will be published at all).

James

Like

The screenshot shows the SharePoint interface for the 'Live Project CBFF CAMF5001' group. The top navigation bar is blue with the 'SharePoint' logo and a search bar. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Home, Conversations, Documents (selected), Shared with us, Notebook, Pages, Site contents, Recycle bin, and Edit. The main content area displays the 'Reviews' folder, which contains a list of documents. The list has columns for Name, Modified, and Modified By. The documents listed are:

Name	Modified	Modified By
Gerry Anderson's Firestorm Review.docx	Sunday at 3:07 PM	James Roberts (17065...
Imaginary Bullets Review.docx	Sunday at 1:51 PM	James Roberts (17065...
Paris Song Review - Draft 1.docx	Sunday at 11:57 AM	James Roberts (17065...
Shut Up and Dig Review - Draft 1.docx	Sunday at 11:57 AM	James Roberts (17065...
Troll Bridge Review - Draft 1.docx	May 20	Kelvin Guy (1704517)

The right sidebar shows the 'Has Access' section with a 'Manage access' button and the 'Properties' section with an 'Edit all' button. The 'Name' field is set to 'Reviews'.

Reviews

Troll Bridge Review

Troll Bridge, directed by Daniel Knight, is an adaptation of Terry Pratchett's short fantasy story of the same name and is set in the fictional Discworld. It is a character driven narrative that features the famed Cohen the Barbarian, who has appeared in a number of other Discworld stories, on his quest to defeat a troll in battle, though not all goes quite as expected.

The blending of live action and computer generated effects are well done. Backdrops and bridge towers look almost photorealistic, and the appearance of the troll is somewhat charming - not too horrific but not too goofy either.

The scenery showcased in the beautiful establishing shots evokes Middle Earth as seen in Peter Jackson's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, from mountain ranges to the large stone bridge itself, it truly is a spectacle. This connection is appropriate, especially given that the story was originally published in 1992 as part of a collection entitled *After the King: Stories in Honour of J. R. R. Tolkien*.

Troll Bridge is an amusing, well made short film, with satirical dialogue and fun characters that should please more than just fans of the source material and fantasy enthusiasts.

Shut Up and Dig Review

Short film *Shut Up and Dig* is a black comedy by young filmmaker Scott Piggott that centres around two mobsters, Kenny (*Vincenzo Nicoli*) and Ben (*Arthur Darvill* of *Doctor Who* and *DC's Legends of Tomorrow* fame) who, over a period of months, dispose of various bodies in a cemetery. Kenny appears hardened to this sort of thing, whereas Ben is clearly disturbed by it, making awkward small talk due to his nerves. Subjected further to this occurrence over time, Ben seems to disassociate himself from it until he can bottle up his feelings no more.

Piggott has previously stated that his influence for this short film was seeing how an older generation of British men deal with feelings, particularly now in a mental health driven society. He also says he feels it is important to present the errors in a light-hearted fashion.

The director accomplishes this without branching into an advertisement for mental health awareness. The extreme, dark example of criminals disposing of bodies, combined with an eerie yet comical soundtrack and humorous dialogue delivery helps present the intended message in a fun way without coming across as too pandering or obvious.

Paris Song Review

Paris Song, directed by Jeff Vespa, is a biographical period drama that stars Abbie Cornish, Ben Aldridge as composer/pianist George Gershwin and Sanjar Madi as Amre Kashaubayev.

Based on a true story, the film follows Amre on his journey from obscurity to recognition, starting as a small-time singer in his town in Kazakhstan before competing in the 1925 Paris Expo singing contest. A fish-out-of-water due to cultural and class differences, Amre soon finds himself being welcomed with open arms by Paris' musical elite, though it becomes apparent that not everyone is enthused by his talents.

Madi's performance is brilliant, expressing the emotions, the wonder and the humility of the protagonist in such a believable, satisfying way.

The cinematography is well done with various techniques employed effectively, such as framing choices that highlight a character's isolation, as well as point of view shots with quick pans and depth of field changes that help to position the audience as the protagonist.

Paris Song is an uplifting underdog story that showcases a likeable protagonist remaining humble in the face of popularity and success, leaving audiences with an inspiring, heartfelt message – if we just close our eyes and listen, everything is music.

Imaginary Bullets Review

Imaginary Bullets is a short film written and directed by Arizona based filmmaker Sean Oliver. It is set in a world where toy guns and gun-like hand gestures are just as dangerous as the real things. The tone of this film felt very much akin to something like *Black Mirror*, full of satire and social commentary.

The film starts out nice and innocent enough, with two young boys playing with water pistols and then BANG! Amidst the initial shock, questions are subliminally asked, such as how innocent can playing with toy guns actually be? How ethical is pretend killing?

The world starts descending into chaos as people begin to discover that they have firepower at the tips of their fingers. This can be interpreted as social commentary on US gun laws and the ease of access for firearms, regardless of age or mental health.

The final shot of the film, as the camera zooms out from two children sitting in a warehouse, revealing rifles and ammunition crates, could mean a number of things. One interpretation is that it could represent that the guns themselves are not hurting anyone, rather the people that would have access to them is doing the damage. It could also be interpreted as the looming, ever-present danger of these weapons being so near children.

Overall, *Imaginary Bullets* can be seen as a powerful allegory in favour of stricter gun control laws in the United States and as a commentary on the acceptance of violence in everyday entertainment, with clever camerawork and editing, particularly with certain scene transitions.

Gerry Anderson's Firestorm Review

This pilot episode for *Gerry Anderson's Firestorm* is fun, charming, exciting, animated action suitable for family viewing in the vein of *Thunderbirds* and *Captain Scarlet* before it and filmed in "Ultramarionation".

Set in the year 2102, humanity is peaceful and no longer under threat of climate change or food shortages. However, that all changes when the mysterious Black Orchid emerges, causing chaos. It is up to Storm Force to combat the perpetrators, mission codename: Firestorm.

Funded by a successful Kickstarter campaign, *Firestorm* is sure to satisfy existing fans, attract new ones and compliment the legacy of the late, great Gerry Anderson through its impressive use of marionettes, miniatures and special effects.

It sets a solid foundation as a pilot and promises further excitement in the full series.

Troll Bridge Review Published in the Programme

CBFF
Film Festival
Presents
In Association with
SNOWGUM FILMS and Discworld Monthly
The European Première of Troll Bridge



Troll Bridge Review by James Roberts

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Behind the Scenes Photos





Links to Videos and Behind the Scenes Footage

Film Festival Tour Video -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QsX114kQ2pA&feature=youtu.be>



John Hefin Award Video -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bhSKJsQHIA&feature=youtu.be>



Troll Bridge Q&A Video – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IcLxqYBg-6I&feature=youtu.be>



Behind the Scenes Video - <https://youtu.be/9AHqNOt7gd8>



Carmarthen Bay Film Festival 2019 Programme Credits

Programme - Role Credit.



Troll Bridge Premier Credit. *(My role for this day also included sound.)*

CBFF
Film Festival
Presents
In Association with
SNOWGUM FILMS and Discworld Monthly
The European Première of Troll Bridge

Troll Bridge is a live action / hand animated hybrid, a fifteen year filmmaking odyssey, and a love letter to the author Terry Pratchett



"Cohen the Barbarian was angry. Angry that he never died in battle, angry that the world had forgotten him, and angry that his knees were starting to play up in the cold.

He was also angry that his faithful mount had been gifted the ability of magical speech. The horse was insisting that they had made a wrong turn back at Slice.

He was also angry that the horse was probably right. This was not how it was supposed to end for the barbarian. This was not how the Discworld's greatest hero imagined it at all."

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with:
Daniel Knight the Director
Don Bridges "Cohen the Barbarian" and
Christian Bloch VFX Supervisor



CBFF Production Team
Producer Simon Howlett
Live Editor Ash Edwards
Camera/Sound Winnie Finesse
Floor Assistant Meg Phillips
Floor Assistant James Roberts