

VAST BLUE ANTARCTICA



une production de



Kimonos Animation Studio



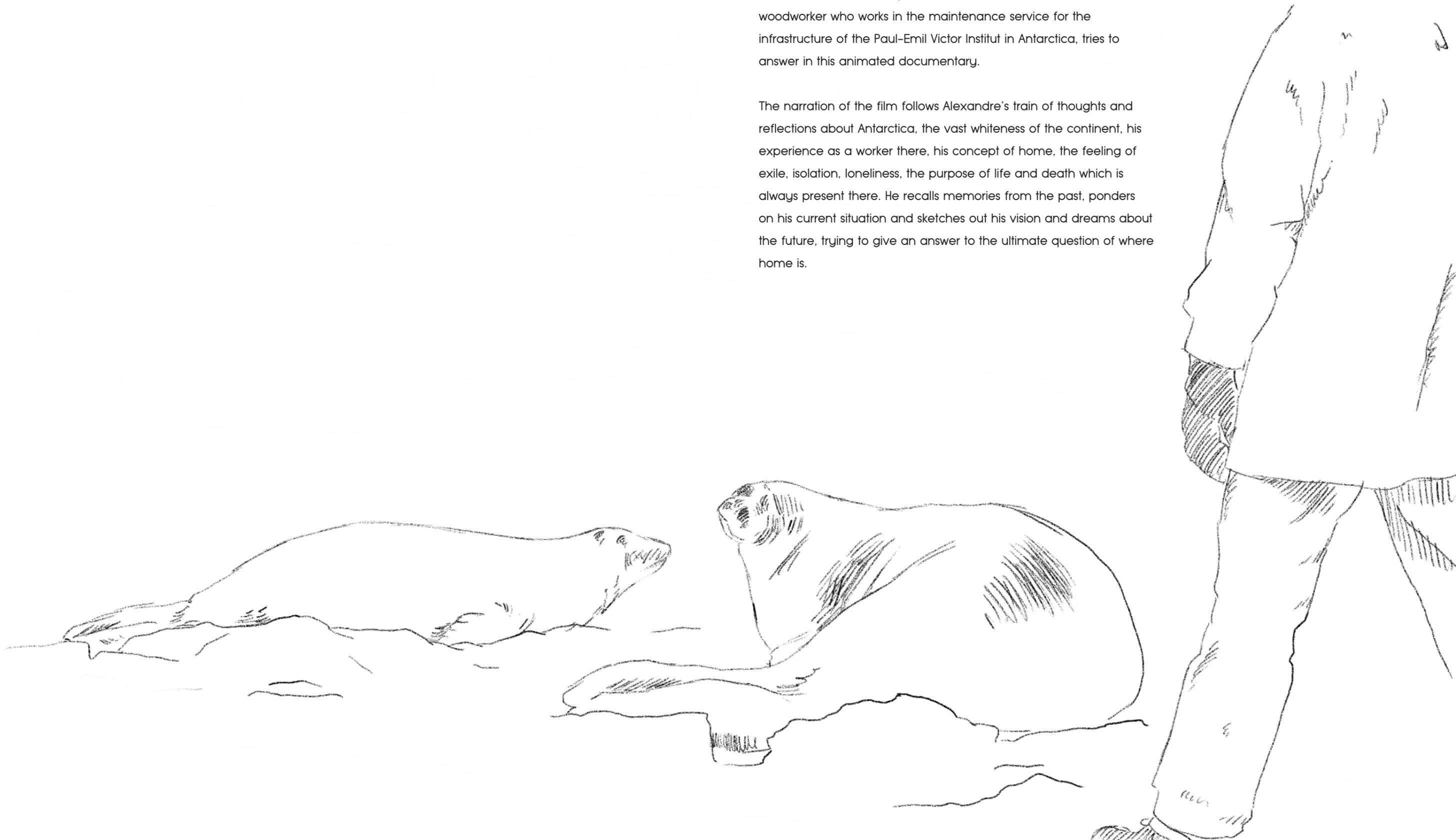
Through the eyes of Alexandre, Antarctica unfolds as an inner space, vast, fearsome, beautiful. A place where you can find a shelter for your dreams and be in constant danger at the same time.



How does it feel to live in the most isolated place of the planet?
Does time matter there and are you only dreaming in white?

These are some of the questions Alexandre Gautier, a French woodworker who works in the maintenance service for the infrastructure of the Paul-Emil Victor Institut in Antarctica, tries to answer in this animated documentary.

The narration of the film follows Alexandre's train of thoughts and reflections about Antarctica, the vast whiteness of the continent, his experience as a worker there, his concept of home, the feeling of exile, isolation, loneliness, the purpose of life and death which is always present there. He recalls memories from the past, ponders on his current situation and sketches out his vision and dreams about the future, trying to give an answer to the ultimate question of where home is.



About the main character

Alexandre Gautier is a graduate of the National Superior School of Fine Arts of Paris. Distancing himself from the art world, he takes up carpentry, moves to Auvergne in the French countryside and starts working in the constructions sector.

In 2018 he answered a call from the french scientific mission in Antarctica, asking for workers to spend three months there in order to perform maintenance work.

Alexandre falls in love with the vast continent and thus begins a series of trips there.

The idea of the film was born out of the stories Alexandre brought back with him. After his friends' encouragement, he starts documenting his experiences by filming and drawing.



Visual approach

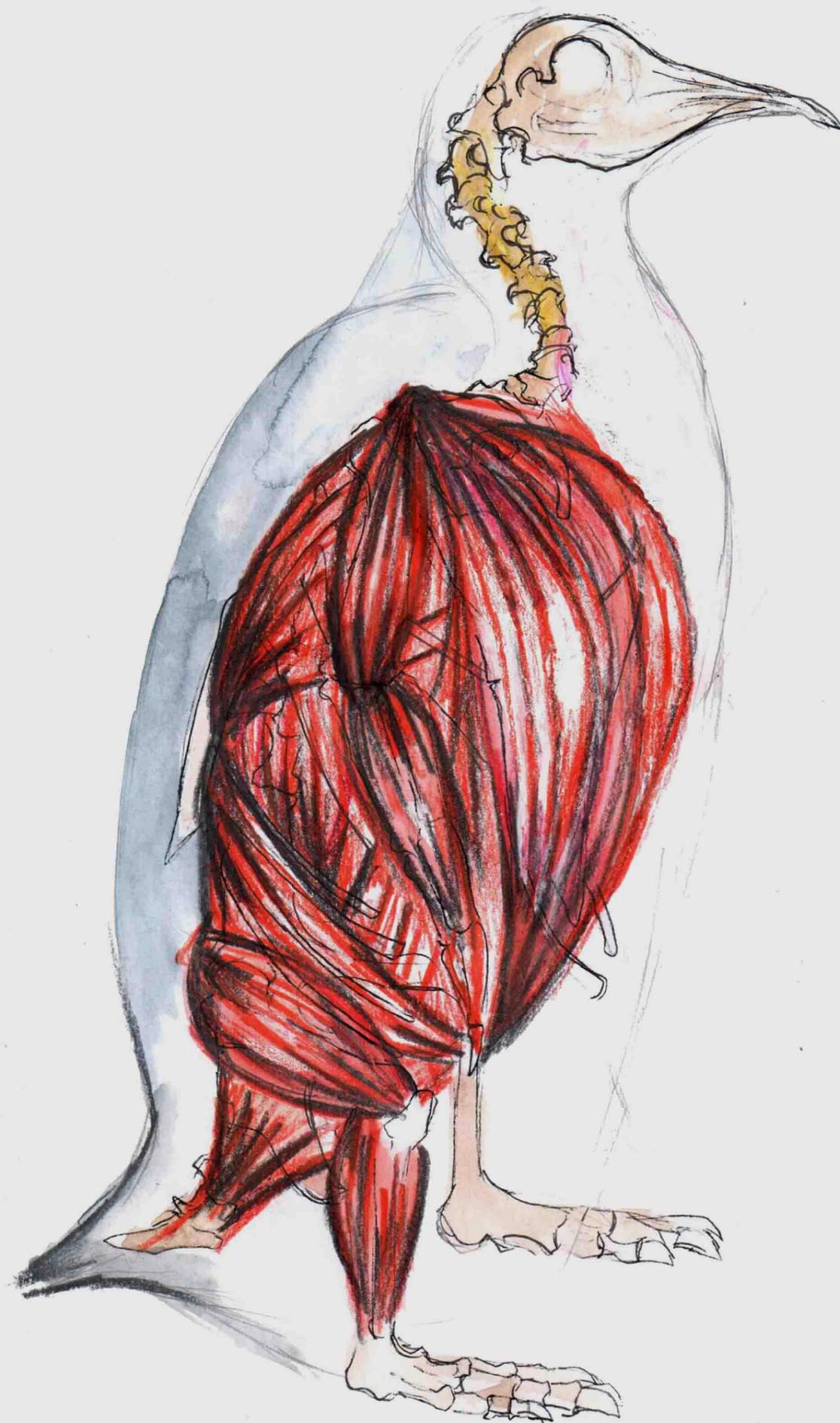
The visual material of the film is recorded mainly by Alexandre Gautier, under the instructions and guidance of the director Christos Panagos.

The film is structured as a long-distance interview of Alexandre conducted by the filmmaker. A series of questions were written and given to Alexandre in closed envelopes. He is asked to open them, once per week during his stay in Antarctica and to answer them on camera by himself.

The film will be structured based on the voice material recorded by Alexandre. It will be a combination of the shots of the landscapes of Antarctica filmed by Alexandre himself, as well as by other people in the mission, and animated sequences. The film will be composed as a visual rendition of Alexandre's trip to the edge of the world.

The animated parts, created by the animator Charalambos Margaritis are based on the footage, photographs and drawings made by Alexandre. They will be a depiction of Alexandre's dreams, ideas, memories and thoughts, a visualisation of his inner voyage and will function as a complement to the actual documentation of the reality that surrounds him.

The purpose of the animation will be to underline key moments of the film and to illustrate Alexandre's thoughts and ruminations.





Key crew members



Christos Panagos

Director

Christos Panagos studied filmmaking at the European Film College in Denmark and computer communications in Greece.

He has been involved with the moving picture since 2002, a passion that came as a natural continuation of his love for cinema. In 2005 he created his first documentary and up until today, although he has worked in other genres – fiction films, music videos, video art- documentary is still his favorite. He has taken part in many international productions and his works have been screened at film festivals in Greece and abroad.

His artistic installations have been part of group exhibitions:

2015 at the Farvergården Museum East Jutland of Ebeltoft, Denmark, in collaboration with the Danish artist Jette Nørregaard with the project "Luft under vingerne".

2017 with the documentary "Relics" as part of the art installation "The Big Mosaic" which was implemented within the frame of Pafos 2017 "Cultural capital city of Europe".

"Relics" was also an official selection of the program of the 20th Thessaloniki Documentary Festival, Diversions International Short Film Festival of Croatia and the 3rd Paphos International Film Festival in Cyprus.

In 2017 he founded "IndigoFlicks" a production company based in Athens, that specializes in the audiovisual and cultural sector. IndigoFlicks collaborates with international film production professionals and artists and its productions vary from short films to feature documentaries and music videos to museum installations.

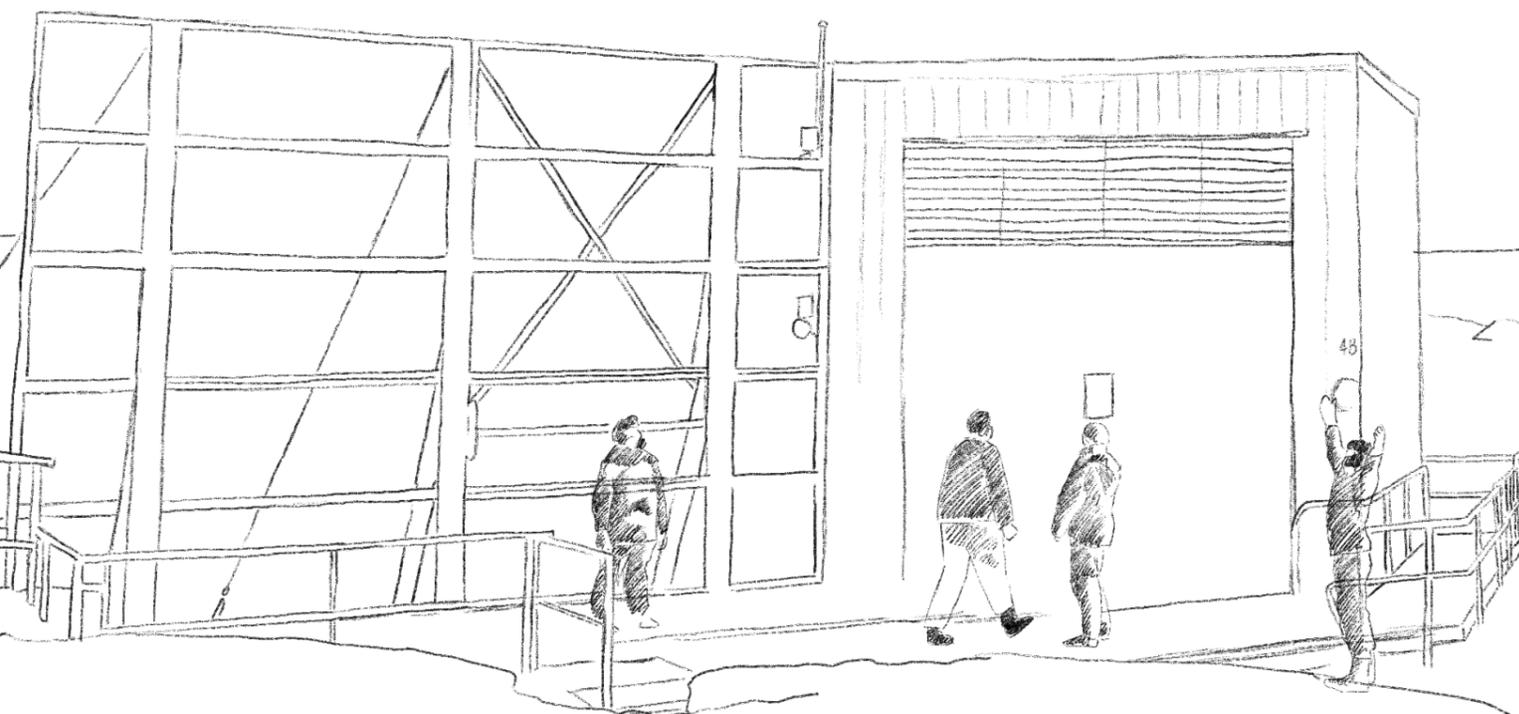
Being also in the role of the producer, he completed recently in collaboration with the National Hellenic Research Foundation, the feature documentary "Science & Orthodoxy around the World" a production which required filming in 10 different countries in 2 years around the world. The documentary was officially selected in the 21th Thessaloniki Documentary Festival and this period is submitted in different film festivals around the world.

IMDB link:

https://www.imdb.com/name/nm5594825/?ref_=fn_al_nm_1

Christos Panagos Documentary Showreel:

<https://vimeo.com/339524707/e838ff0215>





Charalambos Margaritis

Animation Department

Charalambos Margaritis graduated from the National Superior Fine Arts School of Paris (ENSBA) in 2012. His work is centered around animated films, printmaking, drawing, painting and comics. In 2010 he studied the traditional icon painting techniques with the monk Paisios Agrapides in the Cell of Saint Archangels in Karyes of Mount Athos, where he resided for three months.

Since 2014 he has been collaborating with the classical music ensemble Trio Dell'Arte producing animated films that accompany live musical performances of classical chamber music.

He currently lives and works in Paphos, Cyprus, where, in 2015, he co-founded the Kimonos Art Center. He teaches animation techniques, drawing and printmaking. Since 2019 he has been teaching animation in the Department of Multimedia and Graphic Arts of the Cyprus University of Technology. In 2017 he was involved in several ways with the production of the European Capital of Culture PAFOS2017 and, among other projects, was the curator for the project The Big Mosaic, one of the bid book projects of the ECC.

Since 2017, he has been directing the annual international animation festival The Animattikon Project, founded in the framework of the European Capital of Culture, PAFOS2017 and produced by the Kimonos Art Center in Paphos.

Since 2018 he is the ambassador of the European Animation Awards in Cyprus.

IMDB link:

https://www.imdb.com/name/nm10149731/?ref_=nv_sr_srsq_0

Showreel of Charalambos Margaritis' using various animation technics:

<https://vimeo.com/339434005/0ce50be492>



Alexandre Gautier

Main character

Born Alexandre Ulrich Nicolas in 1986 in Paris to a French father and a Mauritian mother.

French adventurer, artist and artisan.

He entered the Fine Arts School of Paris in 2007 at the workshop of Annette Messenger and Tadashi Kawamata. There he discovers the field of anthropology, in the class of Maurice Godelier and the history of literature with Pierre Bergognioux.

In parallel to his studies, he takes up small jobs. He works as a maquettiste for various architecture cabinets, he works for art galleries (notably the Marian Goodman Gallery) and does scenography work (notably for the exhibition of Jeff Koons in Versailles). He also works as a bibliothecary in the National Library François Mitterrand of France.

During his studies he will develop, mostly due to his readings of Baudrillard, Malaurie and Virilio a certain interest to artisanship, sociology, focused on ecological problematics, which will lead him to work with a an artist ironworker, but which will also move him momentarily away from the cultural field, although he never stops drawing.

From 2011 to 2012, Alexandre has traveled all over France working in various construction sites. His main problematic being the autonomie in the rural milieu and the agroecology, he will meet many people, more notably Steve Read and Pierre Rabhi, a pioneer of permaculture.

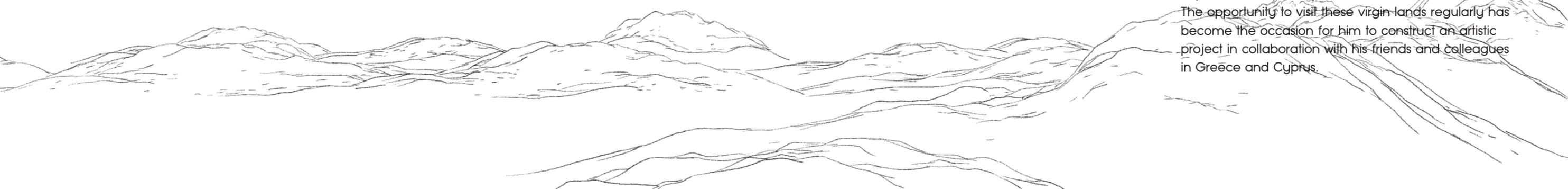
In 2013 he moved to the Livradois-Forez park in order to make use of his experience. He becomes a professional woodworker in order to become an artisan.

At the same time he stays in contact with his friend Charalambos Margaritis, who has returned to Cyprus and with whom he works in the framework of the European Capital of Culture PAFOS2017.

After several years working as a carpenter all around the area of Auvergne, he goes through an interview to work in Antarctica for the Paul-Emil Victor Institut.

From 2018 Alexandre takes part in the summer expeditions to the southern lands.

The opportunity to visit these virgin lands regularly has become the occasion for him to construct an artistic project in collaboration with his friends and colleagues in Greece and Cyprus.





Kostas Makrinos

Editing

Kostas Makrinos is a motion picture editor based in Lausanne Switzerland.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Cultural Technology and Communication (B.Sc., University of the Aegean, major in Audiovisual communication, 2006) and a Master of Arts HES-SO in Film (M.A., Ecole Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne / Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design - Geneve - ECAL/HEAD, major in Editing, 2016).

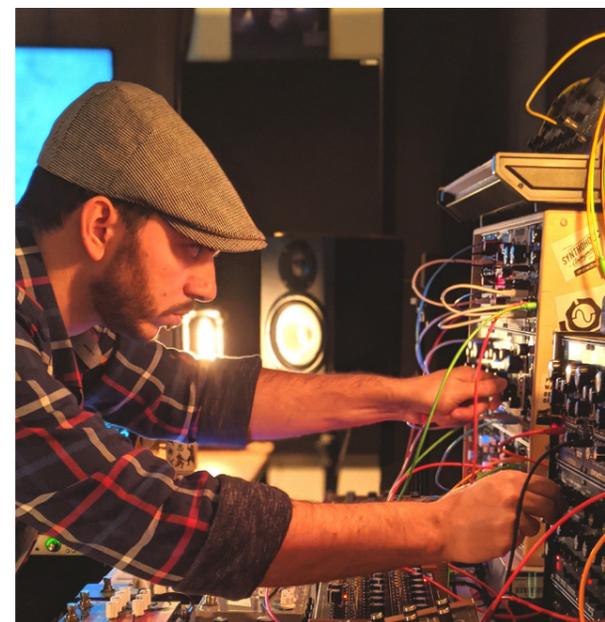
He has worked as a motion picture editor since 2005. His work includes about 50 projects of various genres and lengths (fiction, documentary, experimental, docufiction, cine-concert, video-art), screened and broadcasted in various spaces and media platforms worldwide.

In a parallel universe he makes experimental short films, the first of which, "Flux", has been selected in about a dozen of film festivals and art spaces in all over the world.

Since 1998 he has also been a member of various hip-hop / trip-hop / electronica groups & collectives, having written and produced more than 200 tracks released in independent music labels.

IMDB Link

https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4273821/?ref_=nv_sr_srsq_0



Dimitris Mann

Music

Fusing his talents as a skilled multi-instrumentalist with his obsession for analog & modular synths, award-winning composer, Dimitris Mann, has developed a unique voice in film and TV scoring by constantly exploring uncharted territories.

Having honed his unique compositional skills under the tutelage of legends like Hans Zimmer, Henry Jackman and Joel Goodman, he went on to lend his distinctive voice and style to more than 85 films and TV shows, including PBS's critically acclaimed powerhouse, Nova, Starz original crime thriller, Insomnia, and A&E's visceral social experiment, 60 Days In.

Dimitris' versatility is driven by constantly challenging himself. He's proud to occupy a place in history as a member of Greece's first and most successful hip-hop group, Active Member. He has performed with and produced music for numerous artists, from world renowned classical tenor, Mario Frangoulis, to metal bands and synthwave artists.

His recent credits include music and songs for the highly anticipated AAA video game, Cyberpunk 2077, the Netflix documentary League of Legends: Origins, the Tribeca Official Selection VR experience, A Safe Guide to Dying, as well as the film trailers for Call of Duty: Black Ops 4, Rambo: The Last Blood, Child's Play and Awoken, and advertising campaigns for Citizen and Blizzard Entertainment.

Dimitris is currently working on a number of video games, a true crime TV series, and a thriller feature starring William Kircher (The Hobbit franchise).

IMDB link:

https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6350763/?ref_=nv_sr_srsq_4



INDIGO FLICKS

IndigoFlicks (GR)

IndigoFlicks is a production company based in Athens, that specializes in the audiovisual and cultural sector. IndigoFlicks collaborates with international film production professionals and artists and its productions vary from short films to feature documentaries and music videos to museum installations. It's latest productions, participated in European Capital of Culture PAFOS2017 and various international film festivals across Europe.

indigoflicks.com



Kimonos Art Center (CY)

Kimonos Animation Studio is the animation studio of the Kimonos Art Center. Since its beginning in 2015, it has been organizing workshops and providing animation classes for the public. At the same time it produces its own animated films. It is also regularly involved in co-productions and collaborations with other production companies and studios, such as the collaboration with IndigoFlicks for the creation of the animated sequences of their 2018 documentary Science and Orthodoxy around the world. Since 2017 the studio is also responsible for the organization and production of the independent annual international animation festival The Animattikon Project.

kimonosartcenter.com



