



Events

BUG 35 Director's Cut

BUG title sequence

Director: Miland Suman
Original Illustration: Paul Greeno
Animation: Miland Suman
Music: Ron Grainer

Pixel – Call Me

Director: Ola Martin Fjeld
Production Company: Filmfaktisk
Norway 2012

C2C – Happy

Director: Wendy Morgan
Production Company: Believe Media
Canada/US/France 2012

David Bowie – Where Are We Now?

Director: Tony Oursler
Record Company: RCA UK
US/UK 2013

Jay-Z and Kanye West – Nias in Paris (unofficial)**

Directors: Lionel Hirlé and Grégory Ohrel (aka Greg & Lio)
Production Company: Quad
Record Company: Roc A Fella/Roc Nation/Def Jam
France/US 2012

Be Brave Benjamin – Devil Fool

Director: Pablo Maestres
Production Company:
A+ & Iris Productions
Spain/UK 2012

Bonobo – Cirrus

Director: Cyriak
Record Company: Ninja Tune
UK 2013

Xilent – Boss Wave

Director: Kristofer Ström
Production Company:
Blinkink/Colonel Blimp
Record Company: Audioporn Records
Sweden/UK 2013

Dizze Rascal – Bassline Junkie

Director: Megaforce
Production Company: Riff Raff Films
Record Company: Dirtee Stank
France/UK 2013

Gonnar Mockasin – Faking Jazz Together

Directors: Fleur & Manu
Production Company: Division
Record Company: Because Music
France/NZ 2012

Shogu Tokumaru – Katachi

Directors: Kijek / Adamski
Record Company: Polyvinyl
Poland/Japan 2013

Of Monsters and Men – Little Talks

Director: WeWereMonkeys
Production Company:
Vision Entertainment
Record Company: Universal Republic
US/Iceland 2012

Tame Impala – Mind Mischief

Director: David Wilson
Production Company Colonel Blimp
Record Company: Modular
UK/Australia 2013

A somewhat belated 'happy new year', and welcome to BUG 35. Yes, not much more than a month after our last show here at the BFI Southbank, just before Christmas, we have a new show of marvellous music video creativity and online stuff and nonsense, brought to you as always by the man with his finger firmly on the pulse of the music video/internet zeitgeist, Adam Buxton.

And as our first show of 2013 is coming soon after our last show of 2012 this one is slightly different. As well as brand new gems that have arrived over the turn of the year, we've picked out a few things that came out towards the end of 2012, and then a few from the past 12 months that we actually overlooked (it happens, we're only human...)

So we start with a video from Norway, that was released last November, for the jazz combo Pixel, by Ola Martin Fjeld. It's a comedy-drama set on a caravan park, about a family who put on a show for the other intrigued holiday-makers – and the very believable tensions between the mother and daughter, laid bare in the latter's memorable dance performance to the band's *Call Me* – and it's a delight, informed by the director's own annual camping/caravanning experiences in Norway as a teenager.

But then Canadian director Wendy Morgan's video for French DJ team C2C's *Happy* features even more impressive dance work – indeed some of the finest footwork in any video in the last year. Set in a gospel tent – in keeping with the revivalist gospel flavour of the track – a preacher does the dance equivalent of speaking in tongues before spreading the gospel of ridiculously good dancing to his disciples – and this includes some of America's standout street dancers, including King Charles (of Footworkingz Chicago, who also choreographed) and Storyboard P – who also graced the brilliant Flying Lotus *Until the Quiet Comes* video last year.

And then we have a video that caused a storm when it was released a few weeks ago, for David Bowie's *Where Are We Now?* It suddenly emerged on Bowie's 66th birthday on 8 January, his first new material in a decade, accompanied by a mysterious lo-fi, low-key music video by his friend, the multimedia artist Tony Oursler. Shot in Oursler's Lower Manhattan studio, the artist employs his trademark technique of beaming human faces on to inanimate objects – in this case, David's and Oursler's wife, the artist Jaqueline Humphries – while projected visuals and lyrics illustrate Bowie's reflections on his time spent in Berlin in the late 1970s. Needless to say, Adam, the world's biggest Bowie fan, is very excited – so he'll be taking you through some of the online reaction to the return of the great man after we watch the video.

Then we have one of those videos that slipped through our net in 2012: this is actually an unofficial video for a humungous global hip-hop hit. Jay-Z and Kanye West's *Ni**as in Paris* has produced a couple of official videos (including one directed by Kanye himself), but this version is by two French directors Greg & Lio – that's Lionel Hirlé and Grégory Ohrel – as a showcase for their directing/VFX talents and has become an online hit, particularly on Vimeo, featuring giant lookalikes of Jay and Kanye looming over iconic Paris landmarks by day and night.

The video for *Devil Fool* by Barcelona-based Welsh singer-songwriter Be Brave Benjamin was directed by young Spanish director Pablo Maestres and features a group of attractive young men and women, apparently well-adjusted but oblivious to the inevitable consequences of playing some very dangerous games with knives, electricity, fire, petrol and guns... Rather like watching the members of a cult cheerfully going to their doom by the most violent means possible.

Then comes the latest mindbending masterpiece of animation by Cyriak Harris, for cult electronica artist Bonobo's *Cirrus*, the first single from his forthcoming album *The North Borders*. In fact Cyriak completed the video nearly a year ago, after becoming inspired by the original demo of the track, and then using mid-20th century stock footage as the basis for his amazingly complex and intricate manipulations in *After Effects*. Ninja Tune then had to sit on it for 12 months until just a couple of weeks ago Bonobo delivered the finished album and Cyriak could finally update the audio on his video.

Young Rival – Two Reasons
Director: James Kuhn/Young Rival
Record Company: Sonic Unyon
US/Canada 2012



BUG thanks...
Adam Buxton www.adam-buxton.com

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SAATCHI & SAATCHI

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For regular updates, check out
www.bugmusicvideos.com
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Forthcoming events:
BUG 36 – 27 March
BUG 36 Director's Cut – 28 March
Tickets on sale in early February

Another of BUG's favourite animators is Sweden's Kristofer Ström, who has created a slew of darkly humorous, gore-splattered videos for key figures in the British dubstep scene (Benga, 16bit and Delta Heavy) over the past couple of years. But his latest, for another upcoming 'wubwub' producer, is rather different, although still a delightful gorefest. For Xilent's *Boss Wave* Kristofer has upgraded from 2D to CG animation to tell the story of a man who builds the killer robot hero of his favourite retro 8 bit video game in the real world – and of course delicious mayhem then ensues...

Our guests at BUG two weeks ago, when we first showed BUG 35 here in NFT1, were Charles Brisgand and Clément Gallet from French directing team Megaforce. And our next video is Megaforce's latest, the very scurrilous and hugely entertaining video for Dizzee Rascal's latest crowd-baiting anthem *Bassline Junkie*, in which Dizzee becomes a convincing, if rather foul-mouthed, evangelical preacher, spreading the word of 'big dirty stinking bass' all over London, shadowed by his show-stealing supergeek accomplice.

That's followed by a video with a very different take on religious ceremony for Connan Mockasin's *Faking Jazz Together*, directed by another French directing team, Fleur & Manu. Having featured acts of levitation in their series of videos for M83 last year about a group of telekinetic children, Fleur and Manu achieved even more impressive results in this intimate one-shot video focusing on an extraordinary rite deep in a forest. It took three months of post-production to create these beautiful examples of human weightlessness.

Polish animation duo Katarzyna Kijek and Przemyslaw Adamski have a knack of manipulating everyday materials in ingenious ways – their last work shown at BUG (a promo for Polish jazzier Tomasz Stanko) was created from 1km of yarn and a bunch of flashlights. But their video for Japanese artist Shugo Tokumaru probably surpasses anything they've done previously. In keeping with the songtitle *Katachi* – Japanese for 'shape' – they've created a physical timeline of ever-changing shapes, with approximately 2000 cutout silhouettes. It's a technical triumph – the shapes were made from PVC plates, using a computer-controlled cutter – that mesmerises from start to finish.

And here's one we missed from last year. The biggest thing coming out of Iceland right now isn't Björk, or Sigur Rós, but Of Monsters and Men. Their video for *Little Talks* has been a big hit, a visionary epic fantasy created by the American directing/producing team WeWereMonkeys – that's Mihai Wilson and Marcella Moser. WWM turn the male members of OMAM into 2D monochrome explorers travelling through an immense winter landscape populated by gigantic monsters, only saved from certain doom at every turn by the magic powers of colourful-robed singer Nanna Bryndís Hilmarsdóttir. Its like Björk meets Yoann Lemoine's *Woodkid*, with a dash of Terry Gilliam.

Our final brace of videos tonight begins with the brand new video for Aussie psychedelic rockers Tame Impala's *Mind Mischief*, directed by David Wilson, who's created what could be described as the ultimate sex fantasy for nerdy British schoolboys – and brings together his talents as an animator and live action director. It features Bill Milner (who as a much smaller boy starred in the Garth Jennings movie *Son of Rambow*) as the 1970s public schoolkid fixating on his hot teacher in class, and then joining her in her 2CV, to be magically transported into a cartoon dimension of drug-fuelled cosmic lovemaking.

And then we have a tour de force of face-art by self-face-painting maestro James Kuhn. Canadian power-pop trio Young Rival discovered James's blog in late 2011, then contacted him and asked if he wanted to collaborate on their video for *Two Reasons*. He agreed and for nearly the next year James sent the band clips of himself in different extraordinary guises – owl, baboon, turkey, bag of popcorn, you name it – lipsyncing along the song. And the result is this beautiful achievement, which brings our first show of 2013 to an end. Hope you enjoy it!