



YAYA E LENNIF

THE WALKING LIBERTY



Locarno Film Festival
Official Selection

MAD ENTERTAINMENT and RAI CINEMA

present

YAYA E LENNIE

THE WALKING LIBERTY

directed by

ALESSANDRO RAK

with the voices of

**CIRO PRIELLO, FABIOLA BALESTRIERE,
LINA SASTRI, FRANCESCO PANNOFINO, MASSIMILIANO GALLO,
TOMMASO RAGNO, FABRIZIO BOTTA**

A Mad Entertainment with Rai Cinema production

Produced by

Maria Carolina Terzi, Luciano e Carlo Stella

A movie realized with the contribution of **Ministry of Culture
Cinema and Audiovisual arts General Direction**

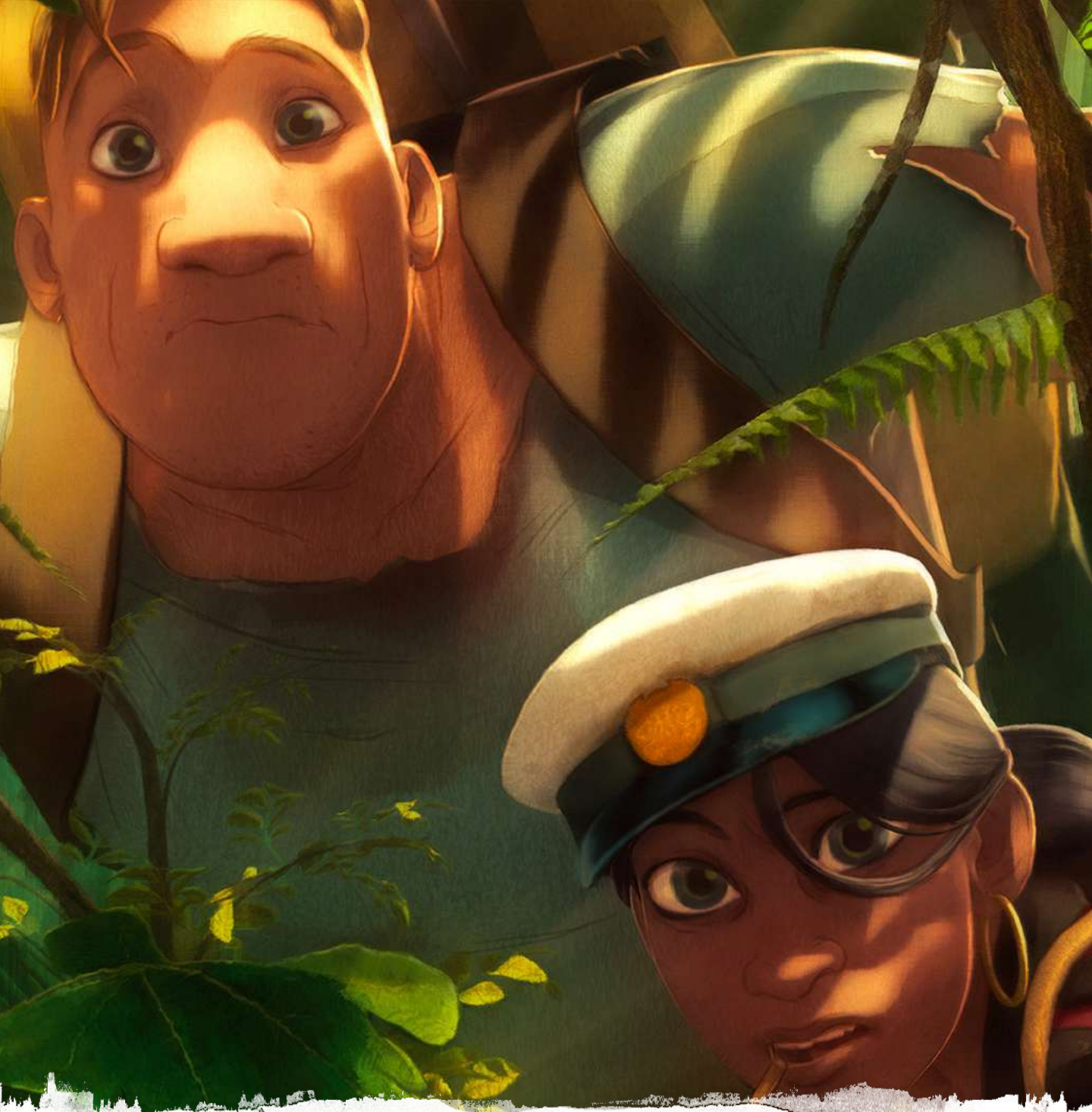
With the contribution of **Regione Campania** and the collaboration of **FCRC**

A movie realized with the support of
Regione Lazio – Fondo regionale per il cinema e l'audiovisivo

Distribution **Nexo Digital**

International Sales **Rai Com**





Press Office Mad

Daniela Staffa +39.348.8719317 press.staffa@gmail.com

Press Office Nexo Digital

Luana Solla +39.334.3369695 luana.solla@nexodigital.it

Press Office Rai Com

Geneviève Rabe +33648877729 genevieve@genevieverabe.com

Press Office Fosforo

Manuela Cavallari +39.349.6891660 manuela.cavallari@fosforopress.com

Giulia Santaroni +39.348.8224581 giulia.santaroni@fosforopress.com

Ginevra Bandini +39.335.1750404 ginevra.bandini@fosforopress.com

Valerio Roselli +39.335.7081956 valerio.roselli@fosforopress.com



TECHNICAL CAST

DIRECTION AND ARTISTIC DIRECTION
ALESSANDRO RAK

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
MARINO GUARNIERI, DARIO SANSONE

ARTISTIC DIRECTION
DARIO SANSONE, MARINO GUARNIERI

SUBJECT
**ALESSANDRO RAK, MARINO GUARNIERI,
DARIO SANSONE, FRANCESCO FILIPPINI**

SCREENPLAY
ALESSANDRO RAK

SET DESIGN
ANNARITA CALLIGARIS, MARIACARLA NORALL

ANIMATION
**IVANA VERZE, LAURA SAMMATI, DANILO FLORIO, ANTONIA
EMANUELA ANGRISANI, GABRIELE SCUDIERO, VIOLA CECERE**

3D TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
CORRADO PISCITELLI

3D - CGI
**ROBERTA IANNARONE, VANIA DE ROSA,
MATTIA FLORIO, NICOLETTA SILVESTRI**

CONCEPT ARTISTS
**GIULIA VINCITORIO, DENISE TEDESCO, ALESSIA LENOCI,
DAVIDE CALABRESE, MARCO MATRONE, FRANCESCO FILIPPINI**

ORIGINAL MUSIC
DARIO SANSONE, ENZO FONICIELLO, ALESSANDRO RAK

PRODUCTION COORDINATION
MARTINA SPADANO

PRODUCTION AND TECHNICAL DATA

PRODUCTION
PRODUCED BY
WITH THE SUPPORT OF
WITH CONTRIBUTION OF
WITH COLLABORATION OF
WITH THE SUPPORT OF
DISTRIBUTION
INTERNATIONAL SALES
COUNTRY, YEAR
LENGHT

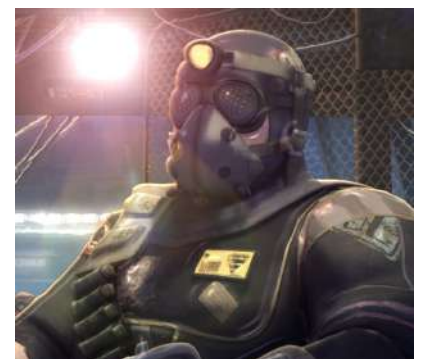
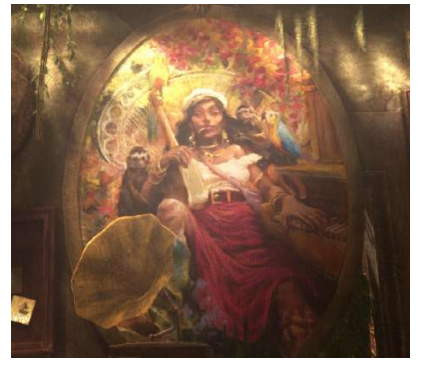
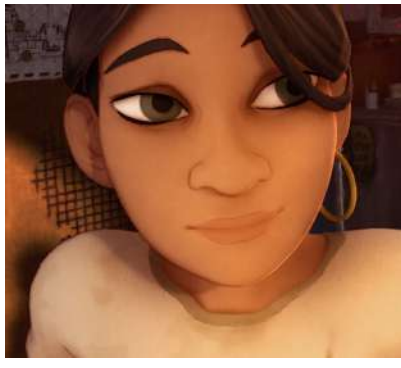
MAD ENTERTAINMENT with RAI CINEMA
MARIA CAROLINA TERZI, LUCIANO E CARLO STELLA
MINISTERO DELLA CULTURA
REGIONE CAMPANIA
FILM COMMISSION REGIONE CAMPANIA
REGIONE LAZIO
NEXO DIGITAL
RAI COM
ITALY, 2021
98'



WITH THE VOICES OF

LENNIE
YAYA
ZIA CLAIRE
ROSPOLEÓN
CAPITANO LUX
ZIO GIÒ
ANDRÉ
GRETA
TOM TOM
KAROL
BRED PIT
BIONDO
TONY
BANCONISTA
ISTITUTORE

CIRO PRIELLO
FABIOLA BALESTRIERE
LINA SASTRI
FRANCESCO PANNOFINO
MASSIMILIANO GALLO
TOMMASO RAGNO
FABRIZIO BOTTA
FEDERICA ALTAMURA
FABIO BALSAMO
SHALANA SANTANA
ANTONIO BRACHI
ROBERTO DEL GAUDIO
ANTONIN STAHLY
MAURIZIO DE GIOVANNI
JAGO

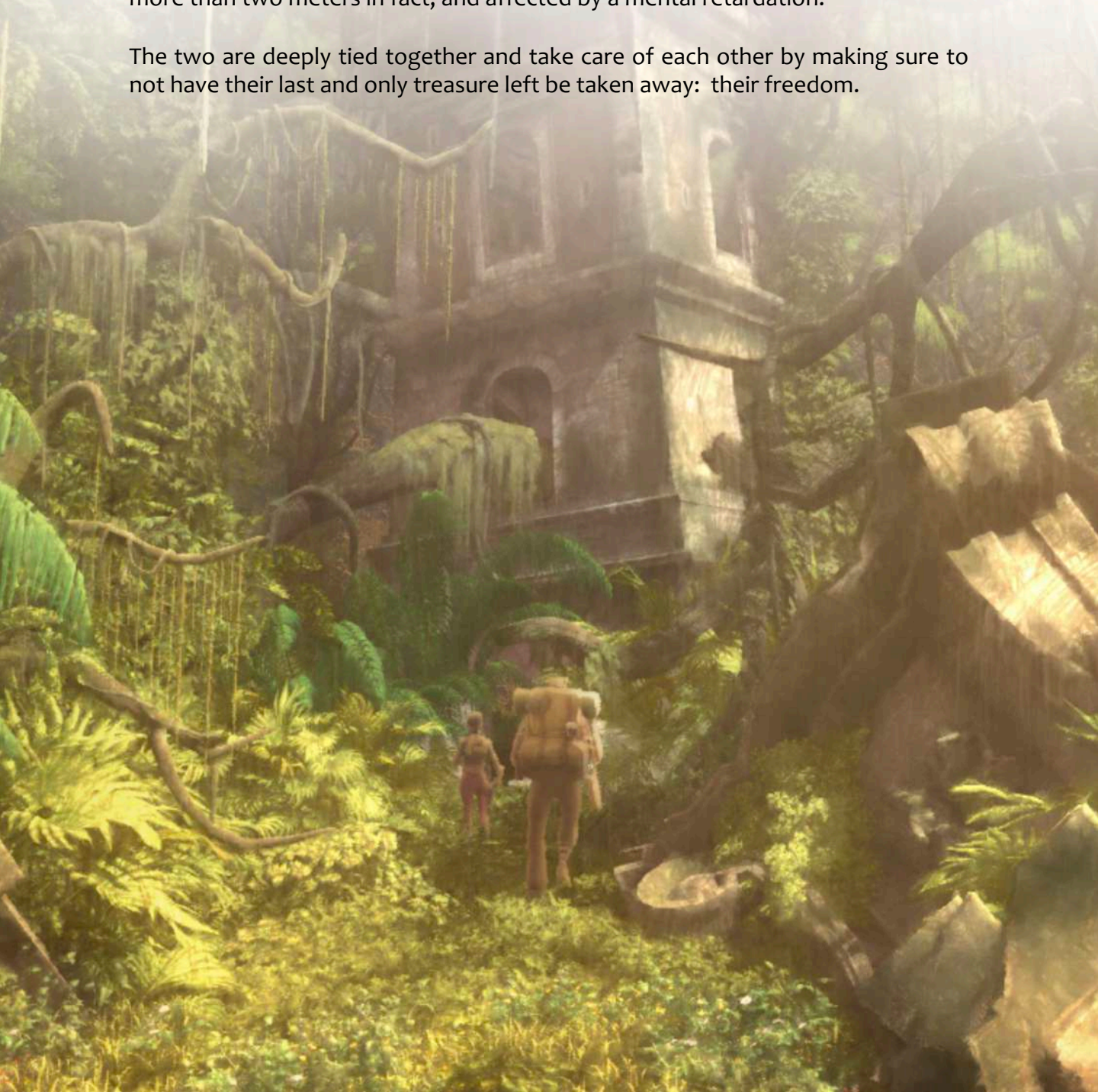


SYNOPSIS

Following a mysterious turmoil, the world as we know it has ended. Nature has reclaimed the planet and the jungle covers the Earth. From the ruins of that world, a new society is about to rise again. It's known as "The Institution" and its adepts attempt to restore the pre-established order by imposing their concept of rule to the free people of the jungle. Some, however, fight fiercely against their process of "civilization". The dissidents are preparing their revolution!

This is the story of the free spirits that wish to find their place in the world. Yaya, a girl with a gruff personality and an untamed spirit and Lennie, a very tall man, more than two meters in fact, and affected by a mental retardation.

The two are deeply tied together and take care of each other by making sure to not have their last and only treasure left be taken away: their freedom.



ALESSANDRO RAK

Director, illustrator, animator

Graduated in Animation at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia, Rome, after having won, with his essays “Again” and “Looking Death Window”, the Gran Premio della Giuria (Jury Grand Prize) of Festival Castelli Animati, the Cylect International Price and the First Prize at the Festival of Film School, Mexico City. From 2001 to 2011, he is busy curating art exhibitions at the Not Gallery, publishing cartoons and illustrated books such as “Ark” (Grifo edizioni), “Bye Bye Jazz” (Lavieri), “A Skeleton Story” (GG Studio), distributed in Italy and in the USA. Characters designs and Artistic Direction: Tv special directed by Ivan Cappiello, “Il piccolo Sansereno e il Mistero dell’Uovo di Virgilio”. Animated shorts: “Và” (First Prize at the Med Festival Video), “Teste al muro” (selected at the Festival di Palazzo Venezia) Musical Videoclip and artwork for musicians: “Kanzone su Londra” by 24 Grana, (MEI Award for Best editing), “Paura dei Bisca”, “Let Free your Fun” by The Gentlemen's Agreement, “ ‘O sciore e ‘o viento” and “Donna Maria dei Foja”. In 2014 he directes his first feature film, “**L’Arte della Felicità**”.

The movie, produced by Mad Entertainment in collaboration with Rai Cinema and distributed by Istituto Luce – Cinecittà, opened as Special Event the 28th Critics Week of the 70th Venice Film Festival and won the Arca Cinema Giovani Award and a Special Mention by FEDIC as Best Italian Film at the Festival, the Miglior Opera Prima Award (Best Debut) at the Raindance Film Festival, London, the Public Award at Anima 2014 – International Animation Film Festival, Bruxelles, the Ciak D’oro 2014 for “Bello and Invisibile”, the Best Film Award at Expotoons 2014, Buenos Aires, the Student Jury Prize at the 12th Kecskemét Animation Film Festival and the prestigious Best European Animated Film Award at the European Film Awards 2014.

Gatta Cenerentola (2017), his second feature film, won two David di Donatello for Best Producer and Best Visual Effects. It was acclaimed at the 74th Venice Film Festival as well. Francesco Pasinetti Special Award, Open Award, Gianni Astrei Award, Future Film Festival Digital Award, Mouse d’argento Award. Also, the Caligari Award at the XXVII edition of the Noir in Festival; the Parole di Cinema Award at the XIX edition of the Napoli Film Festival; Best European Animated Film at the 22nd edition of the Capri Hollywood; Innovative and Experimental Award at the Fabrique du Cinema Awards; the Nastro d’Argento for “the quality, the innovation and the productive courage” at the 73rd edition of the Nastri d’Argento Awards; the Best Producer Award at the 33rd edition of the Ciak d’oro. Rak ha inoltre realizzato, nel 2014 la Sigla d’apertura di Cartoons on the Bay; He made the opening sequence of Cartoons on the Bay in 2014 and in 2016 the illustrations for “La Paranza dei Bambini” by Roberto Saviano.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Science and Technology advance, among proselytes and deniers, divulging their beliefs and asking for faith and trust, but in fact climbing up paths obscure to the masses. Civilization and Right are no longer something to fight or spend for, but only the claim of the "Sons of the State" ... A State that loses more and more credibility in front of its children and more and more power in front of the "magicians" of the free market (speculators, multinationals ...). The polar stars are falling, ideologies are extinguished, the real economy disappeared and attitudes and moods on the wave of "journalistic sensationalism" and "social media fever" find their place: politically correct, populism, nationalism, denial, catastrophism.

Meanwhile, the capitalist system seems to have come too far without dealing with population growth and its sustainability, as well as with ecological sustainability...

And if on the one hand society tries to maintain a civil coexistence with increasingly strict and quirky rules, or by building walls, on the other hand entropy and reasons for social and territorial division grow.

From this apocalyptic perception (which presumptuously pretends to "describe" our current society) and from the desire to investigate it, the idea of Yaya and Lennie - The Walking Liberty was born. An ode to freedom, because freedom is the premise of every healthy choice of love bond as well as the only way that does not lead to the obvious and the inexorable.

An ode to walks, to travels, to landscapes, which are the breath of every healthy thought.

An ode to green, which is life and hope.

An ode to wild thought, which reminds us in which environment our existence moves and which are the real rules that govern it.

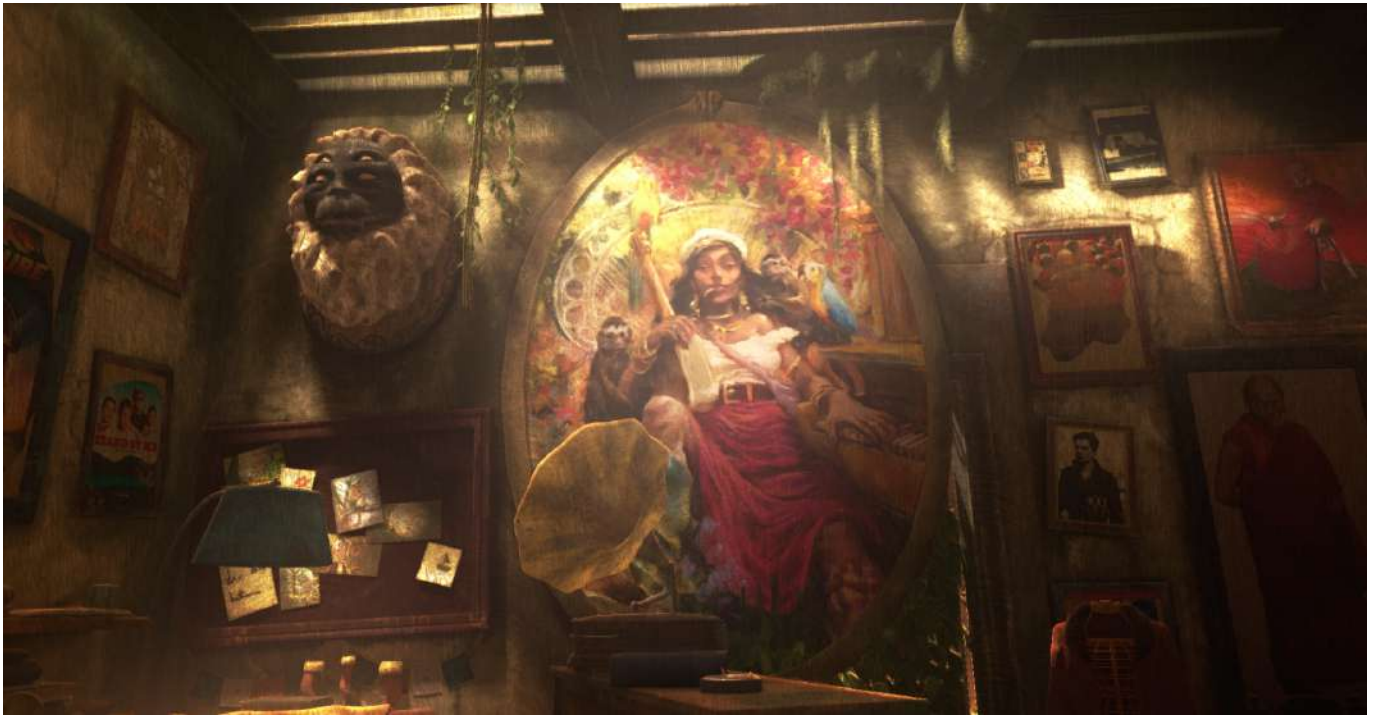
But above all, an ode to fraternal, selfless, carefree and ignorant love.

The film stages the theme of coexistence between individuals within a post-apocalyptic scenario, in which everything is called into question, thus trying to propose different and contradictory perspectives.

The story of Yaya and Lennie owes a lot to the novel Men and Mice: a novel that presents a completely different kind of setting, but also that was born in a historical context of great uncertainty and political and social disorientation, as was the Great American Depression.

But beyond the considerations that inspired it ... Yaya and Lennie - The Walking Liberty is nothing more than a story. A ballad.

Alessandro Rak





"YAYA E LENNIE - THE WALKING LIBERTY" AND BLENDER

Mad Entertainment's animation team is made up of a very close-knit and relatively small group.

This allows users to quickly share information and suggestions, all working on a single project for its entire duration, making it a "choral" work.

For "Yaya and Lennie - The Walking Liberty", as well as for the previous films, all the members of the team have also trained in areas very far from their most evident abilities, in order to participate in the various stages of production.

All this was possible thanks to the use of a well-known open-source software called Blender.

The main utility of Blender lies in being a complete 3D software, usable in all stages of production. From the choice of the aesthetic style of the film, passing through the modeling of the environments and characters, the construction of the storyboard directly in 3D, up to obviously the animation and post-production.

All the processes implemented for the production of "Yaya and Lennie - The Walking Liberty" had already been structured during the production of "Cinderella The Cat". However, unlike the previous film by the MAD team, in which the scenography had been digitally painted with dedicated software, in this project it was possible to integrate the scenography stage directly into post production.

In order to do this, we focused more on modeling and texturing, (the latter almost completely absent in the previous film), to be able to maintain the image mixture that distinguishes MAD Entertainment products, while changing the making process of the finished frame.



PRODUCTION'S NOTE

"Yaya and Lennie - The Walking Liberty" is the third animated film from the MAD studio signed by Alessandro Rak.

After The Art of Happiness and Cinderella The Cat, the studio was further consolidated into a group of about 40 artists, animators, designers and musicians who dedicate themselves to the production of animated works, taking care of every production stage.

Today MAD is a creative and productive beating heart, who lives its adventure in the center of Naples in Piazza del Gesù. As always, an animated film requires three years of work, but in the last three years MAD has gone through difficulties of creative production together with the difficulties of the Covid-19 pandemic and distance, without ever stopping.

For us as producers, this film represents another important artistic vision of the world through the eyes of Alessandro and his team and of an idea that was prophetic in his own way. After three years of work closed inside the Megaride, the ship in which Cinderella The Cat is set, the whole team needed to work on a film that would allow them to immerse themselves in nature and create a totally green world.

In fact, Yaya and Lennie are the two protagonists who travel in the jungle, in a future where the world is covered by nature. But never as producers we could have thought that this jungle would have been the prophecy of our dream, while we were living in seclusion because of the pandemic.

We are particularly connected to this artistic creation by Alessandro Rak, not only for the evolution and technical progress, but because he felt the themes of a ballad in which the protagonist is a courageous girl capable of fighting to live in a world freed from old destructive rules towards nature and humanity itself.

For us producers this new ballad is a hymn to the power of the female universe and the possibility of true love towards nature in a world designed, colored and animated, where finally the best qualities of man are achievable and possible.



MAD ENTERTAINMENT

Mad Entertainment is a film production company whose main mission is entertainment through live cinema, animated cinema and documentaries.

Thus, in ten years of activity, the company has produced:

2010

PASSIONE by John Turturro

Docu-film

- Presented at the 67th Venice Film Festival
- Capri Cult Award Capri Hollywood 2010
- Premio della Città di Roma

2011

EL CAMPO by Hernan Belon

Feature Film

- Presented at the 26th Venice International Critic's Week
- Best Latin American Actress at Malaga Spanish Film Festival 2012
- Special Mention at Fribourg International Film Festival 2012
- Best Actor to Leonardo Sbaraglia at Amiens International Film Festival 2011

2012

IL PICCOLO SAN SERENO E IL MISTERO DELL'UOVO DI VIRGILIO by Ivan Cappiello

Animation Special Tv

LA CANTATA DEI PASTORI by Nicola Barile

Animation Tv Movie

2013

L'ARTE DELLA FELICITÀ by Alessandro Rak

with the voices of Renato Carpentieri e Nando Paone

Animated Feature Film

- Opening special event at the 28th Venice International Critic's Week
- Best European Animated Feature Film at European Film Awards 2014

2014

LO SPOSO DI NAPOLI – APPUNTI PER UN FILM SU ACHILLE LAURO by Giogio' Franchini

Documentary

2016

LA BUONA USCITA by Enrico Iannaccone with Marco Cavalli, Gea Martire

Feature Film

- Director of the future Award at Capri Hollywood

2017

LA PARRUCCHIERA by Stefano Incerti with Pina Turco, Massimiliano Gallo
Feature Film

SIMPOSIO SUINO IN RE MINORE by Francesco Filippini
Animated Short Movie

GATTA CENERENTOLA by Alessandro Rak, Ivan Cappiello, Marino Guarnieri, Dario Sansone with the voices of Alessandro Gassmann, Massimiliano Gallo, Maria Pia Calzone, Renato Carpentieri
Animated Feature Film

- 2 David di Donatello for Best Producer and for Best VFX
- Ciak d'oro
- Nastro d'Argento

Awarded at:

- 74a Venice Film Festival with Premio speciale Francesco Pasinetti, Premio Open, Premio Gianni Astrei, Premio Future Film Festival Digital Award, Premio Mouse D'Argento;
- XXVII Edition of Noir in Festival with Premio Caligari;
- XIX edizione of Napoli Film Festival with Premio Parole di Cinema;
- 22nd edition of Capri Hollywood as Best European animated movie;
- Fabrique du Cinema Awards with Best Italian Innovative and experimental film

2018

ACHILLE TARALLO by Antonio Capuano with Biagio Izzo, Ascanio Celestini and Tony Tamaro
Feature Film

2019

VITA SEGRETA DI MARIA CAPASSO by Salvatore Piscicelli with Luisa Ranieri
Feature Film

2020

LA VACANZA by Enrico Iannaccone with Catherine Spaak, Antonio Folletto, Carla Signoris and Veruschka
Feature Film

- Presented at Festa del Cinema di Roma (2019), Alice nella Città section
- Best Feature Film at Festival del Cinema Italiano (2020)
- Best Supporting Actress Award to Carla Signoris at Festival del Cinema Italiano (2020)
- Selected to Globo d'Oro della Stampa Estera Award 2021

IL BUCO IN TESTA by Antonio Capuano with Teresa Saponangelo, Francesco Di Leva, Tommaso Ragno
Feature Film

- Presented at Torino Film Festival 2020

FELLINI DEGLI SPIRITI by Anselma Dell'Olio
Documentary

- Presented at the XXXIV edition of Festival Il Cinema Ritrovato in Bologna
- Selected at Cannes Film Festival “Cannes Classics Sélection officielle 2020”
- Presented at Festival Lumière 2020
- Candidate among the 10 finalists of Nastri d'Argento 2021

RIIONE SANITÀ, LA CERTEZZA DEI SOGNI by Massimo Ferrari
Documentary

- Presented at Torino Film Festival 2020
- Selected at the Italian Film Festival USA 2021
- Candidate among the 10 finalists of Nastri d'Argento 2021

DANZEREMO ANCORA INSIEME by Francesco Filippini
First cartoon of Vanity Fair

LA' DOVE LA NOTTE by Francesco Filippini
Animated Short Movie

- Presented at Giffoni Film Festival 2020

LA MUCCA NEL CIELO by Francesco Filippini with the voice of Iaià Forte
Animated Short Movie

- Presented at Giffoni Film Festival 2020

2021
LA TRISTEZZA HA IL SONNO LEGGERO by Marco Mario de Notaris with Stefania Sandrelli, Serena Rossi, Ciro Priello, Eugenia Costantini, Marzio Honorato
Feature Film

MAD Entertainment has now in production:

CRAZY FOR FOOTBALL – MATTI PER IL CALCIO by Volfango De Biasi with Sergio Castellitto, Max Tortora, Antonia Truppo and Massimo Ghini
Tv Movie in co-production with Rai Fiction

FOOD WIZARDS
Animated Tv series in collaboration with Zocotoco and Rai Ragazzi

COME PRIMA by Tommy Weber with Francesco di Leva and Antonio Folletto
Feature Film in co-production with Alcatraz Films, Rosebud Entertainment Pictures and Rai Cinema.



YAYA & LENNIE
THE WALKING LIBERTY