

Nagasaki Circus

DIR. RACHEL PETERS / CANADA / 6:00 / FICTION

DIRECTOR
Rachel Peters

PUPPETEER
Lee Zimmerman

WRITER & NARRATOR
Martin Ewen

PRODUCERS
Judith Keenan
Rachel Peters



A masterful puppet show evocative of *Lost in Translation* takes viewers behind the curtain of a surreal circus, complete with chimp, elephant, poodles and stilt-walking pantomime.

ABOUT THE FILM: Nagasaki Circus is a masterful puppet show taking us behind the curtain of a circus act, complete with chimp, elephant, poodles and pantomime Lurk. True to his name, we find him lurking about, observing the creatures and people around him with seeming detachment. But Lurk is not at all indifferent – his search for meaning as he navigates “another day in the life” becomes our own.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKER:

Mentored by legendary animators like NFB's Kaj Pindal and John Weldon, and sometimes described as “The Next Caroline Leaf” in artistry and innovation, Rachel Peters strives to constantly push animation to new levels – always searching out the next twist in animated filmmaking, while inserting her own, personal “quirkiness” –an adjective which has become nearly synonymous with her work.



ABOUT THE WRITER & THE STORY: Martin Ewen is a clown on stilts, whose “job is to create wonder, joy and humour.” He was a guest performer in a Filipino circus in Nagasaki, and captured his experience online in a delightful story called Nagasaki Circus. Though his experience is unlike any that most of us ever have, the story is told in a fashion that suggests just another day at the office. You may argue that you work with chimps and peanut-brained poodles - but Ewen really does. When Canadian artist Rachel Peters was led to the story, she was compelled to bring it to life through puppetry and film.

BASED ON THE SHORT STORY

NAGASAKI CIRCUS

BY **MARTIN EWEN**

<http://www.antigravitytheatre.com/travel/nagasaki.html>

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