

The National Film & Television School
Beaconsfield Studios
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Beaconsfield
Buckinghamshire
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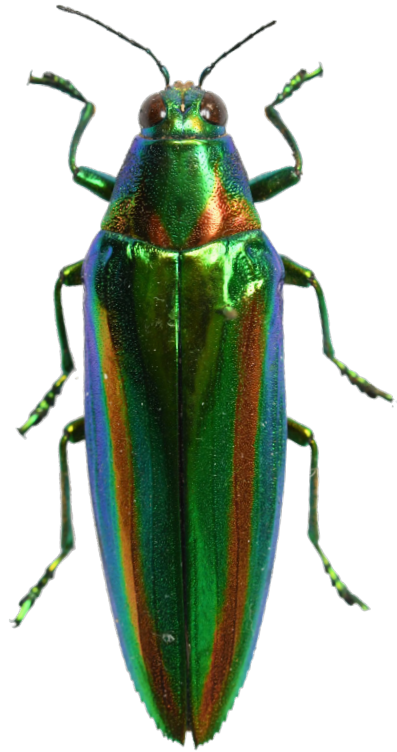
Producer: TOM HANNER



THE CARETAKERS

PRESS PACK

2021 | Length (21 minutes 26 seconds) | Colour | Dolby 5.1 | 16:9 | 1920 x 1080 HD | English (no subtitles)



Director/Cinematographer
T O M H A N N E R

Contact
tomhanner@hotmail.com
+44 7919 200234
@tom.hanner

Logline
'Beneath our feet lie the most important
animals on the planet'

Synopsis
A journey into the weird, wonderful and
truly astonishing lives of the small yet
mighty creatures who keep the world
turning - beetles

They have been successful for millions of
years, yet they're in serious trouble; what
does the future hold for these incredibly
important animals, and for us if they
disappear?

Editor

GIORGIA ZARANTONELLO

Composer

MORITZ WANGER

Sound Designer

RUANTH CHRISLEY THYSSEN
LUIS DEL POZO

Dubbing Mixer

HARRY J.N. PARSONS

ADR Mixer

DOMINIKA LATUSEK

Colourist

FRANCIS QURESHI

Key Crew



Music Recording Engineer

SAMUEL MORRIS

Animation

BEN CRESSWELL

Graphics

DIEGO PRANDO

Additional Camera

KATE WALLACE
JAKE DAVISON

VFX Composer

SAM PEARSON

VFX Producer

JAKE CALCUTT

Music Mixer

ADAM MILLER

About the film

“I had no idea that a ladybird is a beetle!” is the reaction I often get whenever I talk about this incredible group of insects, and it perfectly sums up why I wanted to make a film about them. Not many people really know what beetles get up to, other than perhaps the famous dung beetle that tirelessly scoops up elephant dung into a ball then seemingly goes about its day, and at this point people seem to end their line of inquiry here. What does it do with this ball? How does it know where it’s going? What’s the point of a dung beetle in the first place? These are the kind of questions I wanted to set out to answer and more; I wanted to show that these innocuous, inconspicuous insects are far more interesting and important than they appear.

As a Marine Biologist, it was my original intention to develop, pitch and ultimately make a film following the return of humpbacks to New York City as my NFTS graduation project, yet on the other side of the world, a then-unknown virus was about to wreak havoc. International travel, especially to America, would soon become impossible. So I had to come up with a new idea.

After a bit of research I knew that I wanted to make a film on beetles. Some of the images on the internet I found when I typed in ‘beetles’ were stunning; the array of colours and shapes and sizes were staggering, and the sheer number of different individuals immediately drew me into their world. I had to know more, and so I spent most of the summer travelling across the UK in search of the incredible beetle species found here, working around a minefield of obeying COVID-19 restrictions and negotiating shoots with institutions forcibly closed by the pandemic, notably the Natural History Museum. Through a series of lucky events, I was given very privileged access to the museum’s 3 million beetle specimens, including individuals from Darwin and Wallace’s personal collections. To say I was excited would be an understatement. A personal highlight of the entire production was having some unusual housemates throughout the year; I grew content with having a living, thriving beetle museum in my kitchen, with escapees turning up in the strangest of places, including my wallet.

The overall thing that struck me throughout this production is how characterful each beetle was, showing an intelligence I had no idea insects were capable of which only made me love them more. To be able to venture outside my comfort zone and do something incredibly rewarding like this has been the experience of a lifetime.

- Tom Hanner, 2020 -





Biographies





TOM HANNER

Tom is an award-winning British photographer, filmmaker and Naturalist. From a young age, Tom has been infatuated with the natural world, leading him to study a Masters degree in Marine Biology at the University of Southampton. With an MA in Directing & Producing Science and Natural History from the National Film & Television School, Tom is a highly motivated and creatively driven wildlife filmmaker with 9 years diving and 3 years self-shooting, self-producing filming experience. His first short film, JICHO, won the 'Best Documentary' award at the Studio 7 Independent Film Festival 2020.

www.tomhanner.com



GIORGIA ZARANTONELLO

Giorgia Zarantonello is a factual and fiction Film & TV editor based in the UK. After working in London for 3 years as an editor on short films and as an assistant editor on feature films, Giorgia is now studying a Master's Degree in Editing at the National Film and Television School, graduating in Spring 2022.

zarantonello@msn.com
07476 226652



MORITZ WANGER

Moritz is an award-winning composer, specialising in writing and producing bespoke music for film, television and games. Since his Masters Degree in Composing for Screen at the renowned National Film and Television School, Moritz has scored numerous films, Royal Television Award nominated programs, documentaries, games and advertisements for companies such as Mercedes, Audi, DJI and various fashion brands. He has been commissioned to produce work for labels such as Ninja Tune, Musicbed and BMG Germany.

moritz.wanger@gmail.com
www.moritzwanger.com



RUANTH CHRISLEY THYSSEN

Ruanth is a BAFTA and Oscar-nominated Sound Designer. He's a Dutch National holding an MA in Sound Design from the National Film & Television School in the UK. Ruanth has 5 years of industry experience as a Sound Designer and re-recording mixer, having worked for companies such as Adidas, Bremont, SEED Animation (London), and Shorts.tv (US)

www.ruanth.com
ruanth@yahoo.com



HARRY J. N. PARSONS

Harry is a Sound Editor with a passion for innovation, new media and practical techniques. His holistic approach to Sound seeks frictionless creative practice, enabled by a concrete technical understanding. This foundation in Sound technology and theory has allowed him to move between industries, from traditional Film and TV, through to Games and Immersive Media (VR).

www.harryjnparsons.com
harryjnparsons@gmail.com



DOMINIKA LATUSEK

Dominika is a UK-based Sound Designer with a strong passion for enhancing narratives through creative and innovative approaches to audio. Whilst further developing her portfolio at the National Film & Television School, her work varies from sound recording to editing and mixing for both short- and feature-length projects, including fiction, documentary, animation, science, natural history, radiodrama, TV and games.

dominika.latusek@icloud.com
07727 801180



FRANCIS QURESHI

Francis is an independent Colourist based in London, UK. Specialising in colour grades and finishing for film commercial and music video projects, Francis has previous experience in contemporary art, directing and camera technology. He has just completed an MA in Digital Effects at the National Film and Television School.

www.francisquehi.com
fq@francisquehi.com
07808 812364



BEN CRESSWELL

Ben is a BAFTA New Talent, Scotland winning animator. Graduate from Edinburgh College of Art, he has worked in TV and advertising, with extensive experience in Stop Motion and further training in 2D and 3D modelling. He is currently studying for an MA in Animation at the National Film and Television School.

Bensartbin@gmail.com
www.vimeo.com/bensartbin
07568 317316



DIEGO PRANDO

Diego was born and raised in Italy. Following his childhood passion for the art world, he attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice, where he studied Graphic Design. Deciding to specialize further, he undertook an MA in Motion Graphic Design at the National Film and Television School. Now he lives in London, looking for new opportunities of artistic expressions as a professional motion graphic designer.

www.diegoprando.net
diegoprando96@gmail.com



SAM PEARSON

Sam is a Digital Effects student from the National Film and Television School. He graduated from Staffordshire University in 2016 with a BSc in Cyber Security, but decided that a career in IT wasn't for him, and instead decided to follow his passions, sharpening the skills he learned via his hobbies to a professional grade in order to forge a new path, and has since worked on films like REQUIEM and WHEN SHE WAS GOOD as a composer, and on games like CO'VRT OPERATION and ENTROPY : ZERO as a lighter and VFX artist.

sam.pearson3@btinternet.com



JAKE CALCUTT

Jake is an Oxford-based Visual Effects Artist currently completing an MA in Digital Effects at The National Film and Television School. He graduated from the University of Essex in 2016 with a BA in Film and Creative Writing, spending his penultimate year studying at the University of Malta. He is currently developing his skills as a 3D artist and VFX Producer on various graduation films including, Requiem, When She Was Good, Caterpillar, Build Me Up and Do Not Feed The Pigeons.

jacalcutt@outlook.com

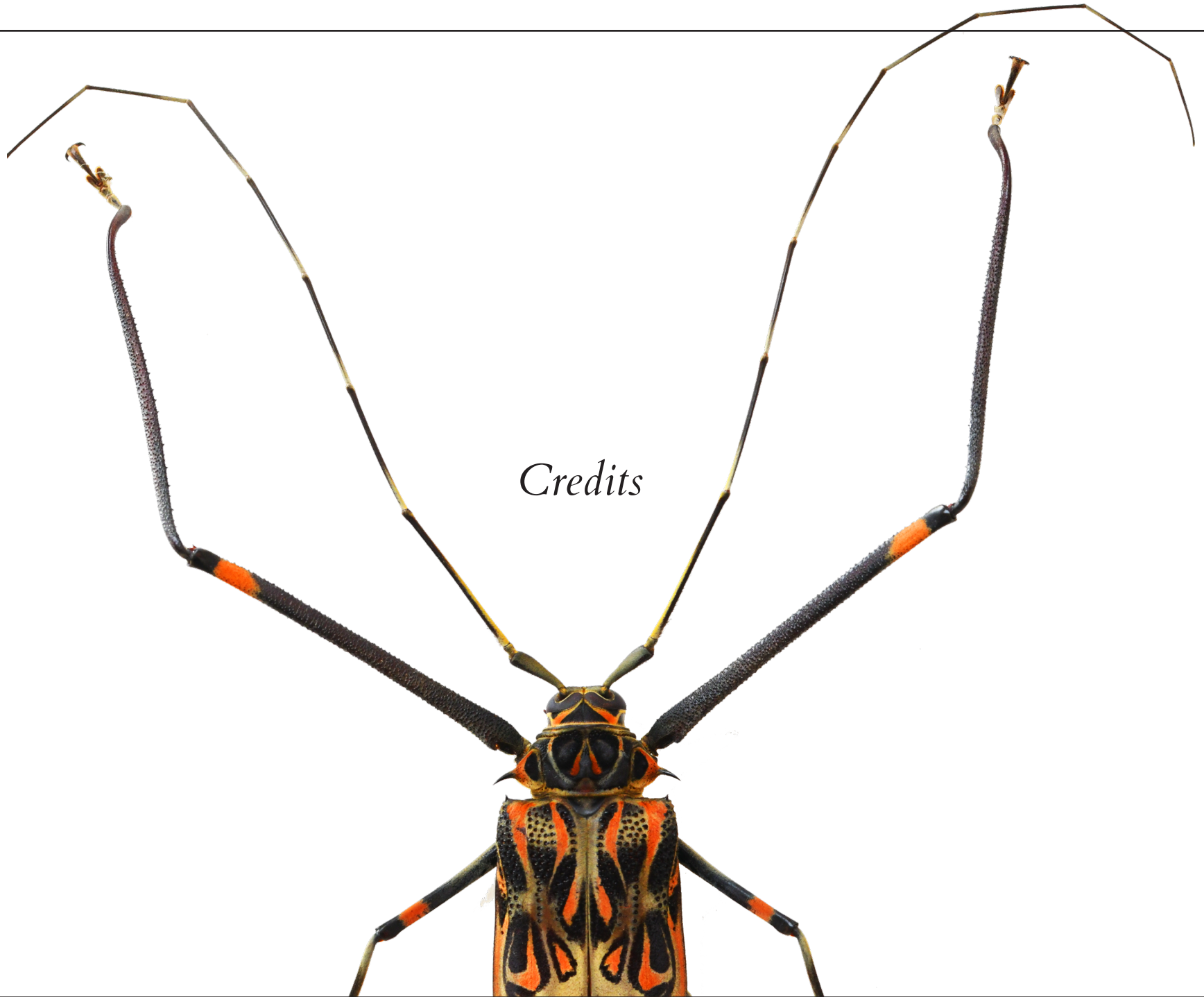


SAMUEL MORRIS

Sam has always had a passion for music and sound, playing saxophone and guitar from a young age. After studying his undergrad degree at the London College of Music he spent 5 years touring the world as a sound technician honing his technical knowledge and his ear for sound. Sam is now currently pursuing his passion for sound by studying an MA in Sound Design at National Film and Television School.

samuel_george@outlook.com
07804 159096

Credits



Director/Cinematographer

TOM HANNER

Editor

GIORGIA ZARANTONELLO

Composer

MORITZ WANGER

Sound Designer

RUANTH CHRISLEY
THYSSEN

Dubbing Mixer

HARRY J.N. PARSONS

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DOMINIKA LATUSEK

Colourist

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Animation

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DIEGO PRANDO

Additional Camera

KATE WALLACE
JAKE DAVISON

VFX Composer

SAM PEARSON

VFX Producer

JAKE CALCUTT

Music Recording Engineer

SAMUEL MORRIS

Music Mixer

ADAM MILLER



Musicians

JAMES WIDDEN
JOHN DICKSON
ELEANOR PARRY-DICKSON
ALISON HOLFORD
SAMUEL RAPLEY

Thanks to

Dr EMILY BAIRD
THE NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM
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No animals were harmed
in the making of this film

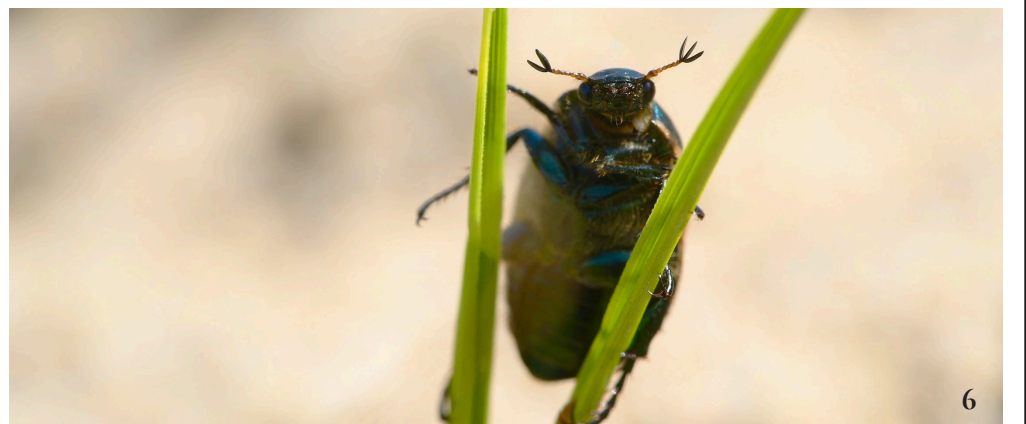
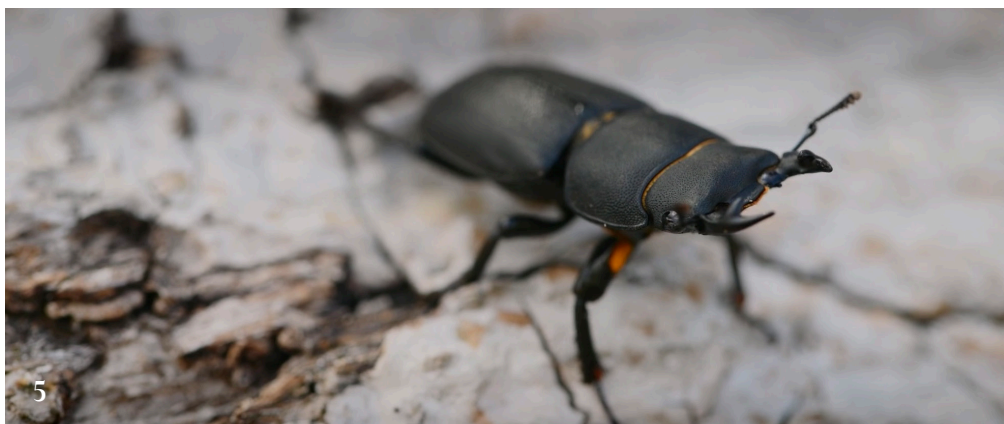
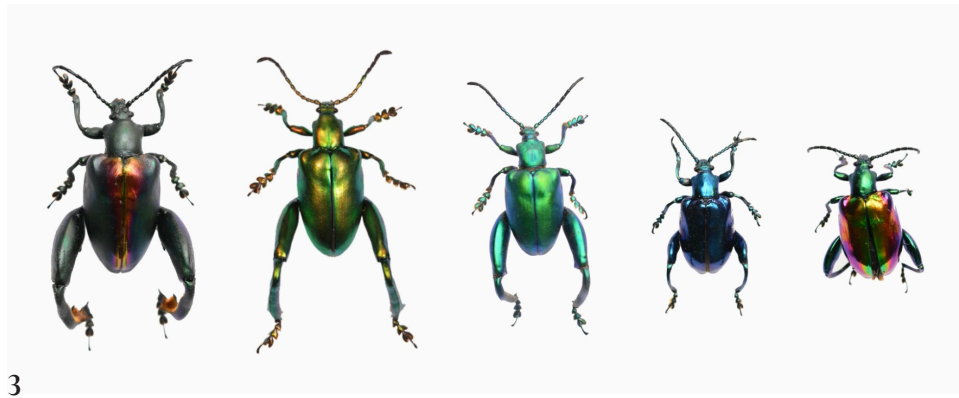
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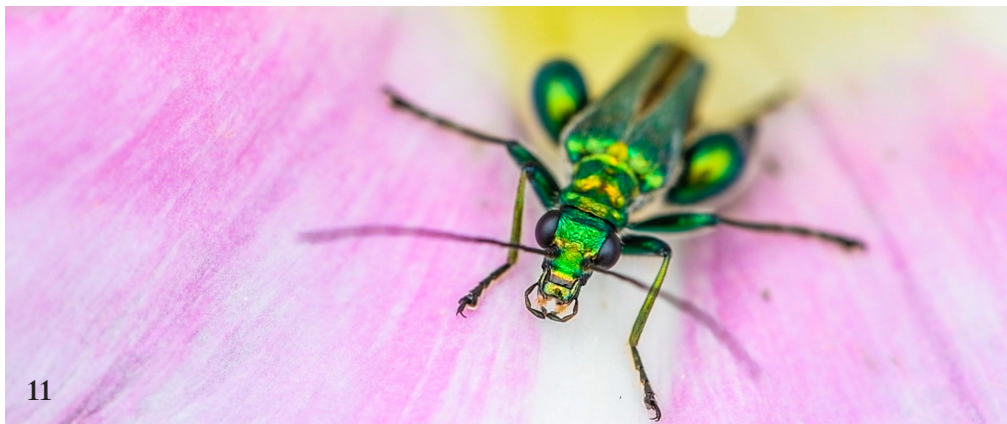
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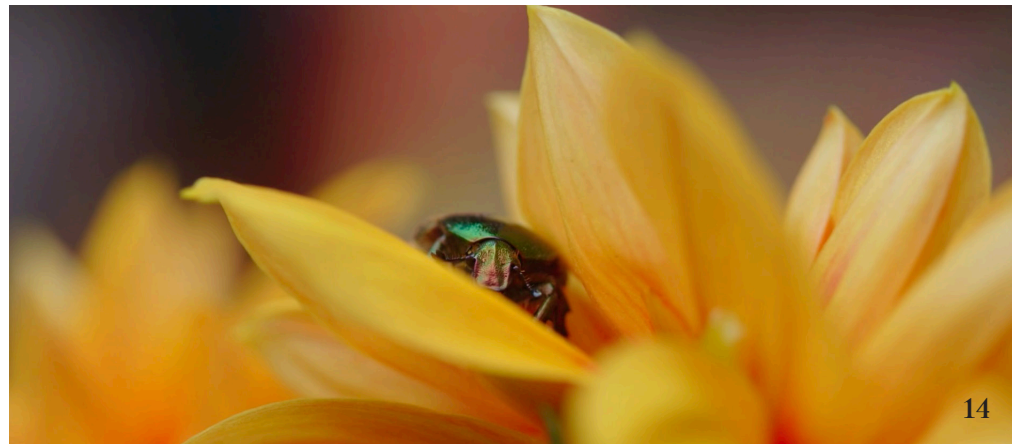
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Stills









1. Lesser stag in an unfamiliar human world
2. Like butterflies, beetles also undergo metamorphosis to enter an adult stage
3. Frog-legged beetles are a great example of the spectrum of colours the Coleoptera come in
4. Different larval stages of a beetle grub
5. The Lesser stag is smaller than its more famous cousin, the Greater stag
6. The Dune chafer lives its entire life on sand dunes
7. The wasp-mimicking black & yellow longhorn beetle
8. Pollinating soldier beetles mating during summer
9. Ladybird larvae hatching from their eggs
10. Close-up of a weevil's compound eye
11. The aptly-named Thick-legged beetle, although it is only the males that possess the large thighs
12. The lavender munching rosemary beetle
13. Wildflower fields are often teeming with numerous beetle species
14. Rose chafer beetle basking in the morning sun
15. Weevils have notoriously ferocious appetites
16. Rose chafers are also important decomposers
17. The deadwood habitat of the lesser stag



Posters



Beneath our feet lie the most important animals on the planet...

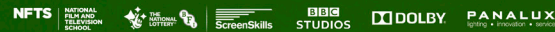


THE NATIONAL FILM & TELEVISION SCHOOL
Presents

THE CARETAKERS

Director & Cinematographer TOM HANNER
Editor GIORGIA ZARANTONELLO - *Composer* MORITZ WANGER - *Sound Designer* RUANTH CHRISLEY THYSSEN
Production Sound Mixer HARRY PARSONS & ADAM MILLER - *Colourist* FRANCIS QUIRESHI - *Animation* BEN CRESSWELL - *Graphics* DIEGO PRANDO
Voiceover Recordist DOMINIKA LATUSEK - *Additional Cinematography* JAKE DAVISON & KATE WALLACE

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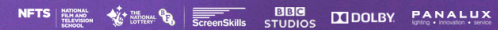


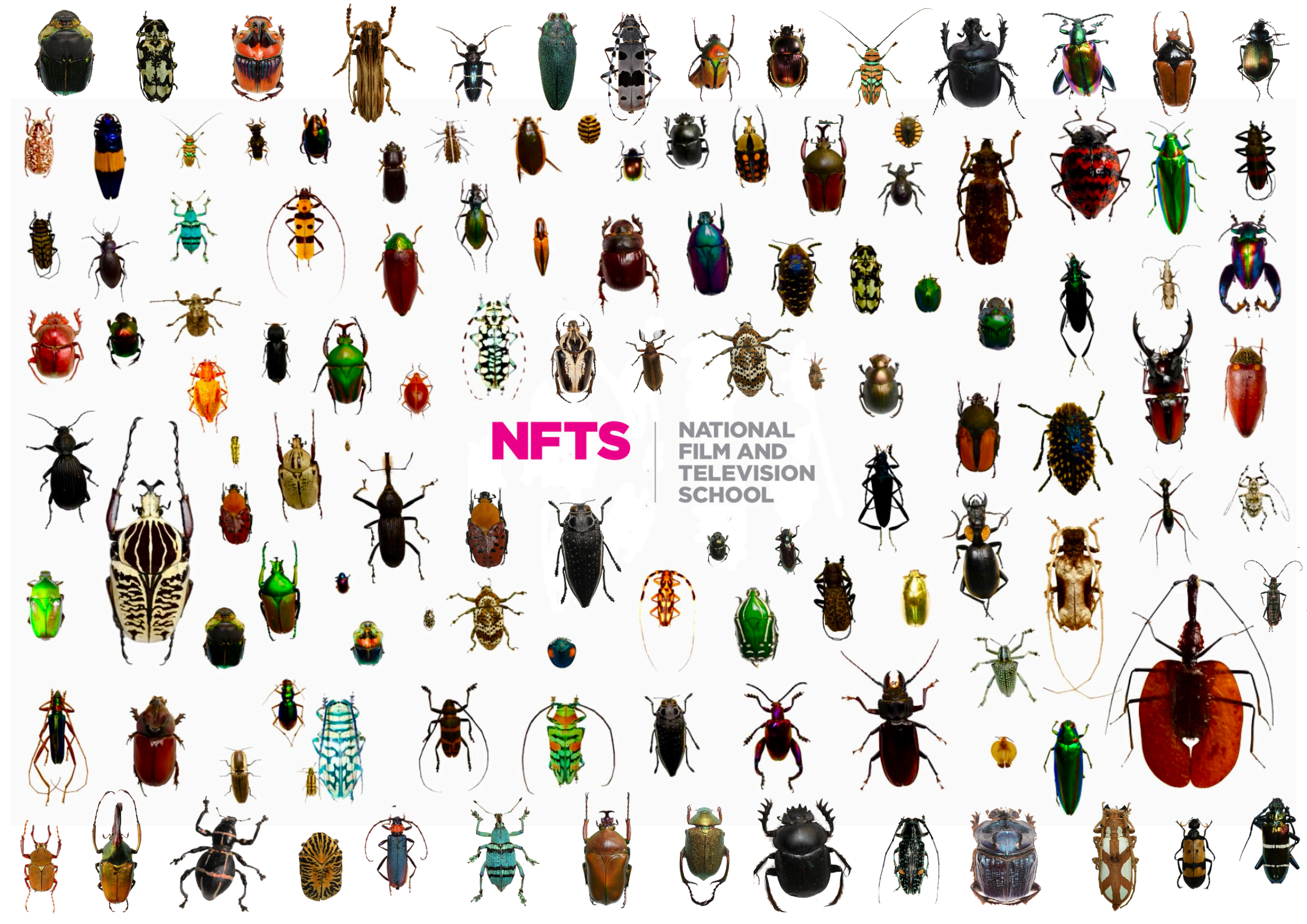
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Voiceover Recorder DOMINIKA LATUSEK - *Additional Cinematography* JAKE DAVISON & KATE WALLACE

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