



KERATIN

A FILM BY

Charlie Jimenez Catarina Dias Silva Scarlett Wang
Isobel O'Gorman Stella Rosenkvist



LOGLINE

A separation creates new beginnings

SHORT SYNOPSIS

After a mating of elements, two bodies grieve over a lost third: a child separated from their womb. The three bodies regain connection in a wombic journey, bound by their keratin. This spiritually networks the three into an eternal fusion of a collective body.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Keratin is a short poetic music film about the primordial journey of connection, a dance of elements which journeys the threshold between beings and elements.

Keratin is told through an assemblage of gestures and vignettes representing the spiritual and hormonal cycle of the body within the spiritual realm of the womb. The film employs a palette of figurative details: hair, skin, wood, milk, and water as fused fluidities reflecting the amniotic synthesis between elements and senses. The film explores a marriage between elements within a spiritual womb, represented by two primordial mothers, and a recently separated child. The child journeys through their elements to become inseminated and fused to the primordial mothers the three assimilate into a chimera.

Keratin is a visual response to Gavin Higgins' piece *Dacw 'Nghariad* - a Welsh love song based on *Lyn y Fan Fach* "little lake (near) the peak"; the short is inspired by the 'Lady of the Lake's setting of a lake-dream experienced within the water.

DIRECTOR STATEMENT

The experience of grief is a process of re-igniting connection, this is an experience my team felt coming out of lockdown in August 2021, each of us were going through slow recovery from a period of pain and longing. The body became an intimate surrounding, many unexperienced interactions becoming feverish vignettes in our dreamscapes - the source of which inspired a collective melancholy each of my group shared once re-emerging out of our homes. Nature had become a more sentient setting, a recurring image many of us felt was the sensation of nature replacing our anatomy - which inspired our interest to create a film emphasizing the journey of connection through the elements of the body and soul.

When we first heard Gavin Higgins' piece 'Dacw 'Nghariad I' we were struck with a primordial nostalgia to a place which reminded our actors of their Nordic roots, which inspired the films' aesthetical setting.

We likened Keratin as a 'spiritual-shamanic-sexual' journey of assimilation, merging associations of the primordial, otherworldly, and mythological into a process of braided connection. We spoke of our characters like alchemical properties: bodies of atoms who through the struggle of their materials: flesh, hair, & milk would synthesize into a bond of elements.

GAVIN HIGGINS on Dacw 'Nghariad i – May, 2020

Dacw 'Nghariad i (there is my love) is a beautiful welsh folk song that I discovered whilst working on a cantata for the Scottish Chamber Orchestra based on the Welsh myth of Lyn y Fan Fach. The song is about longing; longing for something that is unreachable and distant, for the moment at least. At this particular moment in time the sentiment feels universal: There is my love down by the orchard. Oh, how I wish I was there myself.



FILMMAKER BIO



Charlie Jimenez (They/Them) born in Chelsea, London

Charlie is a London based filmmaker, artist, and performer whose work revolves around mythology, shamanism, identity, memory, and dreamscapes through poetical, surrealist, and metaphysical narratives.

Charlie is in their second year of study at Central Saint Martins (UAL), studying BA "Performance: Design & Practice" - Charlie is currently working on a surrealist pixilation animation with the working title 'The Waiting Kitchen'.

FILMOGRAPHY

2019 **A FUGUE** – Won 'Best Experimental Film' at PHYFF 2020

2021 **CANDLE** – Selected at Octopus Marquee

2021 **KERATIN** – Selected at London Shorts Film Festival

2024 **THE WAITING KITCHEN** (IN POST-PRODUCTION)

[@anetherealbooth](#)



Catarina Dias Silva (She/He), born in Portugal,

Catarina is a London based multidisciplinary fashion designer, he creates liminal spaces where fashion and creative direction meet. Catarina works with recycled fabric to create textural and multidimensional garments taking inspiration from the bizarre and unworldly art.

Catarina is currently in his second year of study at Central Saint Martin (UAL), studying BA "Performance: Design & Practice", Catarina is undergoing several internships working for independent designers and stylists as well as preparing for his fashion collection in the upcoming scholar year.

[@catarinadiasilva](#)



Scarlett Wang (They/Them) born in Beijing, China.

Scarlett is a filmmaker, artist, and performer whose work revolves around Chinese Wuist shamanism, myths, nature and darker emotional experiences through metaphysical, poetic visuals and folktale-like narratives, to create a dreamy memory that is "not yet there".

Scarlett is in their last year of study at Central Saint Martins (UAL), studying BA "Performance: Design and Practice" - Scarlett is currently working on a surrealist shamanism short film with the working title "Sorrow after Departure".

[@scarlettwangoo](#)



Stella Rosenkvist (She/Her), Born in Gotland, Sweden.

Stella is a multidisciplinary artist and designer based in Berlin. Graduating her last year at Central Saint Martins (UAL), studying BA "Performance: Design & Practice", she works on an intermedial plane of sound, movement, costume and installation through both video art and live performance. Focusing on topics like womb awareness, forest intelligence, water consciousness and ancestral healing often in connection to her Nordic roots. Stella mainly presents her work in her art duo together with Isobel O'Gorman.

[@afhafv](#)



Isobel O'Gorman (She/Her), born in Northern Sweden and based in Berlin. She is currently graduating remotely from Central Saint Martins (UAL), BA "Performance: Design & Practice".

Isobel is a movement artist, filmmaker, and crochet designer who focus on topics regarding deconstructing systematic cultural and ancestral patterning, moving into primordial femininity, and drawing references from old Norse practices. Isobel presents her work in her art duo together with Stella Rosenkvist.

[@af_pearlaly](#)

CREDITS

CAST

CHARLIE JIMENEZ CHILD

ISOBEL O'GORMAN, STELLA ROSENKVIST PARENTS

CREW

DIRECTOR & WRITER **CHARLIE JIMENEZ, CATARINA DIAS SILVA, SCARLETT WANG, STELLA ROSENKVIST, ISOBEL O'GORMAN**

PRODUCER **STELLA ROSENKVIST**

CINEMATOGRAPHY **SCARLETT WANG**

EDITOR **CHARLIE JIMENEZ, SCARLETT WANG**

COSTUME DESIGN **CATARINA DIAS SILVA**

MUSIC

Dacw 'Nghariad I by **GAVIN HIGGINS**
PERFORMED BY **THOMAS GOULD**

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Shooting Format **DIGITAL, 1080 HD**

Aspect ratio **16:9**

Audio Format **5.1, Stereo**

Length **3:50**

Colour, No Spoken Language

CONTACT

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