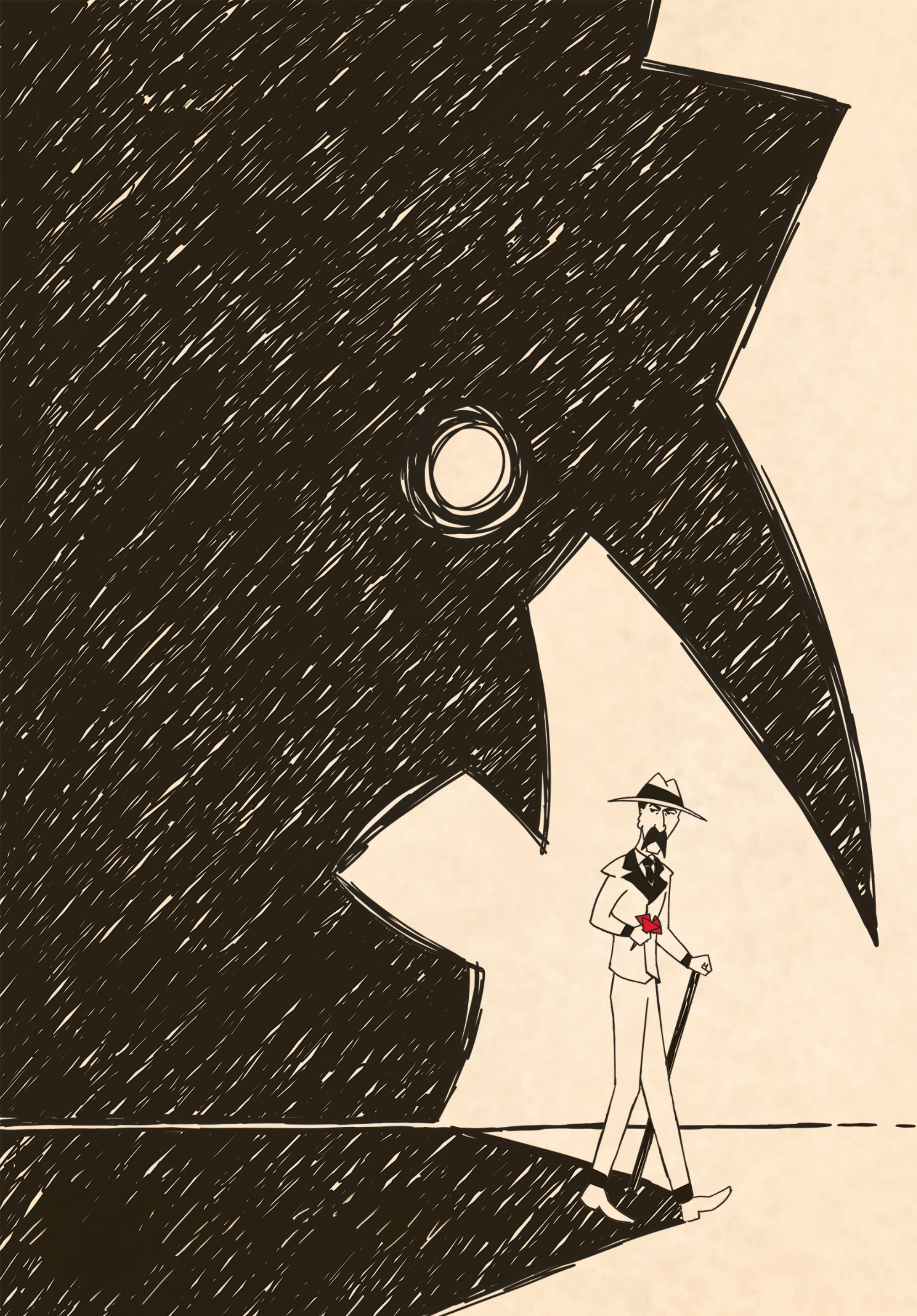


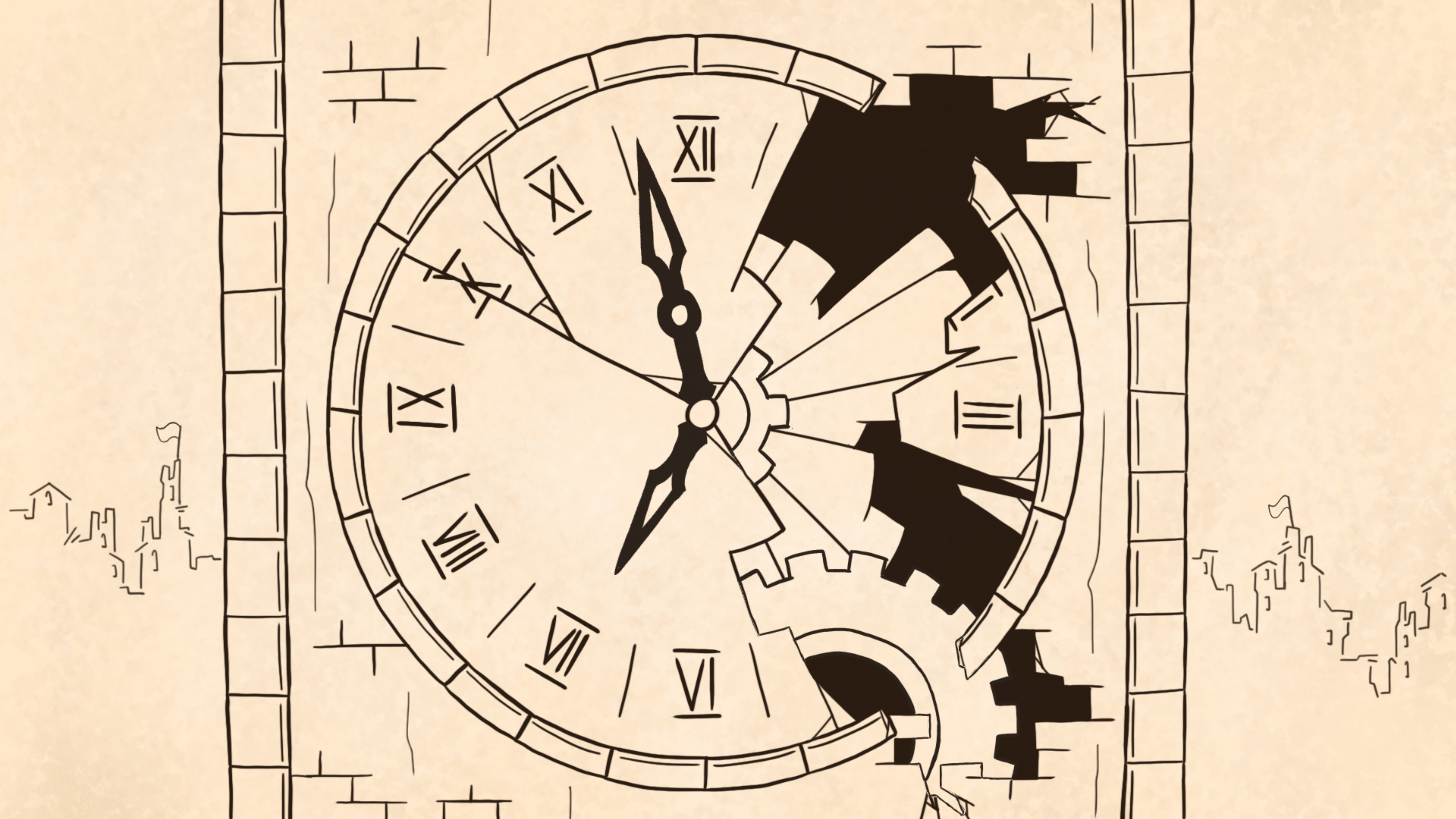


the Visit
a film by matei salomia



Synopsis


A World War I veteran roams a destroyed city on his way to reunite with his former comrades in arms. He is closely followed by his own shadow, in an attempt to overwhelm him. Growing increasingly ominous, the shadow proceeds to claim his friends and eventually takes him over. But the friendship of those who are gone gives him the strength to face his survivor's guilt and take the first steps towards reconciling with the past.





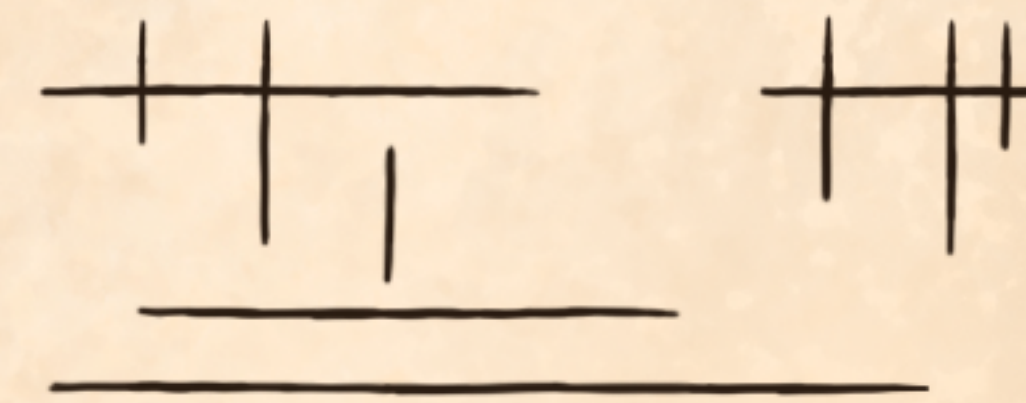
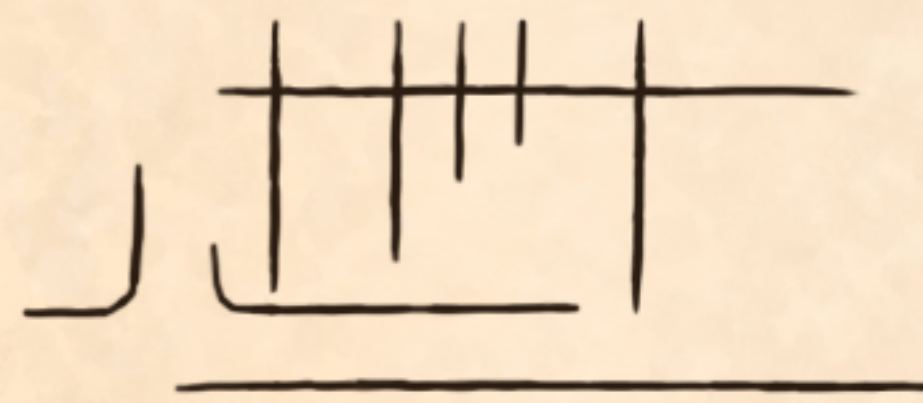
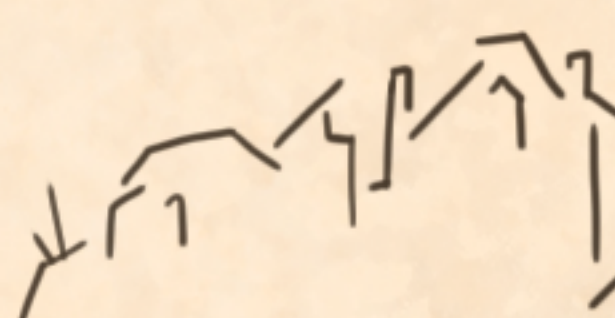
Director's Statement / Concept

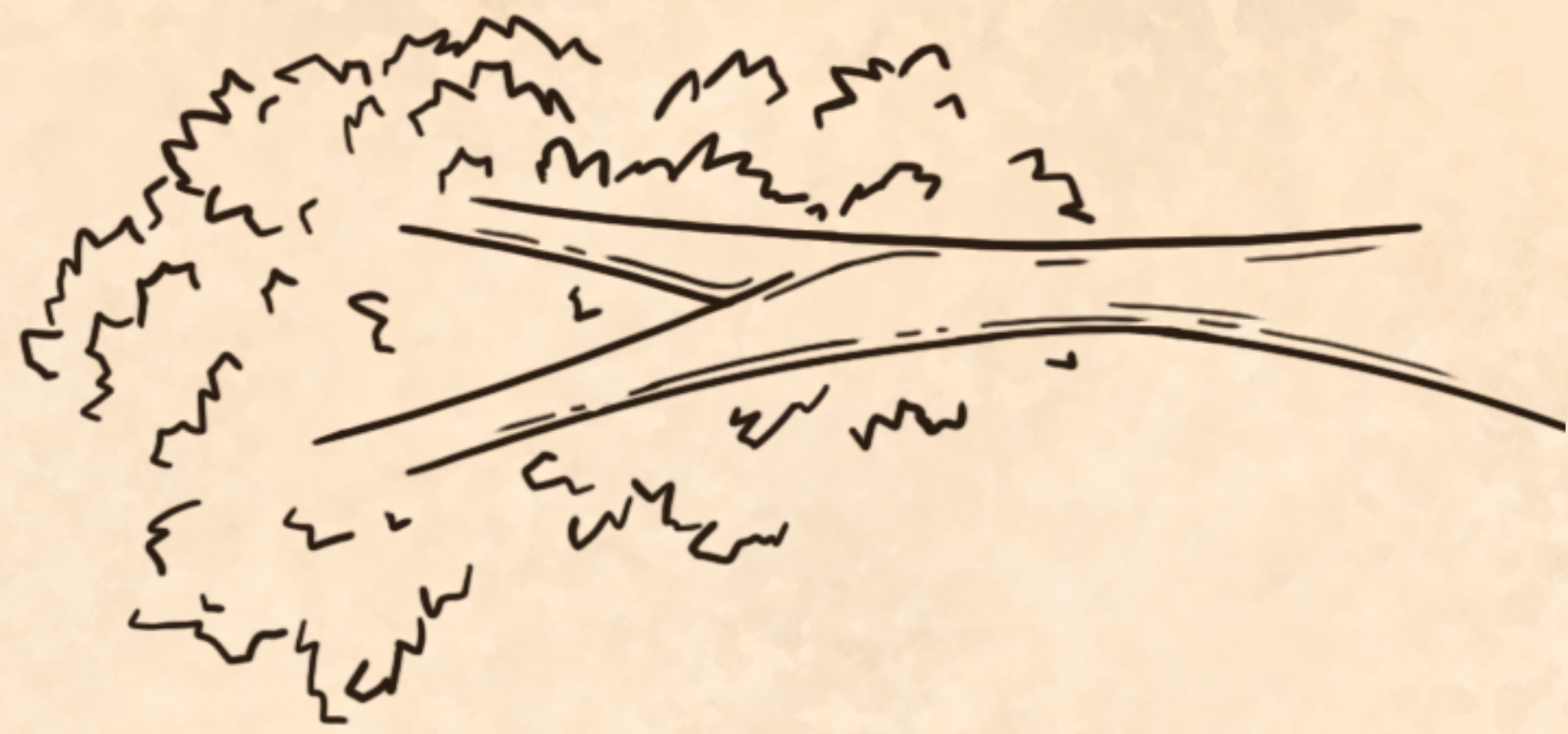
Following an idea that first emerged in 2018, marking 100 years since the conclusion of the Great War - originally materialized in the form of a short comic strip - with this film I set out to represent a **visual metaphor of war trauma**.



Considered to be the bloodiest war of the modern era, the First World War produced the highest number of casualties in history and, just like any other war, generated a collective trauma that is still palpable one hundred years later. In the context of present-day wars that broke out as "The Visit" was still taking shape, the **film's theme extends beyond its original historical reference**, making its significance painfully relevant and therefore universal.

"The Visit" approaches its central theme, war trauma, in a distinctive way, following a character who struggles with the emotional turmoil of **painful memories - personalized by his own shadow**, which appears as a permanent looming threat. Through this shadow, the audience is immersed in **the war veteran's deep state of mind**, as the monstrous apparition channels the character's inner experience. Still, the shadow becomes a part of **the process of acceptance and healing** that completes the symbolic journey of those burdened by trauma.

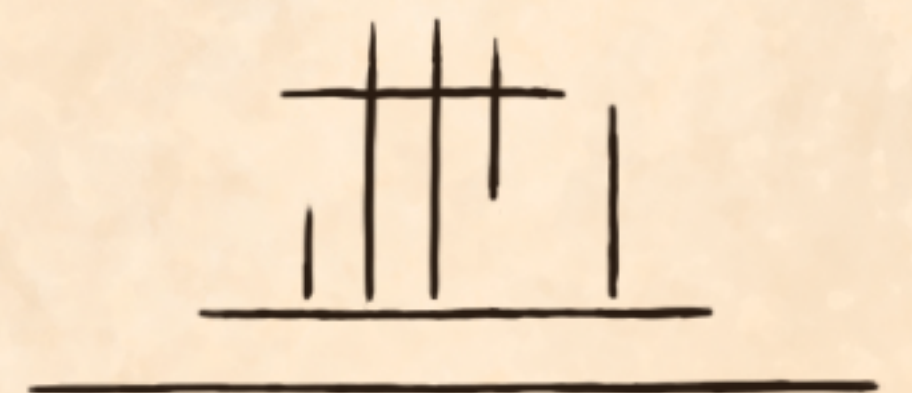
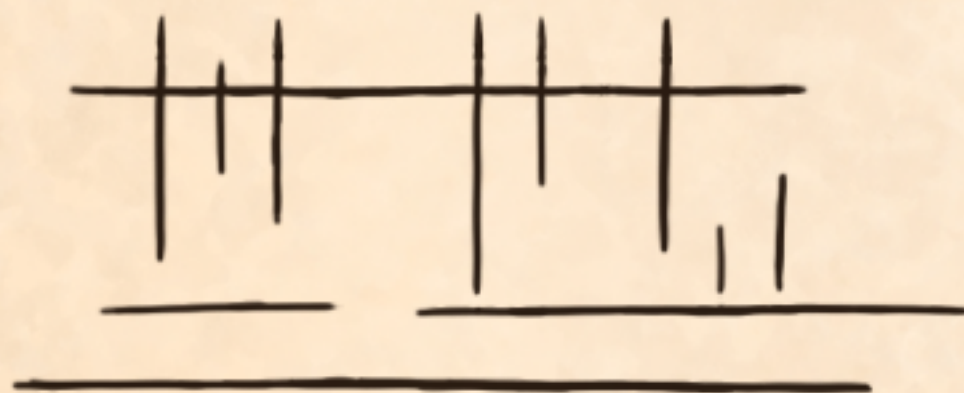
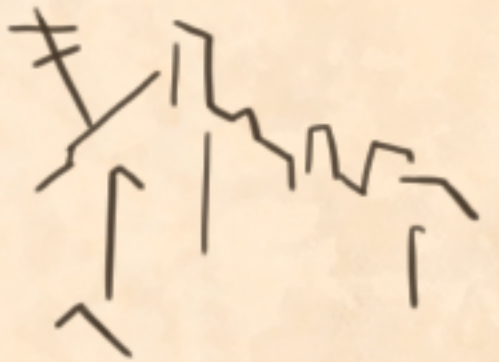


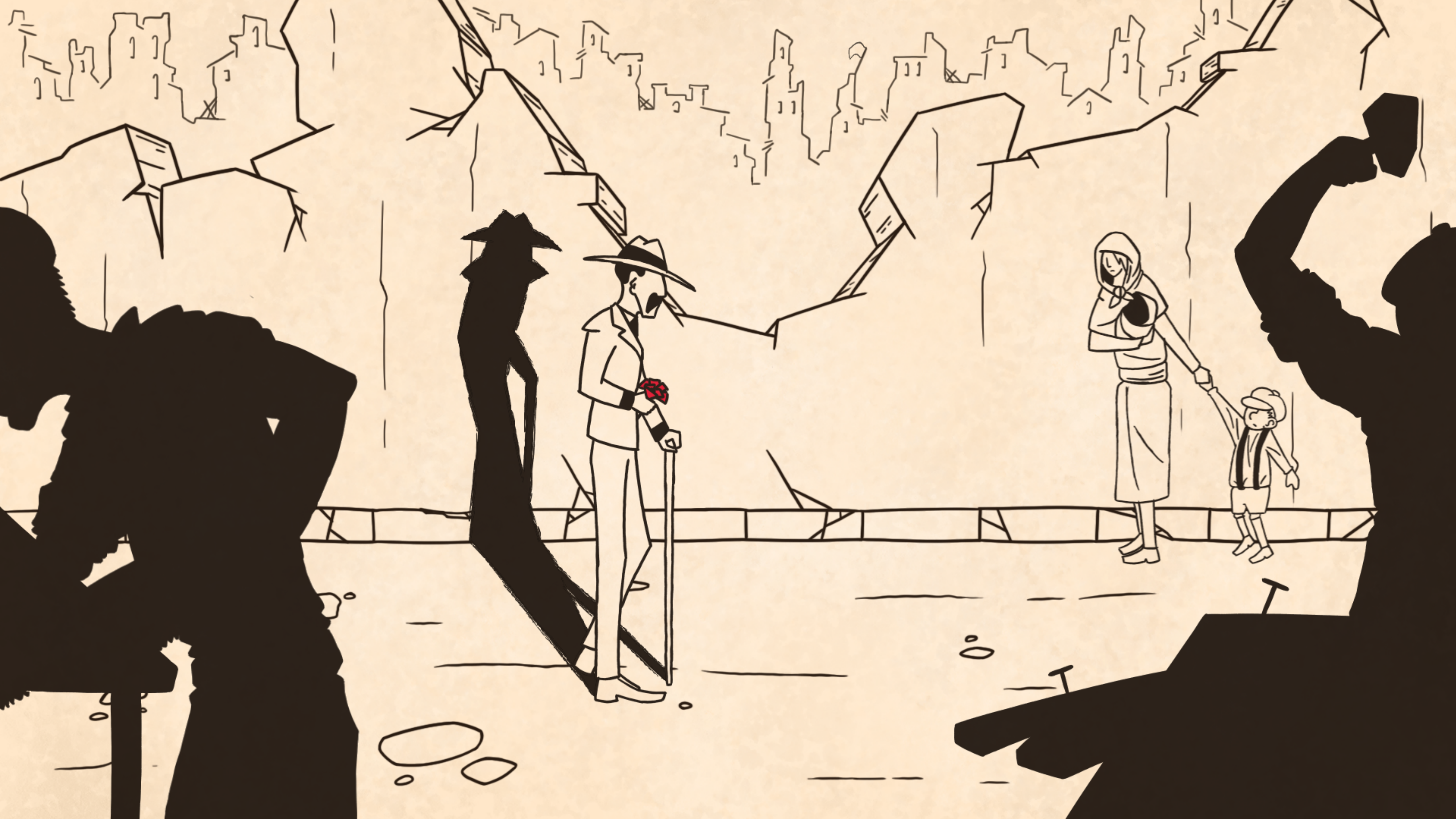


The **graphic style** is inspired by the art made by soldiers serving on the front line during the First World War, black-line drawings and hatching on time-weathered paper. The animation takes on the black and white tones of these drawings, the only splash of color being the red poppies, a symbol of the victims of the war.

The **background** reflects the two levels of the story: the real one, illustrated by a detailed, more concrete setting of the ruined city, and the imaginary one, represented by a minimalist, understated setting.

The **soundtrack** also overlaps two layers: one objective, treated in a realist manner, of the city rebuilding, of the return to normality, and the other subjective, belonging to the past, the inner feeling and psychology of the character - an oppressive soundscape accompanied by the threatening sound of the shadow, which increases in intensity as its persistence is emphasized.





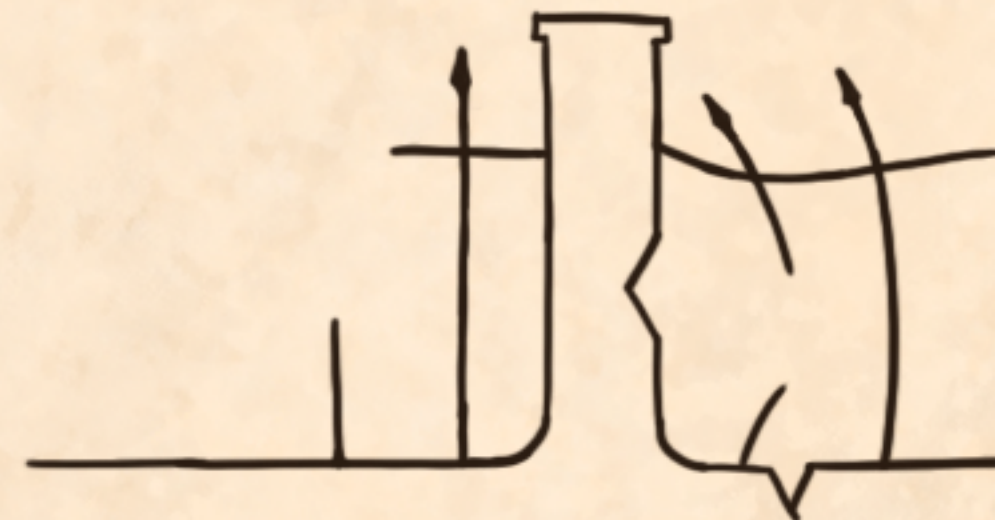
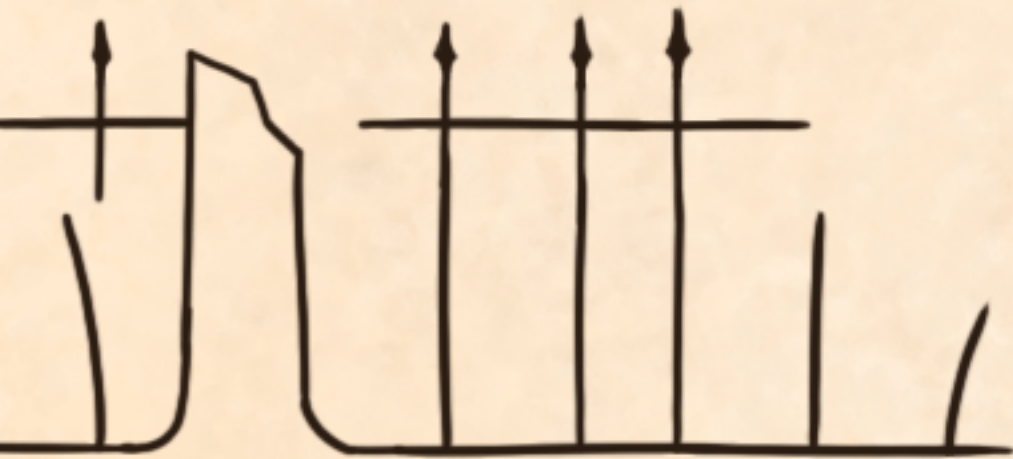
Matei Salomia

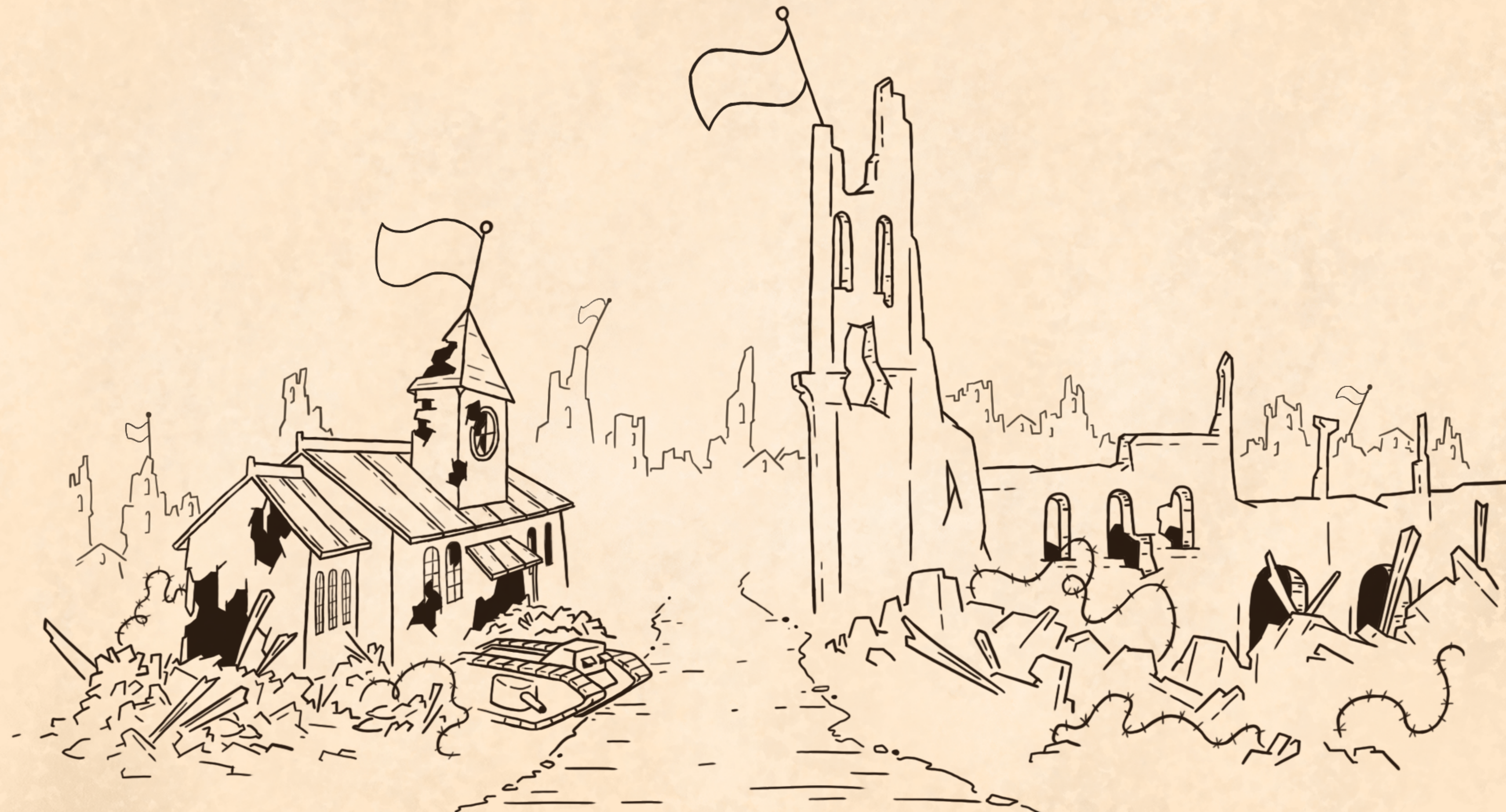
director, script-writer, animator

Born in Bucharest, Romania in 1997, he studied Graphic Design at the National University of Arts and completed a MA in Animation Film at the National University of Theatre and Film "I.L. Caragiale" in Bucharest.

As a child he was always interested in drawing and in his teenage years also developed a passion for graffiti, finding a self-expressive outlet for his otherwise introverted temperament. In animation he found the perfect medium to support his particular approach to drawing and storytelling, continuing to experiment with freehand techniques, which he prefers, in combination with digital tools.

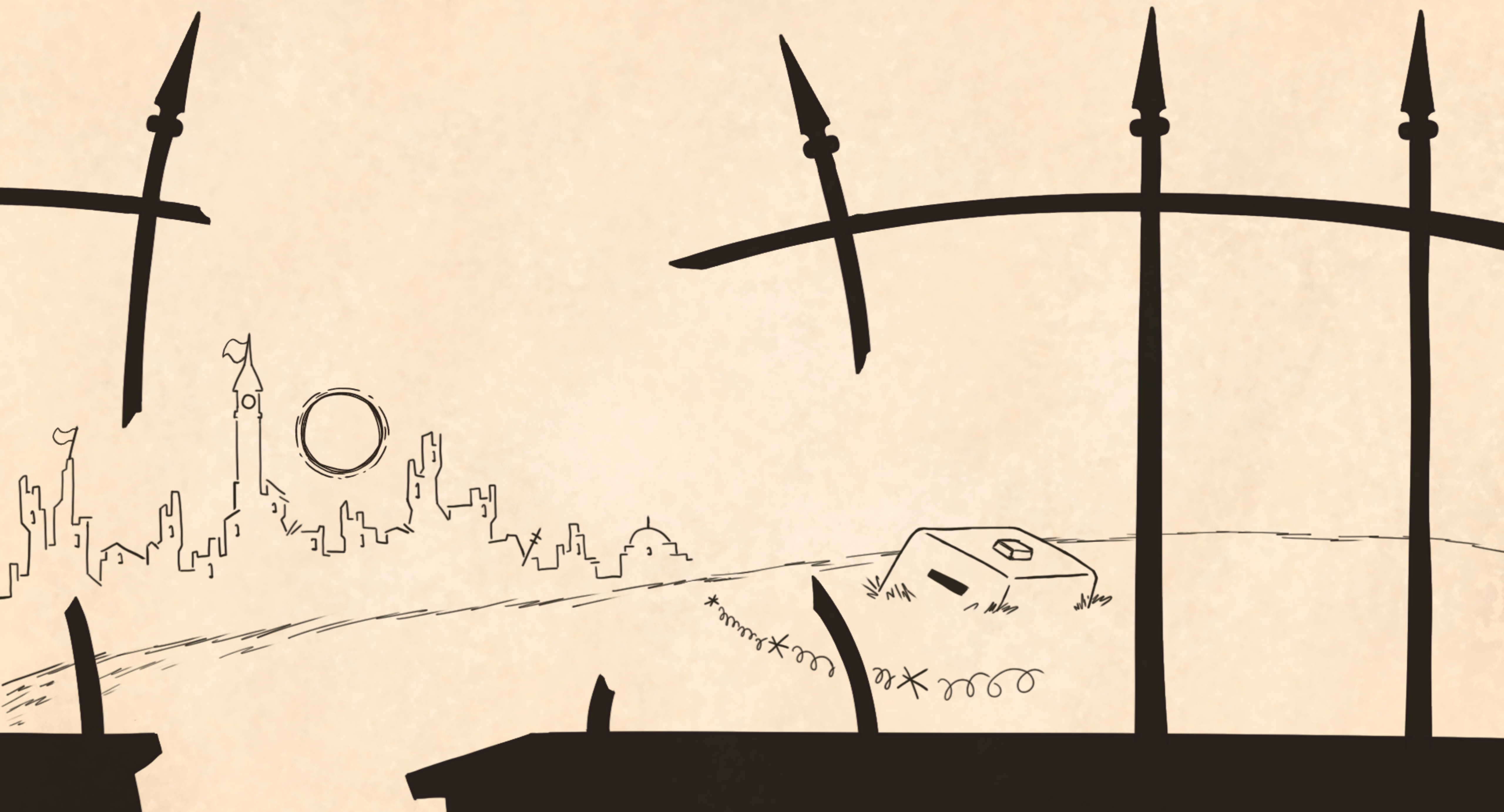
"The Visit" is his graduation film and his first short, which premiered in the Anim'est 2023 International Animation Film Festival in the Romanian Short Film Competition section.





English title: **The Visit**
Original title: **Vizita**
Year of production: **2023**
Duration: **07:09 min**
Country of origin: **Romania**
Genre: **Animation, Drama**
Techniques: **2D frame-by-frame**
Screening format: **DCP 1920x1080**
Sound: **5.1 surround**
Aspect ratio: **16:9**
No dialogue





lee*house*

0902*re

Directing, Script, Animation: Matei Salomia

Voice Acting: Alexandru Milies

Music by: Matei Vasilache, Compoziție Originală

Animation: Ioana Mirea

Backgrounds: Alexandra Pășcan

Sound Design, Sound Effects Editor: Alexandru Milies

Re-recording Mixer: Matei Vasilache

Additional Sound Editing: Cornel Ciuleanu,
Victor Panfilov,
Daniel Tudor

Coordinating Professors: Matei Branea

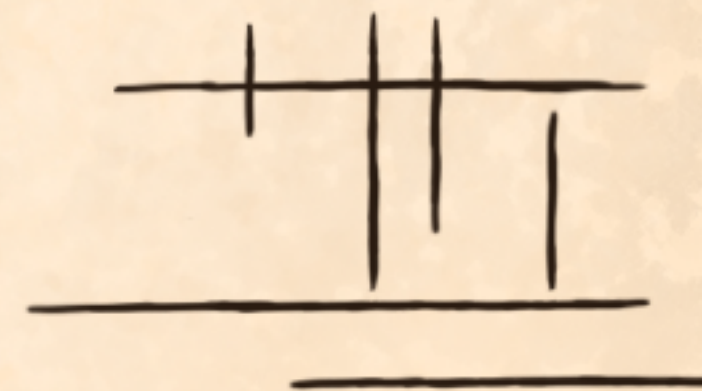
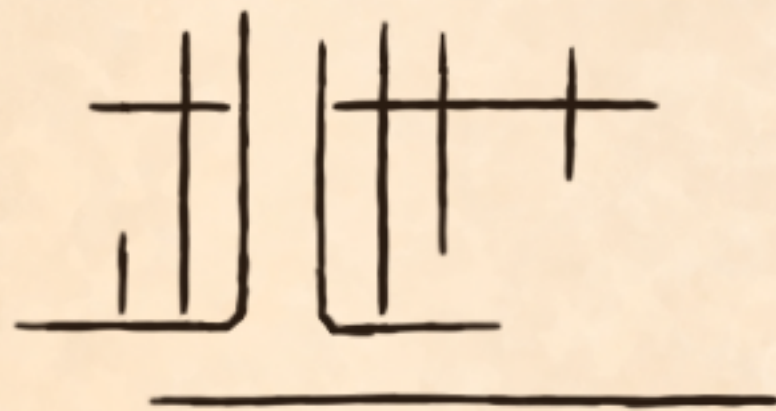
Sound Professors: Dan-Ștefan Rucăreanu

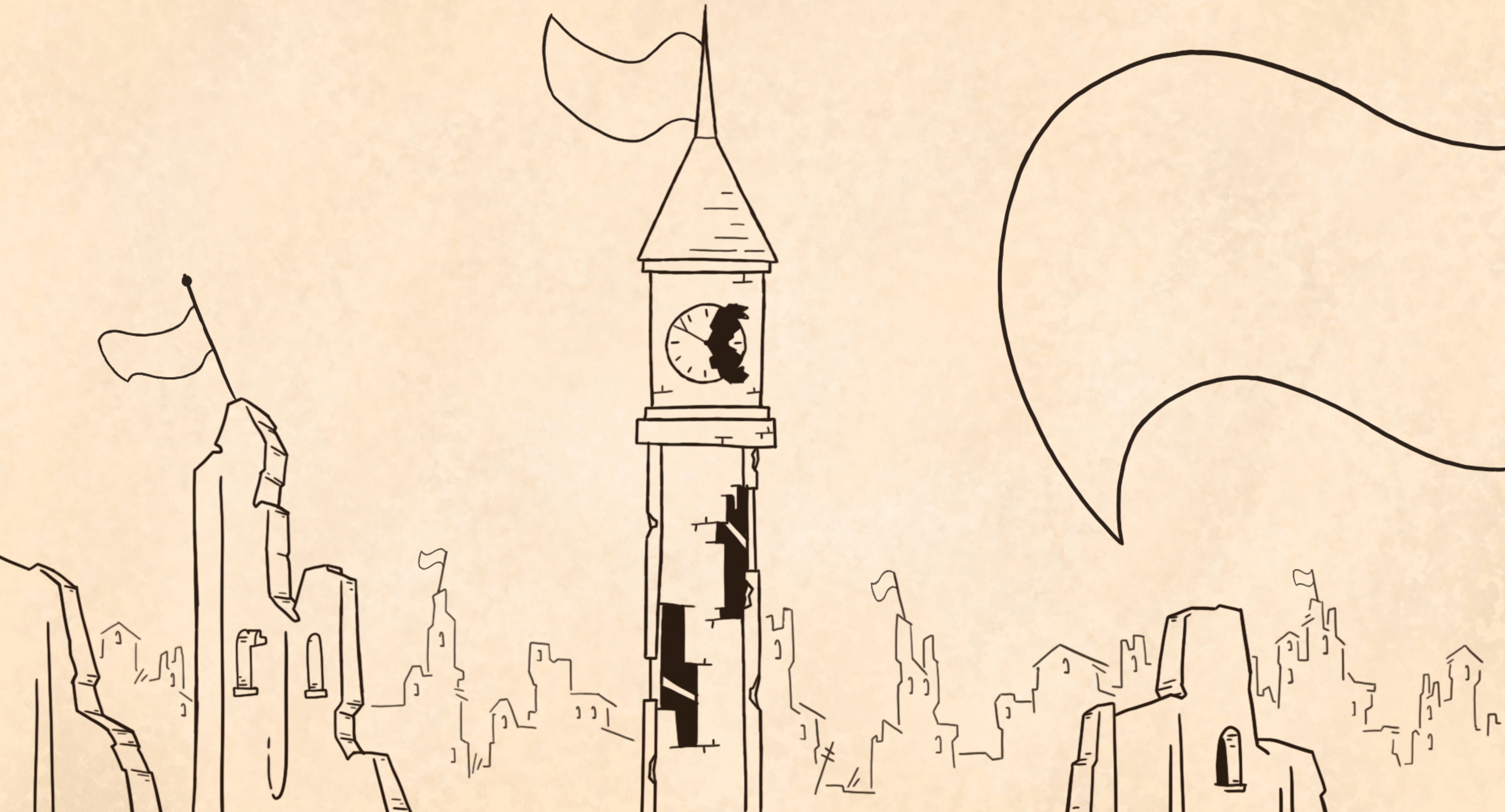
Didactic Team: Alexandru Berceanu
Constantina Mihăilă
Dana Duma
Dilmana Yordanova
Laura Pop
Mirela Vlad
Radu Igazsag
Radu Pop
Valeriu Căliman
Victor Velculescu

UNATC Production Coordinator: Martha Marmeliuc

Iulia Stoianovici

UNATC Studio Director: Marius Iacoba







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