

My Beloved

Directed by

Paolo Franz

Synopsis

My Beloved tells the story of John, a soldier, and Janet, a medical doctor, two lonely souls, trying to find their place in a world of pain and sorrow, because of war. Will the unfathomable fate let them breathe, after spending too much time fighting against them?



Still images from the animated short

The Director

Paolo Franzelletti, aka **Paolo Franz**, was born in Larino, a small town in the center south of Italy, on the 2nd June 1987; he's a Medical Doctor, but he considers himself, first of all, an artist, a self taught one. His love and passion for drawing, painting, animating you can say they were born on the day his mother gave him birth. Although he did not become a professional artist (unfortunately things never go the way you want), he never gave up and, believing in himself more than ever, brick by brick, step by step, day by day, at the age of 37, he completed his first (hoping won't be the last) 2d animated short film, after 4 years of hard work, shaping a vision he had in mind for a long time. He lives and works in Rome with his wife and he'll soon become a father.

About the film

The idea of the film came up to me maybe 10 years ago; I had a clear view of the story I wanted to tell, so I put it down in a storyboard form, without a written script; but something was not working, so I stopped; I didn't even have enough money to do it, neither enough training to do an animated short.

Years passed, I started working professionally as a M.D, until Covid-19 and quarantine came in: during those quiet and silent days, I started working on the project again, until the story was ready; I was too. With my savings, I bought a graphic table, animation softwares, and anything else I thought was useful to make a decent short film. But something was missing: voices. In my mind, the ideal short was the silent one, with only music; I thought the classical music piece I wanted to use (Edward Grieg's "Last Spring") suited well, but the main characters didn't have enough depth. That's why I decided to give them voices; I rewrite the script with cristal clear dialogues. And two songs. Time was right to express myself the best I could; I'm a singer, too. And I do write music by ear.

"My Beloved" is also the title of the main song; John version is sung by me, while the Janet part is sung by **Laura Rondinella**, a talented actress I found on Voices.com, a giant platform of voice actors; **Spencer Sekulin** provided John speaking voice, while **Brandon P. Jenkins** plays the General, the "visible" antagonist.

Soundtrack was entirely created by myself; I wrote by ear some themes, wich you can hear in the film; some of them are variations of the main theme song.

2d animation was made in the traditional and digital way, using Clip Studio Paint and Blender (for 3d elements); Da Vinci Resolve is the main software for editing.

Cost of production: around 2000 \$.

Cast

Janet: Laura Rondinella

John: Spencer Sekulin and Paolo Franz (singing voice)

General: Brandon P. Jenkins

Boy: Paolo Franz

"My Beloved (theme song)

Music and Lyrics by Paolo Franz

Score composed by

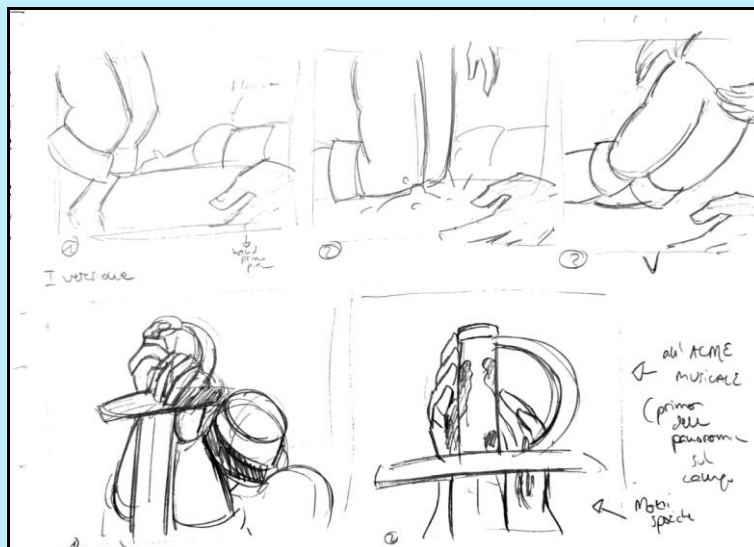
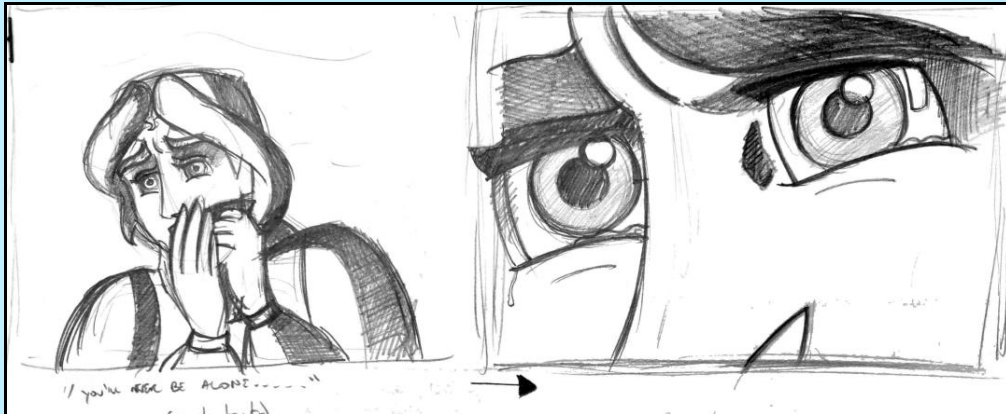
Paolo Franz

Produced and directed by

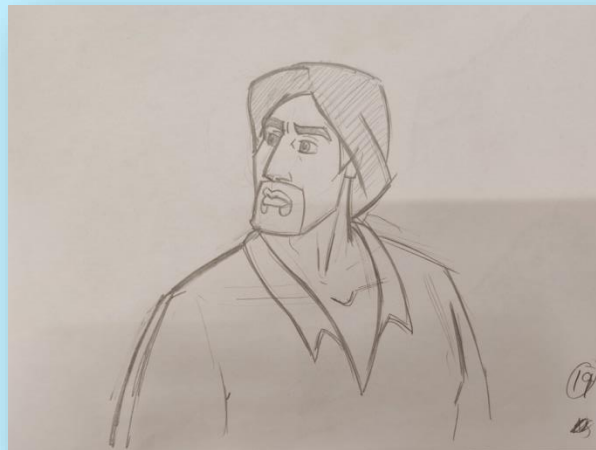
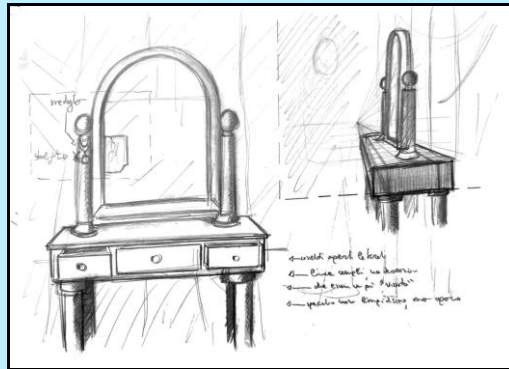
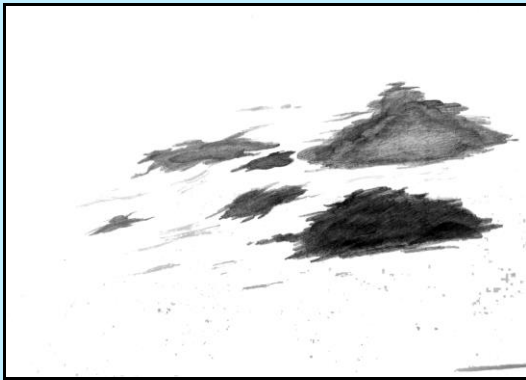
Paolo Franz

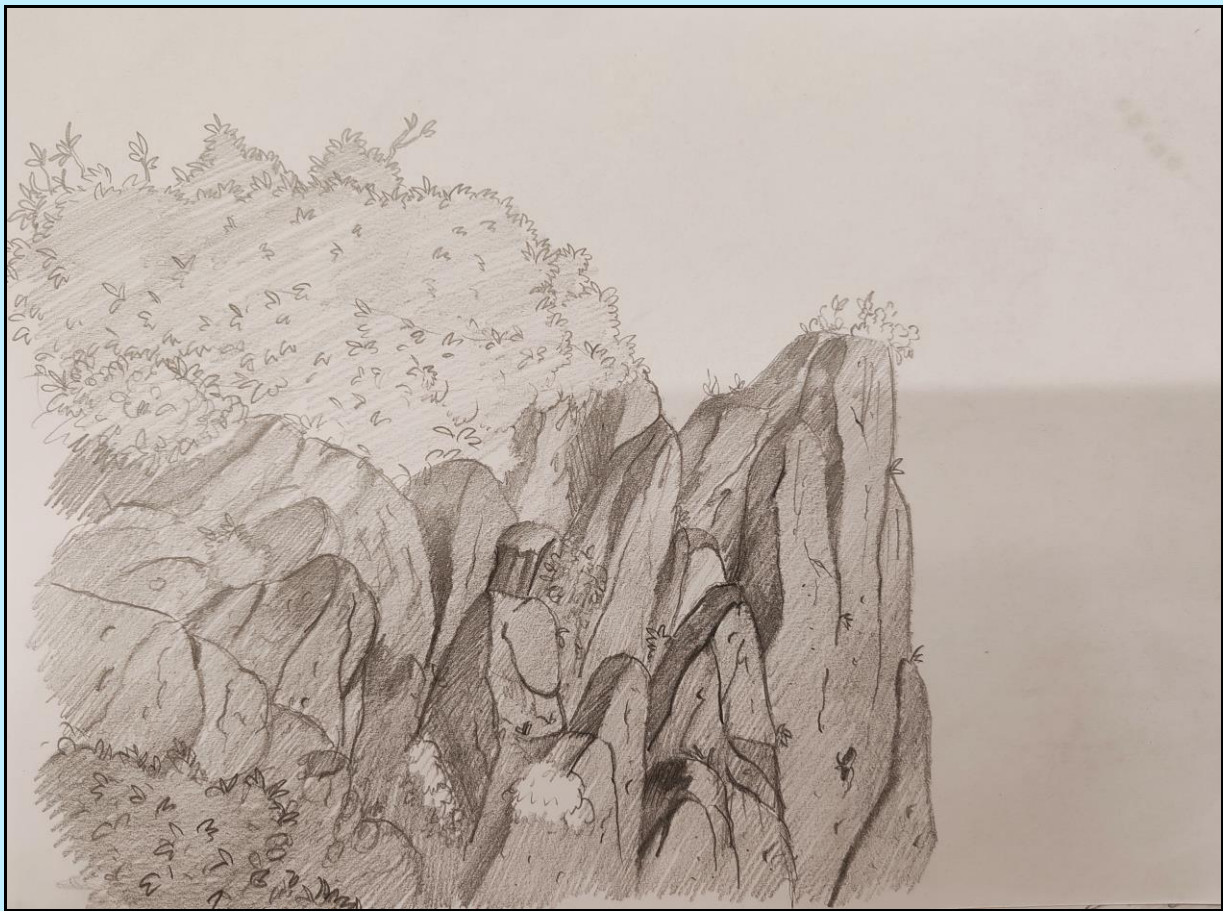
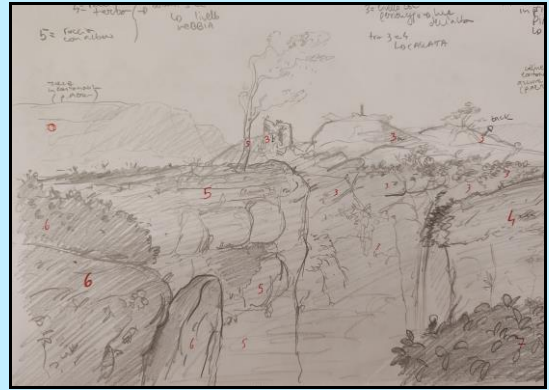
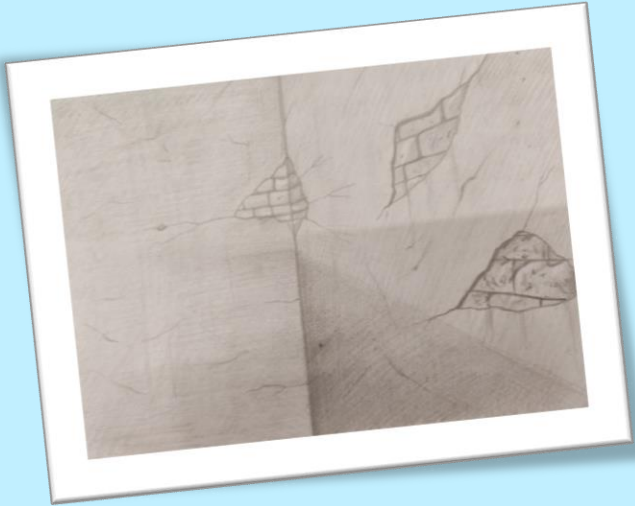
Production stills

Storyboard sequences



Layouts and 2d animation





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Images stills



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