



TRANSMUTATION

a film by
Charlie Jimenez

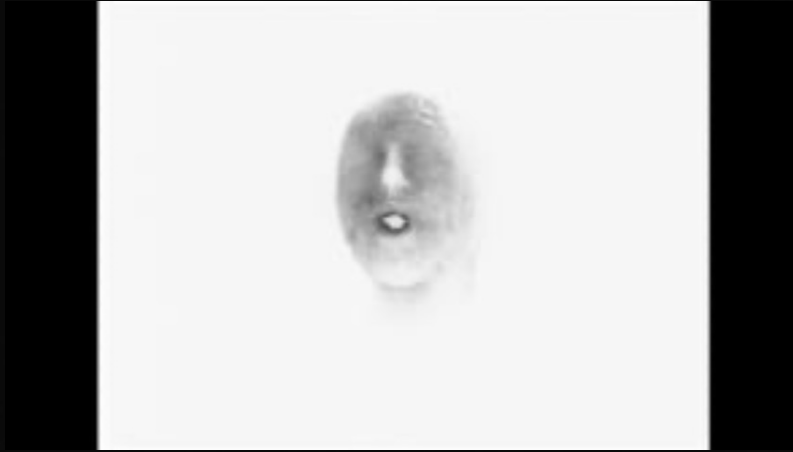
music by
Sioul Blaphate

logline

A story of creation: a blind god creates their eyes at the moment of a woman's birth. The two undergo several transformations before transmutating into a chimera.

about

Transmutation is a 16mm surreal fantasia that traces a mythic story of creation. In a world before language, a blind god fashions their own eyes at the moment of a woman's birth. Their fates entwine as they undergo a series of metamorphoses, ultimately merging into a chimera—a monstrous androgyne that defies the boundaries of identity, form, and time. Inspired by early cinematic spectacle and ancient myth, Transmutation unfolds like a spell cast in celluloid. It inhabits the liminal space between becoming and being, where the body exists as an unstable, shifting entity. Through a dreamlike ritual of transformation, the film invites viewers into a posthuman vision of the body: porous, mutable, and perpetually unraveling. Shot on tactile, time-worn 16mm film, Transmutation conjures a primal, trans-temporal vision—where beauty and horror, attraction and repulsion, creation and dissolution coexist in hypnotic flux.



TRANSMUTATION

press & distribution contact

Charlie Jimenez, UK,
8 Brasher Close, Greenford, UB6 0SZ
T - +44 7434814920
infocharlesjimenez@gmail.com
[@charliejjimenez](https://www.instagram.com/charliejjimenez)

technical details

Release 2025

Country United Kingdom

Language No Dialogue

Shooting Format B+W 16mm Kodak
Filmstock

Presentation Digital 4K

Aspect Ratio 4:3

Length 9:20

Colour Black and White, No Spoken
Language



anetherealbooth@gmail.com

+44 7434814920

[@charliejimenez](https://www.instagram.com/charliejimenez)

Filmography

Bed & Breakfast (upcoming)

Keratin (2022)

director

Charlie Jimenez

Charlie Jimenez (they/them) is a creative director and multi-disciplinary artist based in London, working in both film and live-theatre. Charlie holds a First Class Honours from Central Saint Martins - Performance: Design & Practise BA.

Charlie creates visionary spectacles to explore the intersections between body, memory, and mythology. Their work explores otherworldly and liminal places, merging the line between imagined and real. Initiating meditations on gender, transformation, and identity. Charlie's films invite audiences into a contemplative space where the boundaries between reality and the myth merge.

Charlie's films have been featured across the world. Their short film *Keratin* won 'Best Short Film' at ASVOFF 2024. Their work has been featured in publications including: *Dazed*, *Kaltblut*, *ShowStudio*, and *Nasty Magazine*.

Charlie has also collaborated with artists like FKA Twigs (for her *Eusexua* concert), *HMLTD*, and *Jockstrap*.



sonya@bleiph.gallery

+447397325223

[@bleiph](https://www.instagram.com/bleiph)

Filmography

JCX (2023)

You're Not Dying (2021)

producer

Sonya Bleiph

Sonya Bleiph is an interdisciplinary artist, creative director, and educator, working in both traditional and digital visual arts, as well as the film & entertainment industry. Bleiph obtained a BSc degree from UCL in Human Biosciences. Their paintings have been exhibited at the Other Art Fair at Truman Brewery and were awarded the Finalist Prize at Fringe Arts Bath 2022. They have recently led an immersive art show at Pushkin House in London. An art film, *JCX*, which Bleiph directed and produced, received an Honourable Mention at the Berlin MVA 2024. In the charity sector, Sonya volunteers as a media campaign editor at organizations supporting Eastern Ukraine. As an advocate of sustainable creative practice, Bleiph regularly works with the production company *Wendyvision*, where they mentor emerging LGBTQI+ filmmakers and artists. Together with *Tiny Transactions* performance collective, they also help bring international artists to the UK. Last August, Sonya debuted in theatre as a production designer for a play staged at Summerhall as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

director's statement

I envisioned Transmutation as an "amniotic fantasia," - a dream gestating in the liminal space between becoming and being, conjured during transformation, where bodies and worlds exist in constant flux.

I created a film like a spell: a primal vision of transmutation influenced by the spectacle of early cinema. To tell a tale of creation from antiquated aesthetics, a fictional past-world before language - a body and myth dreamt from a primordial sense of creation, where identity is fluid and unstable with forces of time.

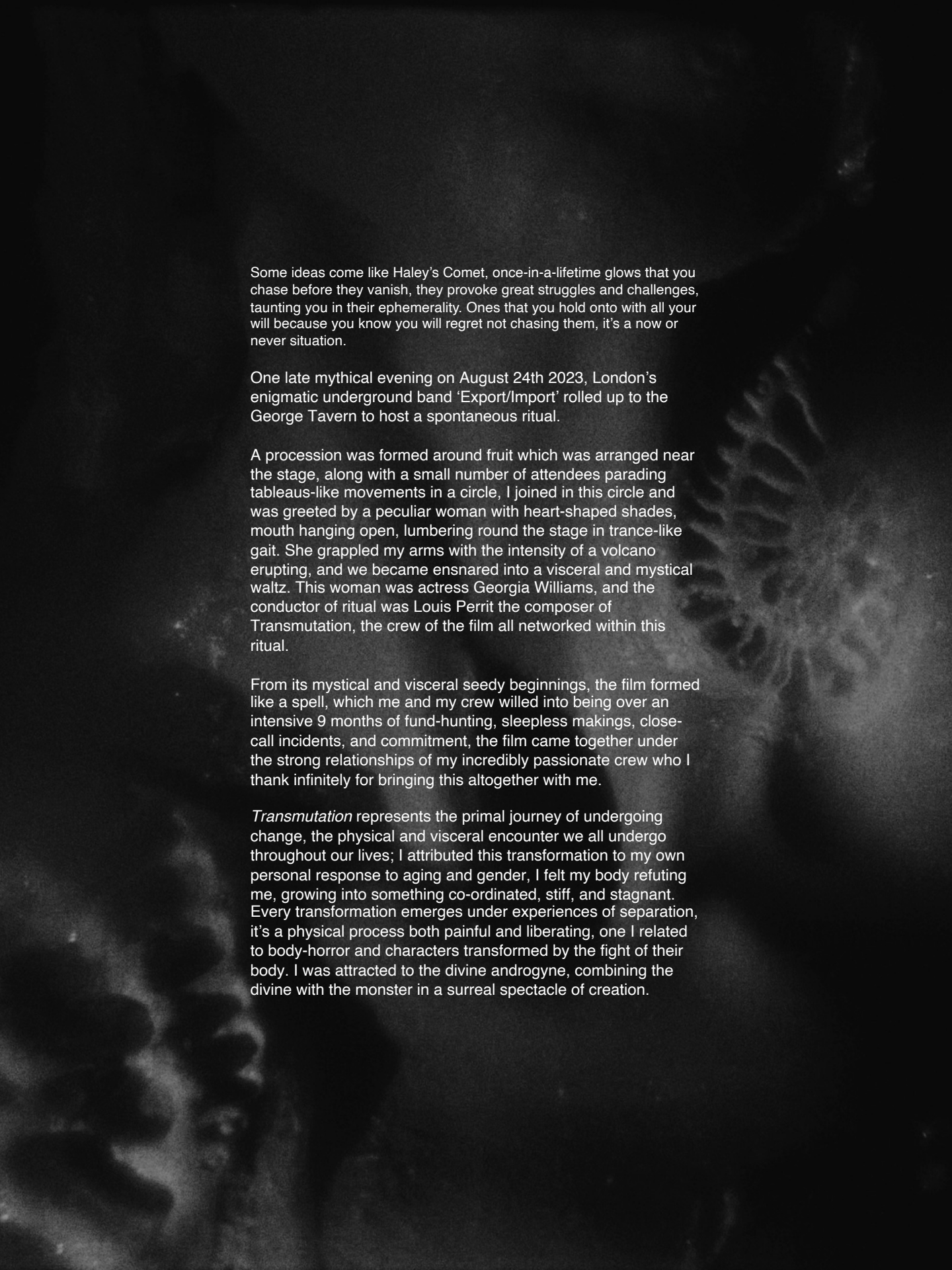
The narrative unfolds like a spiral: from the moment of a surreal birth: a blind god and a woman transform into a singular chimera. This transformation represents the monstrous androgyne, a figure that defies fixed ideas of a body, embodying both beauty and horror, attraction and repulsion.

At its core, the film reflects my own relationship to the body - particularly dysphoria and estrangement I've experienced inhabiting a body that feels perpetually unstable, perpetually becoming. This film questions what it means to live in a body that resists closure, in a world of unravelling at the seams. Through this perspective, Transmutation explores the body as a vocation of posthuman potential: porous, mutable, stretched across temporalities which collapses original and future into a continuous act of becoming.

The tactile nature of 16mm film mirrors this process. Its materials embodies duality in its age: seducing through the sensuality of an image unsettled and in constant haze.

Transmutation invites the viewer to confront and embrace the malleability of the body, to inhabit the hypnotic strangeness of the monstrous and otherworldly. This film is an experiment in tans-temporal vision, a poetical spectacle about the ritual of becoming.





Some ideas come like Haley's Comet, once-in-a-lifetime glows that you chase before they vanish, they provoke great struggles and challenges, taunting you in their ephemerality. Ones that you hold onto with all your will because you know you will regret not chasing them, it's a now or never situation.

One late mythical evening on August 24th 2023, London's enigmatic underground band 'Export/Import' rolled up to the George Tavern to host a spontaneous ritual.

A procession was formed around fruit which was arranged near the stage, along with a small number of attendees parading tableaux-like movements in a circle, I joined in this circle and was greeted by a peculiar woman with heart-shaped shades, mouth hanging open, lumbering round the stage in trance-like gait. She grappled my arms with the intensity of a volcano erupting, and we became ensnared into a visceral and mystical waltz. This woman was actress Georgia Williams, and the conductor of ritual was Louis Perrit the composer of *Transmutation*, the crew of the film all networked within this ritual.

From its mystical and visceral seedy beginnings, the film formed like a spell, which me and my crew willed into being over an intensive 9 months of fund-hunting, sleepless makings, close-call incidents, and commitment, the film came together under the strong relationships of my incredibly passionate crew who I thank infinitely for bringing this altogether with me.

Transmutation represents the primal journey of undergoing change, the physical and visceral encounter we all undergo throughout our lives; I attributed this transformation to my own personal response to aging and gender, I felt my body refuting me, growing into something co-ordinated, stiff, and stagnant. Every transformation emerges under experiences of separation, it's a physical process both painful and liberating, one I related to body-horror and characters transformed by the fight of their body. I was attracted to the divine androgynous, combining the divine with the monster in a surreal spectacle of creation.

Original Soundtrack by Sioul Blaphate

in collaboration with Guildhall Session Orchestra



Transmutation's score was conducted and composed by Sioul Blaphate with the live Guildhall Session Orchestra in London.

This is an excerpt of recording a session for the soundtrack. The score incorporates 'shepard tones' and 'graphical notations' which accelerates the films' dream-like tone.

Behind the scenes



CREDITS

CREW

Director – Charlie Jimenez
Producer – Sonya Bleiph
Executive Producers
Antonio Zorro & David Spurling
Original Score Composed by
Sioul Blaphate
in collaboration with
Guildhall Session Orchestra
Saxophone – Jonty Gould
Cello – Annie Walton
Oboe – Elizabeth Lucy
Choir – Guildhall Session Singers

CAST

Georgia Williams - Set
Dave Hardy – Magician

'Trail' performers

Ray, Isa Kana Fardella, Polly Parker, Fleur Mason,
Georgia Scholes, Kate Maru, Lizzie Rose, Cat
Lawther, Ellen Oliver, Jace May Dobson, Snail
Adams, Alice de Crais,

Additional 'Trail' performers

Amelia Clarke, Anna Veroshkova, Olia Poliakova,
Josie Silverman, Zoe Holroyd, Salvia Kali,
Maria Kolpaktchi, Harrie Rainger, Anastasia
Kozlova, Anastasia Olegovna, Emma Theander,
Zosia Porucznik, Nico Hahn, Nikol Firdzhanova,
Nasir Simmons

Body Doubles

Luca Apostolos
Ray

Director of Photography
Olivia Morrison
Theo Broughton
Dee Iskrzynska

Gaffer
Joe Hunt
Alistair Hendry
Max Goodkind

Spark
Ana-Marie Margarit

Movement Director
Poppy Waxman
Additional Choreography
Pierre Babbage

Editor
Charlie Jimenez

1st Assistant Director
LouAna Billie Carron

Production Manager
Celine Killingback
Patrycja Pietras
Liza Svirskaya

Art Directors
Celine Killingback
Luca Apostolos

Prop Maker
Rose Grover
Anna Cantes
Varvara Ivanova

Driver
Sonya Bleiph
Celine Killingback

Set Decorator
Eleanor Griffiths
Ana-Maria Margarit
Aster Munro
Isa Kana Fardella
Varvara Ivanova
Keziah Foster
Liza Svirskaya
Iren Gorbunova

Set Dec Trainee
Ayesha Nawaz

Costume Designer
Charlyne Fine
Jesse Mariani

Key Prosthetic Artists
& SFX MUA
Sasha Lorraine
Charlie Jimenez
Elodie Gatacre
Aster Munro
Jesse Mariani

Body Painting MUA
'Tilda' Mahtilde Mace

Additional Prosthetics & SFX
MUA
Mia Cain
Lucy Cusack
Ru Connor
Gaby Wschiansky
Sienna Bordello

Special Thanks to

Simon Oatley • David Hartley • Jo Woodhouse • Allister Miller
Sarah Hezen • Wesley Miles • TJ Mille • Octopus Marquee • Lillie
Franklin Goddard
Michael Mendones • Veronika Shishkina • Duc Peterman
Eloise Jimenez • Ellie Dodd • Michael Taylor • Saffron Weaver
Jasmin Dev • Nymph • Finian Tempest James • Baharak Dehghan
Aaron Tart • Will Hancock • Charlie Mitchell • Alexandra Sive •
Brittany Markert
Daniel Copley from P&V | Central Saint Martins
Central Loan Store | Central Saint Martins • Ray Barker
Elena Vakhonina • Igor Vakhonin • Ellen Dunne • Daniel Harrison •
Ela Kandal

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Music composed by **Sioul Blaphate**

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