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A stopmotion animation - Running time: 5:11 mins

SYNOPSIS

Sam, a grumpy raccoon is stuck sharing a cell with Bob, a sweet but dim manatee. Sam hatches an escape plan. In their chaotic jailbreak Sam's hardened edges soften as Bob's loyalty shines.

Cel Buddies is a whirlwind of humor and heart, Will they escape? Maybe. But together, they've already cracked something bigger: trust.



PRODUCTION

SINT JOOST SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

PRODUCTION TEAM

MELLE WINDIG

Director, Script, Main Animation, Moving storyboard, Voice Sam, Set production, Props painting, Clean up

HIDDE ALBERTS

Director, Script, Main Animation, Voice Bob, Puppet production, VFX & montage

ARJEN VAN DER PLAS

Director, Script, Additional Animation, Set production, Puppet production, Clean up

MIGUEL REYES

Director, Script, Additional Animation, Set production, Props production, Sound design, Clean up

JURGEN DE SMIT

Director, Script, Additional Animation, Set production, Props production, Voice Rex, Clean up

SCRIPT ASSISTENCE SINT JOOST SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

Paul Moggré
Henk van Alphen
Jasper Kuipers
Martijn Rook,
Annemarijn Ingelaat

TECHNICAL SUPPORT SINT JOOST SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

Henk van Alphen
Paul Moggré



DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Studio Brute Beesten consists of Melle Windig, Hidde Alberts, Miguel Reyes, Jurgen de Smit and Arjen van der Plas. This film was made for the minor Stopmotion Animation at [Sint Joost School of Art and Design](#), Den Bosch Netherlands.

Watch [The Making of Celmaatjes](#) on Youtube





DIRECTOR STATEMENT

In a world that often feels rigid, *Cell Buddies* is a playful story about two misfits who discover that freedom isn't just about breaking out, but breaking open.

Sam, the grumpy raccoon and Bob, the manatee with a heart too big for his cell, embody the messy magic of opposites: grit meets goof, schemer meets saint, and irritation melts into unexpected kinship.

Stop-motion is the perfect medium for this tale. It's raw, tactile, and alive with imperfection—much like our oddball duo. Every frame was sculpted by hand, a labor of love (and caffeine) by our crew of five art school students. We bent wire, painted wood and rigged manatees in the dark, chasing that alchemy where chaos becomes art.

The process mirrored the story itself: a reminder that connection isn't found in polished edges, but in the glue, grit, and glitter of collaboration.

Sam and Bob's jailbreak is a circus of clumsy escapes and slapstick mishaps, but at its core, this film is about the walls we don't see. Trust doesn't come easy to a raccoon who sees the world as a lock to pick, or a manatee too gentle to realize he's already free. Together, they're a reminder that friendship isn't something you plan—it's something that happens, often in the least expected places (like a jail cell).

The Cell Buddies Crew

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Film Title (English):	Cell Buddies
Film Title (Original Languages): Dutch	Celmaatjes
Country(ies) of Production:	Netherlands
Year of Production / Month of completion:	January 2025
Running Time	English version: 5:11 mns
Original framerate	24fps
Original aspect ratio	16:9
Original Language(s):	Dutch
Subtitles:	Yes, burnt-in English
Other available languages	Srt subtitles in other languages on request



CONTACT

Contact us at

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