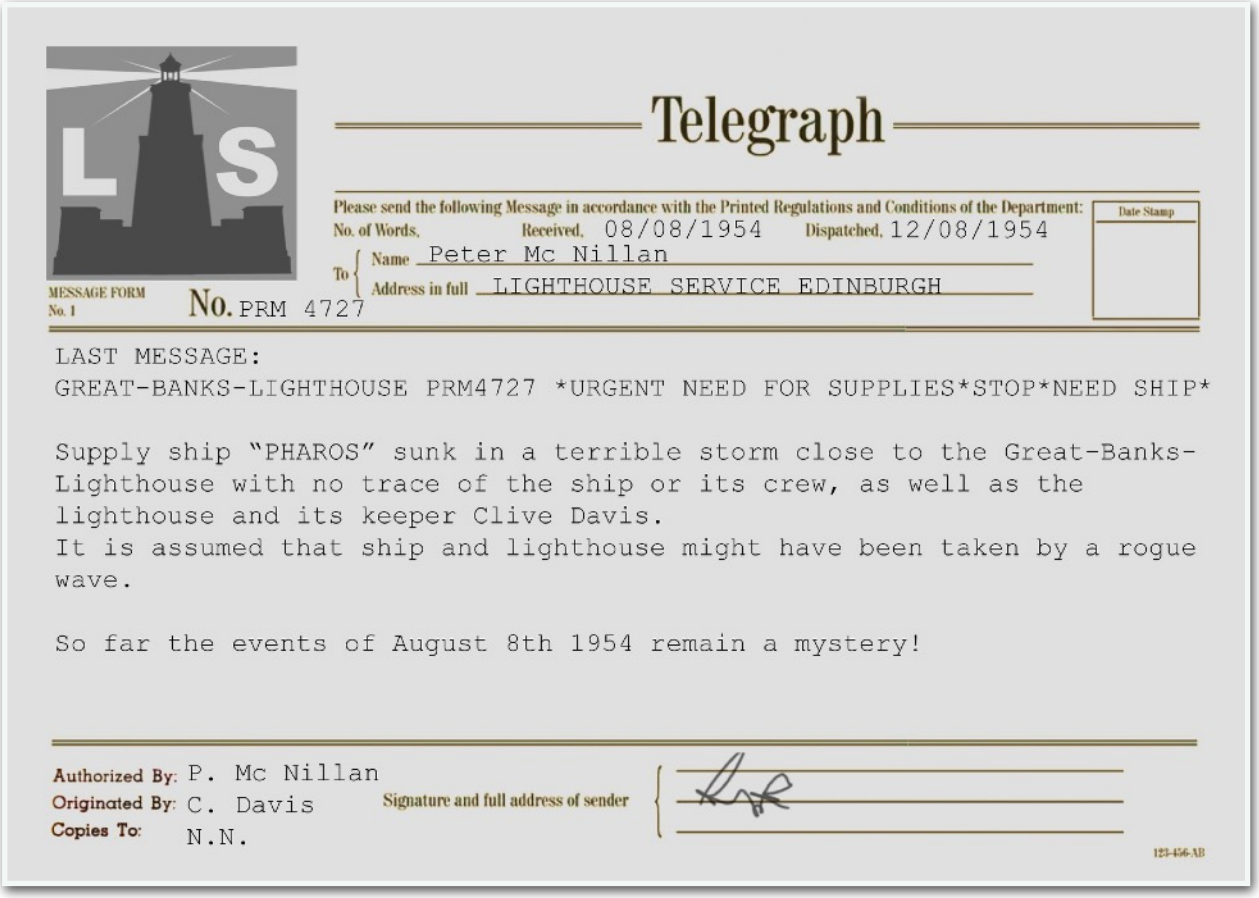
THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER

Stop Motion Short Film - 11:15 Minutes - FSK 6 - Press Release: 12.10.2026

Tagline:
"….WHEN YOU CALL FOR HELP THE ECHO SOUNDS WILDER THAN YOU EXPECT…."

It all started with an old telegraph:



Telegraph

Please send the following Message in accordance with the Printed Regulations and Conditions of the Department:
No. of Words, Received, 08/08/1954 Dispatched, 12/08/1954
Date Stamp
To { Name Peter Mc Nillan
Address in full LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE EDINBURGH
MESSAGE FORM No. 1
No. PRM 4727

LAST MESSAGE:
GREAT-BANKS-LIGHTHOUSE PRM4727 *URGENT NEED FOR SUPPLIES*STOP*NEED SHIP*

Supply ship "PHAROS" sunk in a terrible storm close to the Great-Banks-Lighthouse with no trace of the ship or its crew, as well as the lighthouse and its keeper Clive Davis.
It is assumed that ship and lighthouse might have been taken by a rogue wave.

So far the events of August 8th 1954 remain a mystery!

Authorized By: P. Mc Nillan
Originated By: C. Davis
Copies To: N.N.
Signature and full address of sender
123-456-AB

Data:
Format: DCP 4K / Aspect Ratio: 1:1.85 / Runtime: 11:15 minutes / Sound: Dolby Atmos 7.1

Synopsis:
Keeper Clive is running out of supplies on his lighthouse somewhere in the Northern Seas. In his despair, he plays a sadly tune on his horn, when a large whale notices him. As his supply ship sinks in a violent thunderstorm and his lighthouse buoy springs a leak, he has to expect the worst - if it weren't for the great whale…. The Lighthouse Keeper is a movie about loneliness in a dangerous environment, and a story about unexpected help and friendship.... and that everything is possible - anytime!

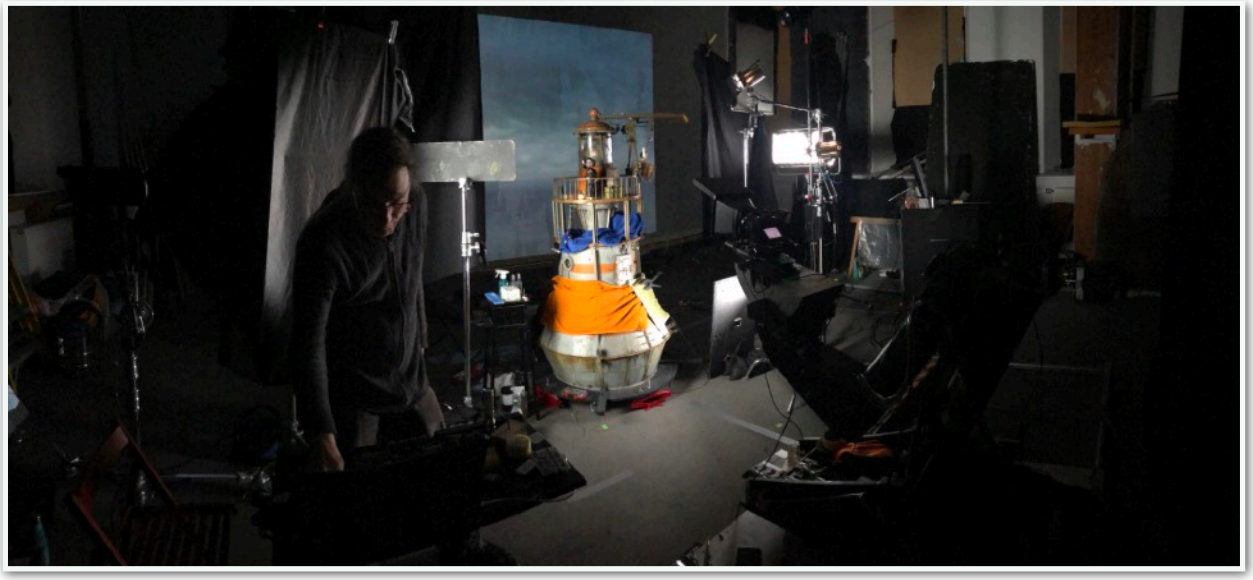
72 years later this movie sets out to put all the known facts together to unravel the mystery and tell the true story of the disappearance of Clive Davis: **"The Lighthouse Keeper"**.

"The Lighthouse Keeper" is a low budget traditional puppet stop motion animation film, that we basically shot on a shoestring in our spare time over the last four years on weekends and holidays or whenever we had the time and the money to go on with it. What we lacked in budget we tried to compensate with a lot of enthusiasm and a couple of good ideas….

It might sound a little contradictory, but we wanted the look to be as realistic as possible while simultaneously making the cinematic technique and the material from which the world of the film is made more transparent tangible, thereby intensifying its experience.

We chose to mix the film in the DOLBY ATMOS 7.1 format, because it is the acoustical equivalent of the more tangible visual language. Even though there is no "spoken" dialogue in the film, the role of "dialogue-sound" is key.

The Lighthouse Keeper's horn reaches out in the first scene and strange echos of a sonic response resound from the depths of the ocean.
The SOS clicks of the telegraph are mirrored by the sperm whale clicks at the end of the film.

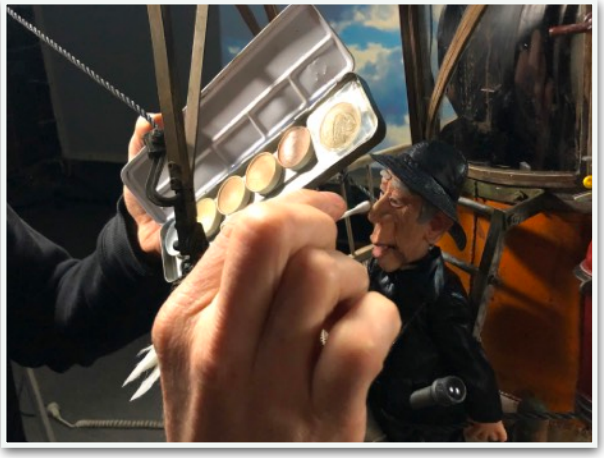


We wanted to use the classic rear-projection-technique, so we needed a large space. How convenient that we got hold of an old church complete with organ as our film studio.

Implementing a mix of traditional in-camera-wizardry, like using paper for water and cotton for clouds in the terrible storm sequence, as well as top notch computer technology where we 3D scanned the two meter model of the lighthouse for use in the underwater shots to recreate the maritime world of **"The Lighthouse Keeper"**.

Set construction consisted of found-objects, trash from the street that we used to create the lighthouse inside and out, as well as all the props. For example we used a rusty old metal chimney as the base for the floating lighthouse and an old frisbee as its roof.

You could say we followed all the rules of a classic guerilla-production!



Cast & Crew:

The Lighthouse Keeper	CLIVE
The Seagull	MARION
The Whale	NORBERT
The Red Fish	MONSIEUR ROUGE
Producer & Screenplay & Director	ANDY KAISER
Co-Producer	DAVID SCHULTZ
Animation	ANDY KAISER
Director of Photography	DAVID SCHULTZ BVK
Editor	ANDY KAISER & DAVID SCHULTZ
Stills Photography	DAVID SCHULTZ BVK
VFX & 3D - Scanning	VICTOR VAN WETTEN

Concept Models	CAMILLE THILLOY
Sets & Models & Props	SANA SCHÖNLE
Sets & Models	ANDY KAISER & BJÖRN ULLRICH
Special Rigs	ANDREE NEEMANN
Model Caster	SUSANNA JERGER
Additional Model Painting	DAVID SCHULTZ
Scenic Painter	CHRISTIN PINZER
Costume Design	ANNE M. E. REDLICH
Puppet Design	ANDY KAISER
Armature Design	ANDREE NEEMANN
Composer	ARTURO PANTALEON & GERNOT REETZ
Music Producer French Horn Shell Horns Ocarina Spectral Sound-FX Ship Signal	GERNOT REETZ
Euphonium Piano String FX-Piano	ARTURO PANTALEON

Low String FX	GERNOT REETZ
C-Bassi	EZEQUIEL MENDOZA & NORBERT STARK
Tuba	MANUEL CERROS
Sound Design	NAMI STRACK
Foley Artist	LUIS SCHÖFFEND
Foley Mixer	MARIUS KIRSTEN
Voice Artist	DIRK-MARTIN HEINZELMANN
Voice Recording	FRANS SCHOFFELN
Re-Recording Mixer	DOMINIK LEUBE
DOLBY ATMOS STUDIO	SHOOTnPOST
Grading	SKY MÜLLER
Title Design	ANDY KAISER
DCP-Mastering	SHOOTnPOST SKY MÜLLER
Funding by BKM FFA	BKM MARIAN TOBSING FRANZISKA FRENZEL

SPECIAL THANKs to

Deborah & Karl Kaiser
Jonathan Strong
Robin Deborah Kaiser
Mira Marie Rostek
Mahela Rostek

Anne Reinhold
Paul Maria Reinhold
Marion Reinhold
Marcus Schultz
Inge & Khei Schultz

Heike Quack Künstlermanagement

Katja & Frank van Wetten
Monika & Klaus Viehmann

Gerrit Kuge

UNION KINO, Genthin
Lars Hoffmann &
Claudia Kassler

Heinrich Sabl

Family Dworschak

TAUCHGONDEL, Sellin
Burkhard Krüger & Ingo Schütze

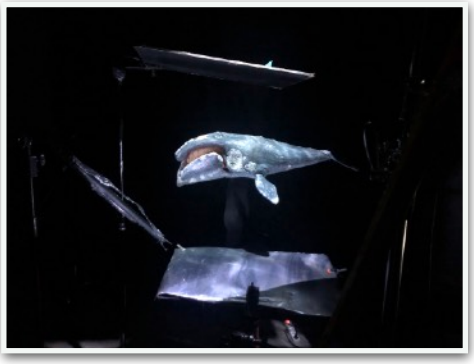
Shot on FRIES MITCHELL VistaVision / SONY 7RII / BMPP 6K

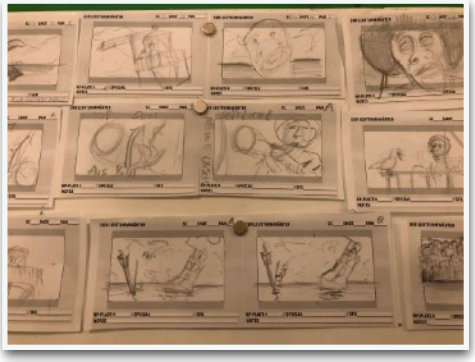
No animals were harmed or injured during this production
Shot entirely on location in Genthin, Sachsen-Anhalt and on the island of Rügen

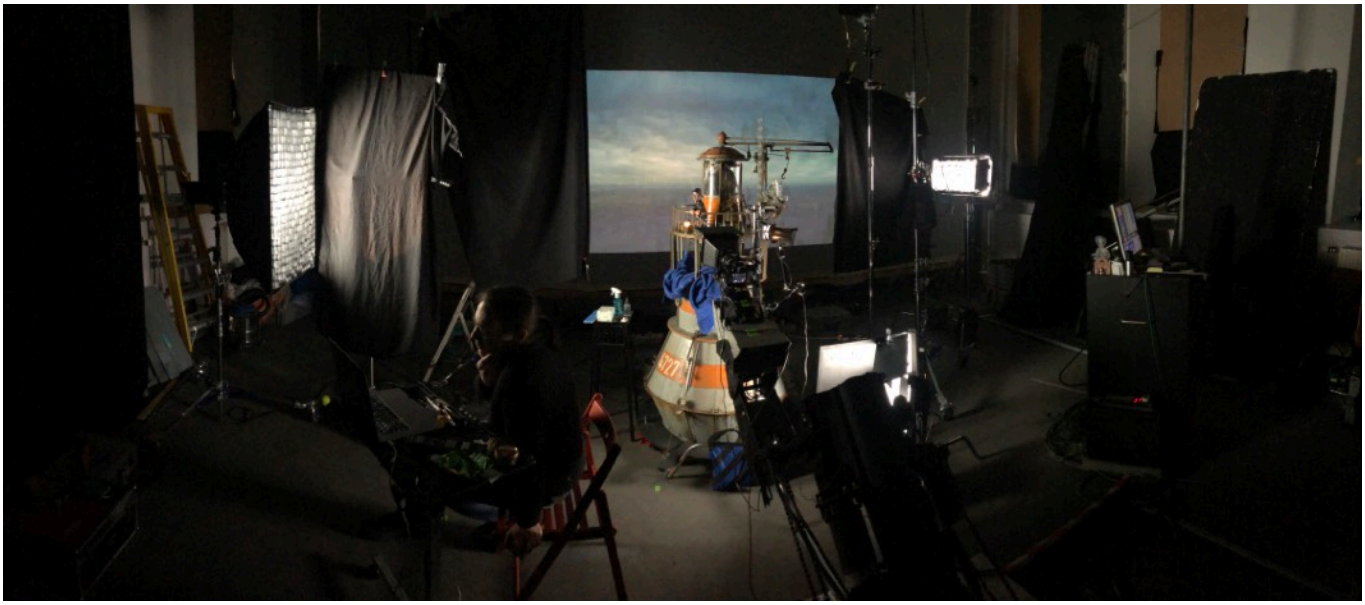
© Andy Kaiser Animation, 2026

For more info see Instagram:

The Film: @thelighthouse.keeper
The Director/Producer/Screenplay: @andy_kaiser_animation
The Director of Photography/Producer: @derschultz22







The Lighthouse Keeper and his career:

Paris Animation Contest 2026 *Official Selection (Winner Audience Award)*

Reale Film Festival *(Winner Best Film April 2026)*

ITFS Stuttgart 2026 *Official Selection (German Animation)*

Venezia Shorts Italy *Official Selection (Semi-Finalist 2026)*

SSFF & Asia 2026 *Official Selection (International Competition)*

Hong Kong Indie Film Festival 2026 *(Winner Best Animation Short)*

Milano Indie Movie Awards 2026 *Best European Film (Honorable Mention)*

Brussels World Film Festival 2026 *(Winner Best Animation Short)*

New York Indie Shorts Awards *Official Selection (Semi-Finalist 2026)*

Frames of New York 2026 *(Winner Best Animation Season V)*

Imaginaria 2026 *Official Selection (International Children Film Competition)*

FAB Festival of Animation Berlin 2026 *Official Selection (German Competition)*

Waterline Film Festival 2026 *Official Selection*

Monza Film Fest 2026 *(Winner Best Animation + Winner Best Editing)*

Festival du Film d´Animation pour la Jeneusse de Bourg 2026 *Official Selection (International Competition)*

Festival Cinéfil - Cinéma Écrans et Marionnettes 2026 *Official Selection*

Phulae International Animation Festival 2026 *Official Selection (Best Short Animation Competition)*

Rio de Janeiro World Film Festival *(Semi-Finalist 2026)*

San Francisco Arthouse Short Festival 2026 *(Winner Best Animation Short)*

Atlanta Movie Awards 2026 *(Winner Best Animation Short)*

BANG Awards International Animated Film Festival 2026 *Official Selection (Grand Prize Best Film Nominee & Best Screenplay Nominee & Best Original Soundtrack Nominee)*

Wiesbaden International Animation Festival 2026 *Official Selection (Best of German Animation Competition)*

Monte Carlo Movie Awards 2026 *(Winner Best Short Film)*

Hollywood Shorts Fest Los Angeles 2026 *Official Selection Best Animated Short (Honorable Mention)*

FIGA Festival International Gbaka Animation 2026 *Official Selection (Gbaka National Awards Competition)*

ETER International Anima Festival 2026 *Official Selection (International Competition - Winner Best Stop-Motion Animation)*

Stockholm Short Festival *(Semi-Finalist 2026)*

Palermo International Film Festival *Official Selection (Semi-Finalist 2026)*

Oakland Film Festival *(Semi-Finalist 2026)*

BOO Film Festival 2026 *Official Selection (Czech-German BOO Awards Competition)*

Serbest International Film Festival 2026 *Official Selection (International Competition - Winner Best Animation Film)*

MovieValley International Film Festival 2026 *Official Selection (International Competition)*

KINOdiseea International Children Film Festival Romania 2026 *Official Selection (International Competition)*

PARIS ANIMATION CONTEST
SHORTSHORTS
FRAMES OF NEWYORK
MONZA FILM FEST
BEST FILM
Festival of Animation Berlin
San Francisco Arthouse Short Festival
BANG AWARDS FESTIVAL
IMAGINARIA 2026
Hong Kong Indie Film Festival
Festival Cinéfil Cinema Ecrans et Marionnettes
Atlanta Movie Awards
Milano Indie Movie Awards
FIGA
Brussels World Film Festival
HOLLYWOOD SHORTS FEST
SIFF
Monte Carlo Movie Awards
THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER
ANDY KAISER ANIMATION presents „THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER" Animation ANDY KAISER Puppet Design ANDY KAISER
Costume Design ANNE M. E. REDLICH Sets SANA SCHÖNLE & BJÖRN ULLRICH & ANDY KAISER & DAVID SCHULTZ
Visual Effects VICTOR VAN WETTEN Music ARTURO PANTALEON Sound Design NAMI STRACK Foley Artist LUIS SCHÖFFEND
Sound Mixer DOMINIK LEUBE Dolby Atmos Studio SHOOT`N`POST Editor ANDY KAISER & DAVID SCHULTZ
Director of Photography DAVID SCHULTZ BVK Funding KJDF & BKM Producer ANDY KAISER & DAVID SCHULTZ
Screenplay & Director ANDY KAISER
FSK 6
Kuratorium
SHOOT'nPOST
Dolby Atmos
TAUCH GONDEL