

## CV/Biography/Filmography

2011 - currently researching animation and psychological trauma at The Royal College of Art

1985 - 2010: director of animated films, commercials, music videos and title sequences

1982 - 1985: Royal College of Art School of Film and Television: MA (RCA)

1979 - 1982: Liverpool Polytechnic: BA Hons Graphic Design

## Biography:

Susan Young is a BAFTA-nominated animation director based in London.

*Carnival*, her Royal College of Art graduation film, features the fluid, dynamic line that defines her commercial work. Commissioned films include *The Doomsday Clock*, a film about multilateral disarmament for the United Nations, *Beleza Tropical* for musician David Byrne, and *Jimi Hendrix: Fire*, for producer Alan Douglas.

Susan's films, titles, promos and commercials have been screened worldwide and she has served on numerous animation festival juries. In 1996 she developed post-traumatic stress disorder and subsequently an overwork-related hand injury, which prevented her from drawing and animating for many years. Fascinated by animation's potential as a medium for processing trauma, she returned to the Royal College of Art to study for her PhD: *Bearing Witness: Autoethnographic Animation and the Metabolism of Trauma*. She is currently writing up this research and completing the practice-based component - a trilogy of experimental films including *It Started with a Murder* (2013) and *The Betrayal* (2015).

Susan has recently returned to drawn animation, making the film *Dead Reckoning* (2016), in collaboration with director Paul Wenninger. On completing her PhD, she will continue with post-doctoral research, develop her own film projects, and return to commissioned filmmaking.

## Filmography:

2016 *Dead Reckoning*

2015 *The Betrayal*

2014 *A Southwark Tale*

2013 *It Started with a Murder*

1992 *Jimi Hendrix: Fire*

1989 *Beleza Tropical: Umbabarauma*

1987 *The Doomsday Clock*

1985 *Carnival*

1985 *Music for Modern Americans*

1984 *Tempting Fate*

1983 *Trafalgar Square*

1982 *Thin Blue Lines*

1981 *Tests in Colour and Space*

Festival screenings include:

Festival Stop Motion Montréal 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
Stoptrick 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
Animatou 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
WFAF 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
Festival International du Film de Nancy 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
Insomnia International Animation Film Festival 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
Festival Image Contre Nature 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
Vienna Independent Shorts 2017 (*Dead Reckoning*)  
9th Imagine Science Films Festival 2016 (*The Betrayal*)  
1st European Short Film Festival 2016 (*The Betrayal*)  
Reel Recovery Film Festival 2016 (*The Betrayal*)  
Chicago Underground Film Festival 2016 (*The Betrayal*)  
Alchemy Film and Moving Image Festival 2016 (*The Betrayal*)  
Stranger With My Face Film Festival 2016 (*The Betrayal*)  
Poetry Film Parallax 2016 (*The Betrayal*)  
The 13th London Short Film Festival 2016 (*The Betrayal*)  
Anilogue international Animation Film Festival 2015  
Anim'est International Animation Film Festival 2015  
Norrköping Film Festival Flimmer, Sweden 2015  
Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2015  
Born Shorts Film Festival, Denmark 2014  
International Video Art House Festival, Madrid 2014  
Eyeworks Festival of Experimental Animation, USA, Europe 2013, 2014  
Flip Film Festival, Wolverhampton 2012  
Castelli Animati Film Festival, Genzano di Roma 2001  
Annecy International Animation Film Festival 1997, 1985, 1982  
London Effects and Animation Festival 1996  
Hiroshima International Animation Festival 1994, 1985  
Holland Animation Film Festival 1994  
Ottawa International Animation Festival 1992  
Los Angeles Animation Festival 1989, 1986, 1985  
Anima Mundi Animation Festival, Rio de Janeiro 1989  
The Second Animation Festival, The Movie, toured USA 1989  
20<sup>th</sup> International Tournee of Animation, toured USA 1987  
Treviso International Animation Festival 1987  
Hong Kong International Film Festival 1986  
Tampere International Short Film Festival 1986  
Wellington Film Festival 1986  
Bilbao Documentary/Short Film Festival 1985  
London Film Festival 1985, 1983

Krakow Film Festival 1985, 1984  
Varna Animated Film Festival 1985  
Internationales Trickfilm-Festival, Stuttgart 1983

Selected awards:

Insomnia Film Festival: Dreamdancers - *Beleza Tropical* (2016)  
London International Advertising Awards: Gold Icarus - *Levis Variations on a Theme* 1997  
BAFTA nomination: Best Graphic Design - *American Football/The Big Match* 1996  
Fifth A&M Awards India, Best Television Craft: Silver Medal - *World Cup Cricket* 1996  
San Francisco Advertising Awards: Gold Clio - *Levis Variations on a Theme* 1996  
Indian Academy of Advertising Film Art: VHQ Award for Animation - *World Cup Cricket* 1995  
The New York Festivals, International Television Programming World Medal - *American Football/The Big Match* 1995  
San Francisco Advertising Awards: Silver Clio - *Orchestra!* 1994  
The New York Festivals: International Advertising Gold Medal - *Classic FM* 1993  
The New York Festivals: International Advertising Silver Medal - *Budweiser Men* 1993  
Prix d'Italia: Best Television Graphics - *Orchestra!* 1991  
London International Advertising Awards: Best Animated Titles - *Orchestra!* 1990  
Joop Gesink Prize: Best Applied Animation - *Beleza Tropical: Umbabarauma* 1989  
Los Angeles Animation Festival: 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - *Carnival* 1986  
Annecy International Animation Festival: Special Jury Prize for Best Animation - *Carnival* 1985  
London Film Festival Mari Kuttana Award: Best British Animated Film - *Carnival* 1985  
Internationales Trickfilm-Festival, Stuttgart: Special Jury Prize - *Thin Blue Lines* 1984  
London Film Festival: Outstanding Film of the Year - *Thin Blue Lines* 1984  
Thames Television Travelling Design Bursary 1984  
Princess of Wales Scholarship 1982  
John Moores Scholarship 1982

Exhibitions, presentations and retrospectives include:

*Gaslighting*: symposium, artists talk, screening 2021  
*Ecstatic Truth: The Age of the Absurd*: symposium 2020  
*Auto(ethno)graphy*: symposium 2019  
*The Essay Film Form and Animation*: symposium 2019  
*Re:Create Psychiatry*: Royal College of Psychiatrists International Congress, Edinburgh, 2017, 2018  
*Animation and Memory*: International Conference Radboud University, NL, 2017  
*Voicing Experience*: 4th British Conference of Autoethnography, Brighton, UK, 2017  
Flux: exhibition RCA 2015  
Flip Film Festival: retrospective 2012  
Castelli Animati Film Festival: retrospective 2001  
Annecy International Animation Festival: retrospective 1997  
London Effects and Animation Festival: screening/presentation 1996

Hiroshima International Animation Festival: retrospective 1994  
Holland Animation Festival: retrospective 1994  
Quebec Musee du Cinema: screening/tour 1985  
Tate Britain: animation exhibition/screening 1984, 1985  
Goethe Institute: animation exhibition 1984  
BAFTA: RCA screening 1984, 1985  
Barbican: Young Blood exhibition/screening 1983

Film Festival Juries:

Castelli Animati Film Festival 2001  
Annecy International Animation Festival 1997  
Hiroshima International Animation Festival 1994  
Holland Animation Film Festival 1994

Documentaries:

*Animation Nation*: BBC4 2005  
*Buried Treasure*: Island Visual Arts 1990  
*Beleza Tropical* (with David Byrne and Charlie Gillett): Initial TV/Channel 4 1990  
*Universe in a Brush* (with Ralph Steadman): Channel 4 1990

Selected publications:

Boot, A., and C. Salewicz: *Jimi Hendrix The Ultimate Experience* (Boxtree Ltd, 1995)  
O'Dwyer, B: *The Art Buyer* (Open Eye Publishing, 1998)  
Grant, A., and S. Young: 'Troubling Tolichism in Several Voices: Resisting Epistemic Violence in CAP and Critical Autoethnographic Practice' *Journal of Autoethnography*, 2021  
Pilling, J: *Women & Animation* (BFI 1992)  
McQuiston, L: *Women in Design* (Trefoil Publications, 1988)