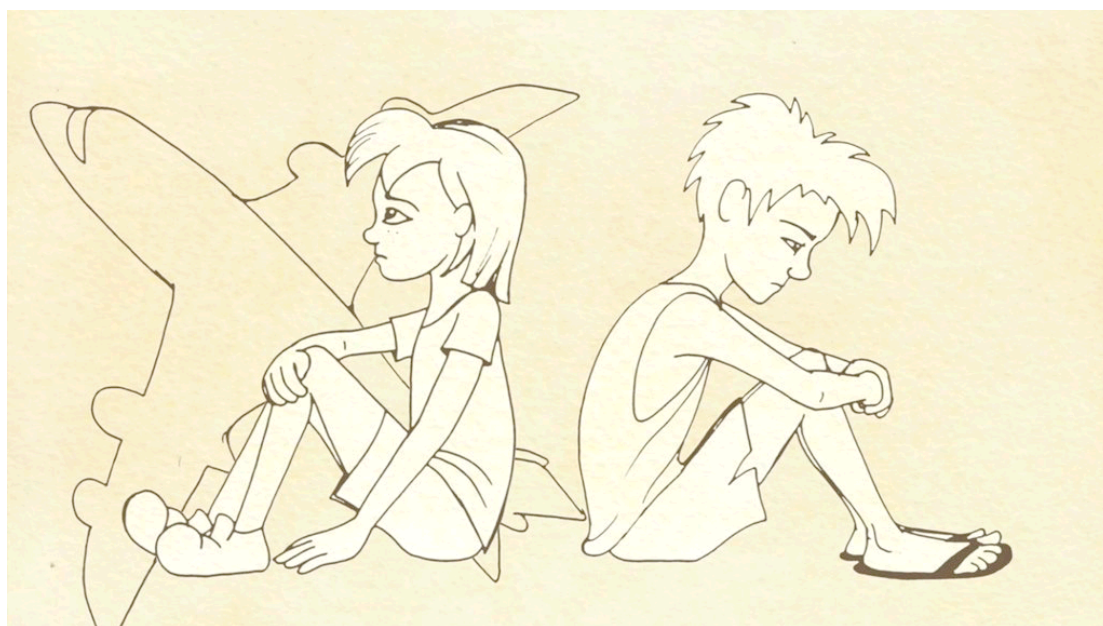


Mi Amistad | Katie Ryan



We saw Katie Ryan's *Mi Amistad* in the 2009 Graduating Exhibition in the ANU School of Art's Photospace. The minute work had immediate appeal because of its beautifully drawn characters and places and engaging storyline. The music, composed and recorded by Sam Smith, complemented the images and a cleverly constructed ambient sound track.

'Mi Amistad' ('My Friendship') explores the simple friendship between children that can reach beyond cultures but can also be lost as hard reality breaks apart playful fantasies.

Katie accepted our invitation to show *Mi Amistad* in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY Multimedia Room and we were delighted to be able to show it to coincide with this year's members show, *Access all areas 2010*.

We were also been pleased Katie agreed to assist us this year with an important digital storytelling project for Mental Illness Education ACT.

Katie Ryan's *Mi Amistad* is a sensitive, beautiful work, and PhotoAccess is very pleased to share it with a wider Canberra audience through this showing in the HUW DAVIES GALLERY.

David Chalker

Artist statement

'Mi Amistad' was born out of my memories of growing up in South America, as a young white girl of English-speaking parents, trying to fit in and be friends with the children of a Uruguayan town. This narrative deals with the erosion of childish fantasy and simple friendship, as one child finally leaves forever for a wealthier country, and the other is left behind.

What happens to a friendship when one is soon to depart, possibly forever? And what happens when suddenly there is an awareness of social difference?' These were hard questions for me as a kid, and years later they inspired the creation of 'Mi Amistad'.

Artist CV

Education

2009 BA (Digital Arts) Honours, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT

Filmography

Mi Amistad, 2009 (10min 3s) (Honours project)

Hand-drawn animation, ink and paint on paper. Compositing and additional texturing in Photoshop and Adobe AfterEffects. Explores the simple friendship between children that can reach beyond cultures but can also be lost as hard reality breaks apart playful fantasies.

Peckin' Perfect, 2008 (2min 19s)

Modelling, lighting, rigging and animating with Maya. A tiny parrot tries to bite off more than he can chew when he discovers a giant coconut. <http://www.aniboom.com/animation-video/370100/Pecking-Perfect/>

I'd Rather Be A Hammer? 2007 (1min 30s)

Modelling, lighting, rigging and animating with Maya A hard-working hammer faces a sudden nail rebellion. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FE_0izbhmS8

Treasure Turmoils, 2007 (2min 30s)

Stop-motion cardboard cut-outs on paper. A black-hearted pirate discovers the woes of treasure-hunting and irritating monkeys. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFa0e3h4R3U&feature=channel>

Squeak, 2006 (1min 25s)

2D drawings animated in Maya. A young dragon bullied for his small size takes revenge by building a giant robot knight. <http://www.aniboom.com/animation-video/370037/Squeak/>

Exhibitions and awards

2006–2009	Successive screenings at Centre for New Media Arts (ANU) annual selective screening.
2007	Exhibition of film 'Open Mind' at the 2007 'BOOM' Multi-media Exhibition at Kuando Museum, Taiwan.
2009	PhotoAccess Exhibition Award, ANU Emerging Artist Support Scheme
2009	National Film and Sound Archive Professional Mentorship Award, ANU Emerging Artist Support Scheme