

# WANDER TO WONDER

A FILM BY NINA GANTZ



TOBY  
JONES

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NEIL  
SALVAGE

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# Wander to Wonder (2023)

Director: Nina Gantz

Producers: Stienette Bosklopper (Circe Films), Maarten Swart (Kaap Holland Film), Nina Gantz

Co-producers: Beast Animation, Blink Industries, Les Productions de Milou, Pictanovo with the support of Hauts-de-France Region

Country: The Netherlands (co-production with Belgium, France, UK)

Language: English

Duration: 13m45s

Technique: Stop-motion animation (90%) Live action (10%)

Genre: Drama | Dark Humor

Language: English

Subtitles: French, Dutch, Italian and English

# Synopsis

Mary, Billybud, and Fumbleton are three tiny humans who star in a kids' TV series called "Wander to Wonder". After the creator dies, they are left alone in the studio. Struggling to find enough to eat, they continue to make - increasingly strange episodes for their fans.

# Logline

Three miniature actors try to carry on after their creator has passed away.



# About the director

Nina Gantz is a Dutch London-based Animation Director. After graduating at the St. Joost Art School in Breda, Gantz began a Masters in directing animation at the National Film and Television School where she completed her student film EDMOND in 2015. EDMOND has received 38 awards including the BIFA for best short film, the Best Short Animation award at Sundance and a BAFTA for best animated short. Gantz has been working freelance on a variety of projects and she is signed to London production company Blink Ink. WANDER TO WONDER is her first independent stop-motion animation. Currently she is developing two feature length films.

# From the director

## **What was it about this story that kept your interest to make the film?**

*The story has gone through many changes in the 8 years that it took to make. The overriding thing that kept me excited about directing it, was the universe we created. I loved figuring out how these miniature people would survive without their father figure to take care of them. The juxtaposition between the innocent and sweet kids TV show and the darkness of their world behind the scenes was also something that attracted me to the film. It was the stark difference between the two worlds that made for an intriguing conflict.*

## **What did you learn through the experience of making this film?**

*As I was working on the final version of the script, I experienced a bereivement and I learned how each person copes very differently with grief. This experience made a significant impact on the script. After the death of their father figure, the characters cling onto the only thing that gives them purpose, which is to keep filming their show.*

*Although it's a heavy subject, by telling the story through 3 miniature actors, I felt it could be told with some humour and lightness.*

## **Can you describe how you developed your visual approach to the film?**

### **Why did you settle on this style/technique?**

*Eight years ago I discovered the work of Ray Harryhausen (Clash of the titans / Jason and the argonauts among others) and was inspired by his use of stop motion and live action.*

*I wanted to create a TV show that felt completely authentic so I researched a lot of old shows that had a human presenter interacting with puppets, such as Sooty and Sweep and Won't you be my Neighbor? It was this research that really informed the visual style of the show.*





# About the producers

## Circe films

Circe Films produces feature films for national and international markets. Since 1996, producer Stienette Bosklopper has worked with unique filmmakers such as Nanouk Leopold, Radu Jude, Sebastian Hofmann, Sacha Polak, Dominga Sotomayor, Martijn Maria Smits, Peter Hoogendoorn, Nina Gantz, Isabel Lamberti, and Emin Alper. Circe Films has a production services partnership with Kaap Holland.

## Kaap Holland Film

Kaap Holland is an independent, Amsterdam based production studio founded by producer Maarten Swart. Kaap Holland consists of the production companies and labels Kaap Holland Film, Kaap Holland Series, Dead Duck Productions, Huntu Productions, Marine Biologie, Wet Blanket Productions, Wonderboys Media and Saturnino & Kongo, and works closely together with renowned productions companies Big Blue and Circe Films as well as other key players in the field. Kaap Holland works with a great deal of experienced and emerging talents and showrunners to do what we love best: creating and producing films, series, webseries and podcasts for wide audiences in The Netherlands and around the world.

# About the composer

Terence Dunn is a Hull born British music composer currently based in London and Brighton. After obtaining a first-class honours degree in Composition for Film and Media from Northbrook College in Worthing, he went on to study a Masters in Composing for Film and Television at the National Film and Television School where he was awarded the PRS foundation and the Alan Hawkshaw music scholarships.



## Artistic & technical credits

**Cast:** Toby Jones, Amanda Lawrence, Neil Salvage

**Animation:** Kristien vanden Bussche, Sergio Lara Jimenez, Rosanne Janssens, Steven de Beul, Ben Tesseur

**Scenario:** Nina Gantz, Simon Cartwright, Daan Bakker, Stienette Bosklopper

**Set design:** Rosie Tonkin, Eric Besy

**Puppets:** Pedri Animation

**Cinematography:** Steven Frederickx

**Special effects:** Christophe Gautry

**Film editor:** Joseph Comar

**Sound design:** Loic Burkhardt

**Mix:** Yoann Veyrat

**Soundtrack:** Terence Dunn