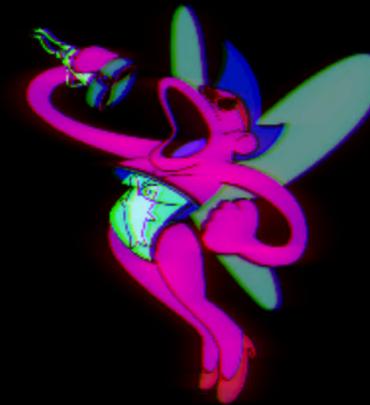




TUNA TARTARE



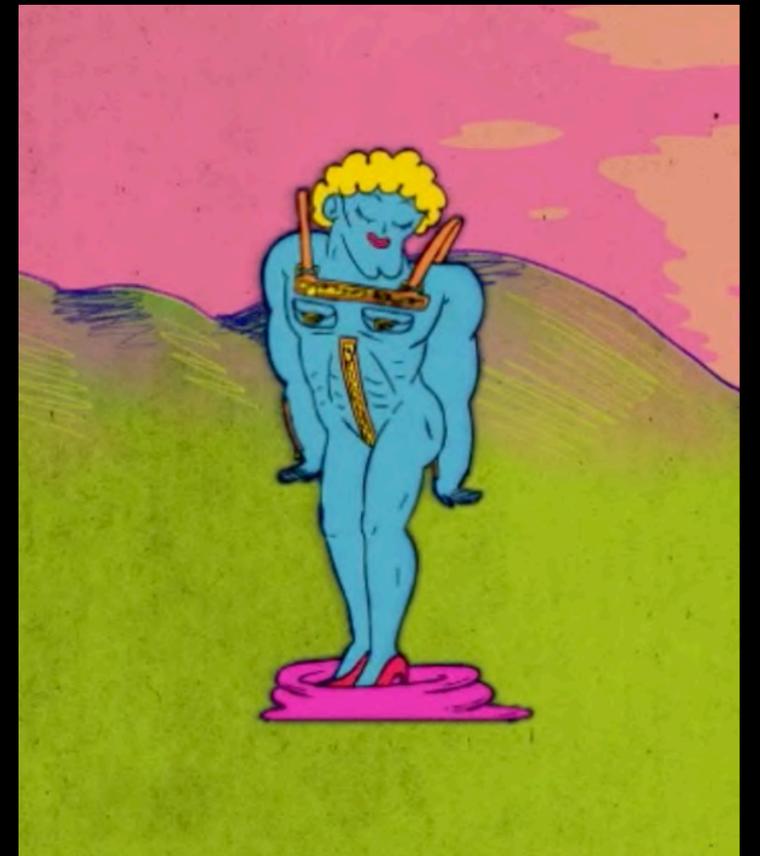
A TRASHY KARAOKE MUSICAL BY LENA GREENE

★ *Be yourself but hotter* ★

TUNA TARTARE

ABOUT

LOG LINE: Set in post-apocalyptic Los Angeles, *Tuna Tartare* is a trashy, karaoke musical about an expired can of tuna fish and her BFF Susan (a fake Louis Vuitton purse) as they struggle to pursue their artistic dreams in a world that has long since dismissed them.



[WATCH THE TRAILER HERE](#)

TUNA TARTARE

PRODUCTION END YEAR:

2025

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:

USA

RUN TIME:

10 min. 33 sec.

LANGUAGE:

English

TECHNIQUES:

Hand drawn
& watercolor

GENRE:

Comedy



TUNA TARTARE

ABOUT

SYNOPSIS: Los Angeles, 3036 A.D. Humans are on the verge of extinction and the world is now run by... trash. **Tuna Tartare** is a bombastic can of tuna fish who runs **Throats Karaoke Bar** with her BFF **Susan**, a fake Louis Vuitton purse with crippling anxiety. Upon hearing of the death of the last surviving human, Tuna is reminded of an old brush with fame that ended in embarrassment, sending her on an internal journey to battle her own insecurities and build herself back up again to do what she does best: karaoke.



TUNA TARTARE

DIRECTOR STATEMENT

Tuna Tartare is a trashy karaoke musical about an expired can of fish with a song in her heart. Tuna had dreams of being a star, and when those dreams were unrealized, she created her own karaoke bar and sang to whoever would listen. As well as encouraging those around her to also pick up the mic.

In a world where so many of us are trying to “make it,” I am interested in those of us whose lives didn’t turn out as planned. I’m drawn to characters who have an undying commitment to being exactly who they are, regardless of whether or not the world is willing to accept them. This may be in part inspired by my upbringing. I was raised in Los Angeles by a resilient family of six gay parents (and all of their gay friends). From an early age, I was surrounded by people who refused to let the world tell them how to live their lives (and by a gaggle of powerful lesbians who are more often singing than not.)

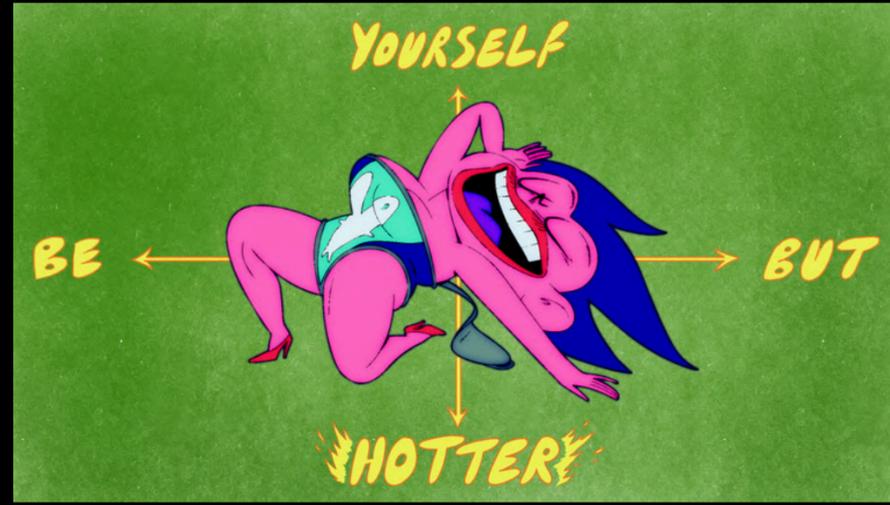
This is a film about creating. Creating art. Creating trash. Creating a sense of self. And while I wish to celebrate the human desire to make things, I also want to acknowledge that we can (and have) made too much. We can over-prioritize individualism, self-expression, and consumerism at the expense of the health of our planet.

Tuna Tartare is loud, bombastic, campy and absurd. A film about what it means to be an artist. What it takes to fight your own insecurities. And how friendship so often saves the day.

Or maybe it’s just an ode to karaoke.

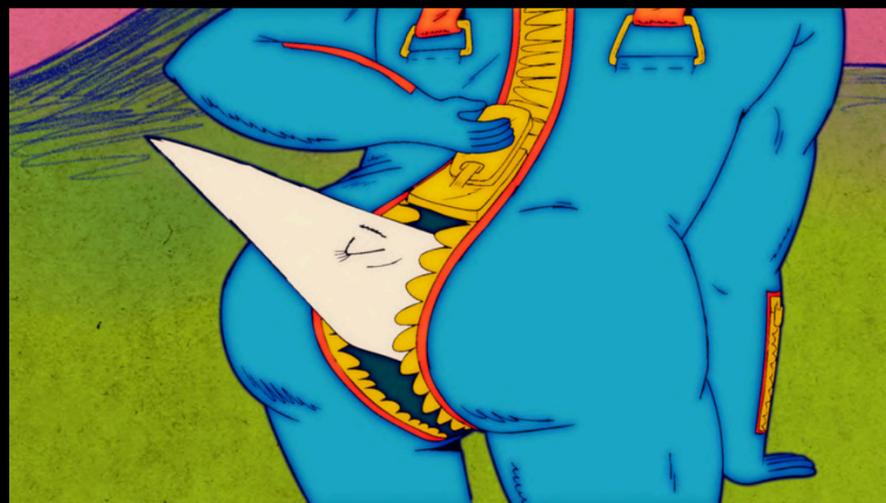
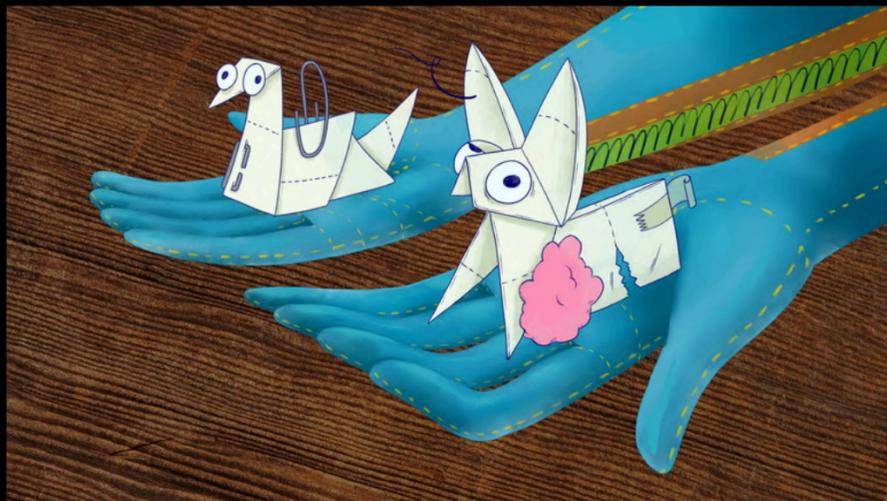
TUNA TARTARE

STILLS



TUNA TARTARE

STILLS



TUNA TARTARE

STILLS



TUNA TARTARE

DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Lena Greene is a director, animator, illustrator, storyboard artist and character designer based in NYC and raised in Los Angeles.

She has directed widely screened animations for Lauren Greenfield, Lana Del Rey, Celeste, Gohar World, Comedy Central's Saturday Morning(ish) Cartoons, and Blumhouse's Crypt TV. Lena was a storyboard artist on seasons 1 and 2 of Adult Swim & HBO's *Teenage Euthanasia*, season 2 of PBS & Augenblick Studio's *City Island*, and a character designer on season 3 of Adult Swim & HBO's *Smiling Friends*. She has made animations for clients such as Michel Gondry, Vice, Droga5, Edelman, Gucci, Knoll, Tory Burch and collaborated on four large-scale 3D zoetropes with Camille Henrot. Lena was an adjunct animation professor at Queens College, and is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design where she received a BFA in film, animation and video.

Lena hosts a recurring karaoke talent show on [Montez Press Radio](#), which has been highlighted in [Document Journal](#), [The New York Times](#), [Frieze](#), Dazed, Cultured Mag, and the [LA Review of Books](#).



TUNA TARTARE

DOCUMENT

Vivien: Karaoke has obviously informed your work on *Tuna Tartare*, and a big part of your life. What makes this the medium that other people should care about?

Lena: Everyone has had a song in their heart, a song that's been stuck in their head for hours, or a song they just need to get off of their chest. In a world so obsessed with 'making it' and 'being successful,' sometimes you just need to take a breath and let that song out. It's cathartic.

Singing isn't just for pop stars and cool kids, it's for everyone. Maybe not everyone can sing, but everyone can feel. Sing and you'll feel better.

I believe amateurism is integral to art. I love that the etymology of 'amateur' is from the latin 'amator' which simply means a 'lover.' It just means you love a thing. That's all that's required to be an artist.



DOCUMENT JOURNAL

FRIEZE Magazine Fairs & Events Watch & Listen Membership Shop



Abby Lloyd performing on karaoke competition 'Montez Got Talent' hosted by Lena Greene. Photograph: Taylor Ervin; courtesy: Montez Press Radio

FRIEZE



"Their doors are open," says GENG PTR, an archivist, teacher and host of Montez's Channel PTP. "Before Covid, it was like, 'Come through.'" For GENG, born and raised in Manhattan, the station's inclusive programming embodies New York City itself. "You get all those folks congregating on the same frequency and boom: you have a unique meeting of the minds." Whether you tune in from the studio couch or your bedroom in Berlin, the radio's aura resonates no matter how familiar you are with the city's past lives. "Like, you can give two shits about Warhol, Blondie and Basquiat, but you can still get down with your folks at [Montez]."

It's exactly this kind of intergenerational, non-hierarchical experience that Montez is after. The team's newest member, Sy Shinar – a sound artist, producer and DJ who goes by the name SYANIDE – describes it as a feeling of childlike curiosity. "It's like when you're five years old, and you meet another child and you're like, 'Oh my gosh, that's so crazy. There's another child that exists the way I do!'" she says. "It's very pure."

This playfulness is especially apparent in *Montez Got Talent*, a joyfully unhinged karaoke

contest hosted by Lena Greene. It's where local contestants like actress and comedian Ruby McCollister and producer and DJ TYGAPAW compete live over a debauched couple of hours interpreting songs like Santana and Rob Thomas's "Smooth" and "Til Tuesday's "Voices Carry". Impassioned renditions welcome, ironic karaoke *strictly* forbidden. Aiming to pull off Evanescence? "You'd better sing both parts for a high score," says Greene. "It's a chance to highlight the humorous side and hidden talents of contributors who might be more used to showcasing their big, juicy brains instead of their big, juicy voices. There aren't many platforms where 'serious' artists can be highlighted in such a fun, sensational way."

More proof that Montez don't take themselves too seriously can be found in their digital archive's catalogue of "rough cuts", which includes all the "small glitches, false starts, and awkward silences" that are proof of their live recording process, says Greene. Whereas most stations will edit these moments out to create a more polished listening experience, Montez offers them up to the world as proof of their humanity.

DAZED

"A joyfully unhinged karaoke contest"
- Dazed Magazine

SELECTED PRESS



LOS ANGELES BAR: SECOND POUR, EARTH, Los Angeles, February 27–March 30, 2024.

The tuna references [Tuna Tartare](#), [Lena Greene's](#) self-described "trashy karaoke musical about an expired can of tuna fish who runs a karaoke bar in a post-apocalyptic Los Angeles." Indeed, the entire affair attempts to actualize the absurdist fictional THROATS Karaoke Bar that Greene's show envisions. (I saw several THROATS Karaoke hats on attendees, branded content for an imaginary business.) During the last night of the bar's operation, Greene herself—wearing a slinky baby blue dress with matching eye shadow and electric blue fishnets—led the crowd in lo-fi karaoke with all the skill and zeal of a teenager who had just discovered musical theater.

LA REVIEW OF BOOKS

TUNA TARTARE

FILM CREDITS

WRITTEN BY

Lena Greene & Alessandra Clark

PRODUCED BY

Lena Greene & Abigail Lowenthal

ANIMATED BY

Lena Greene & Emily Zullo

SOUND DESIGN BY

Ryan Woodhall

STARRING

Lena Greene Tuna Tartare

Lesli Margherita Hot Successful Tuna

& Failed Gross Tuna

Ryan Bush Susan

Ruby McCollister Irma Wasser (News Anchor)

Joe Castle Baker Van Vattan (News Anchor)

ADDITIONAL VOICES BY

Thomas Laprade

Roya Haroun

Max Prediger

Eric Farber

“WASTIN’ AWAY”

Performed By Lesli Margherita

Composed By Alex Parrish

Written By Alex Parrish & Lena Greene

“MITTEN MAN INSIDE MY CAN”

Performed By Lesli Margherita

Composed By Alex Parrish,

Written By Alex Parrish & Lena Greene

“BE HOTTER”

Composed By Henry Kaye

“TUNA’S CREDITS TUNE”

Composed By Gobby

ADDITIONAL ANIMATION BY

Carlos Perez

Cam Macconnell

James Dybvig

COLORED BY

Mike Picone

Lena Greene

COMPOSITED BY

Lena Greene

Annie Zhao

NEWS GRAPHICS DESIGNED BY

Arjun Ram Srivatsa

WATERCOLOR THEORIST / MIXOLOGIST

Raphael Martinez Cohen

WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

Young Gun Lee

Roya Haroun

Annie Zhao

Raphael Martinez Cohen

Monica Weltyk

Thomas Laprade

Lena Greene

Marina Laprade

Rajani Laprade

Bob Laprade

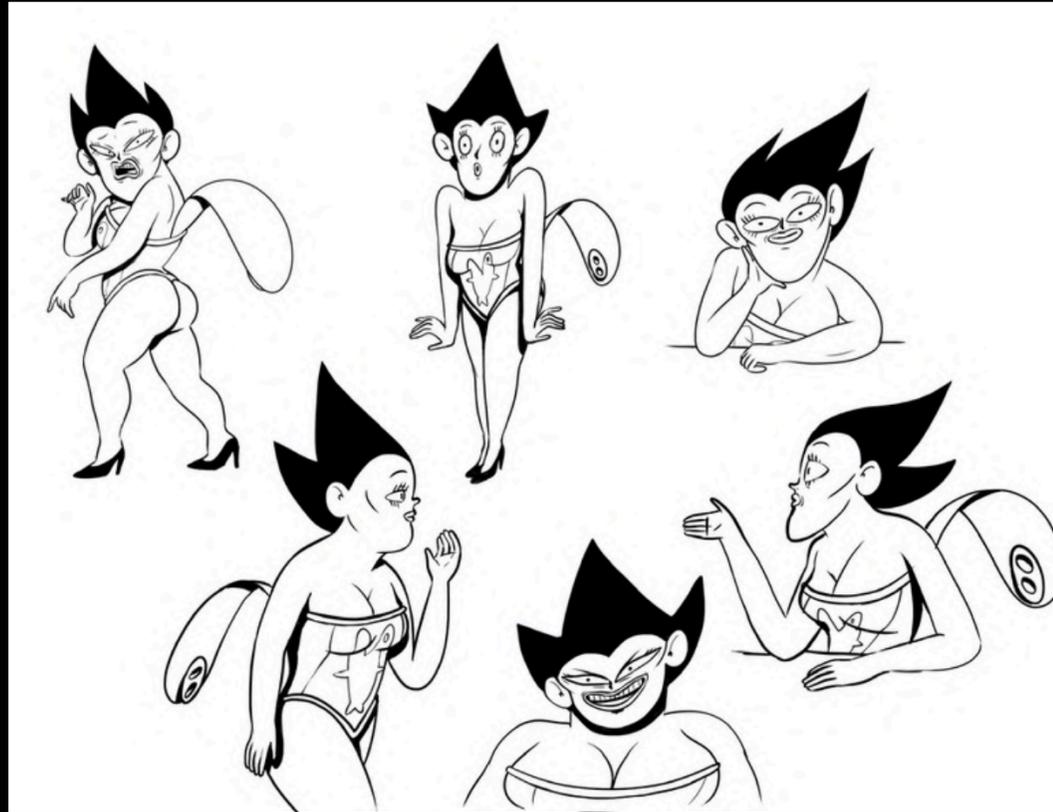
CASTING BY

Lena Greene

Charlotte Arnoux

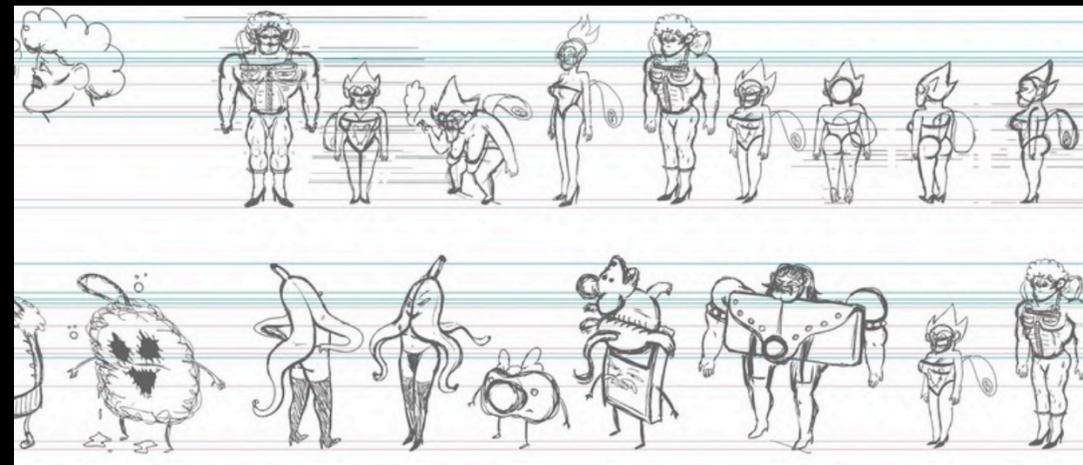
TUNA TARTARE

BEHIND THE SCENES - SKETCHES AND ACTORS



Lena recording Tuna with her dog, Sugar

Ryan Bush recording Susan
in Lena's bedroom with a martini



Ruby McCollister and Joe Castle Baker
recording Irma Wasser and Van Vattan (the
news anchors) at Montez Press Radio

TUNA TARTARE

BEHIND THE SCENES - WATERCOLOR SCENE



100 watercolor paintings were made for this scene!



TUNA TARTARE

CHARACTER DESIGNS

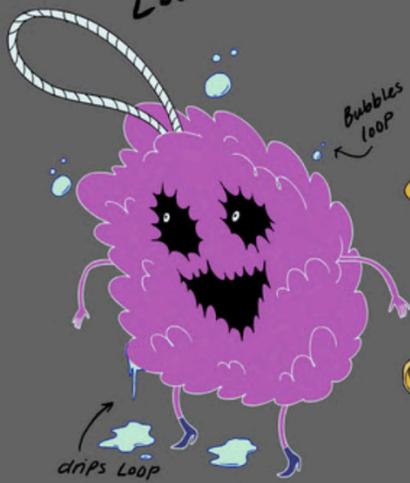
TUNA



SUSAN:



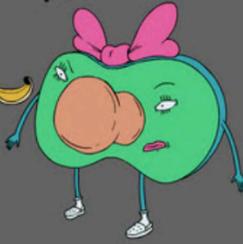
Lois LOOPAH



BARBARA BANANA



PATTI PACIFIER



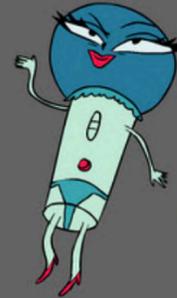
GURTH



MOUSETRAP MAN + MOUSE



MIC



MR MITTEN MAN (YOUNG)



MR MITTEN MAN (OLD)



EVELYN



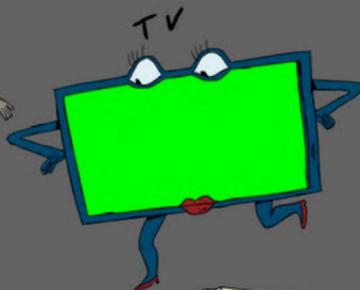
HOT SUCCESSFUL TUNA



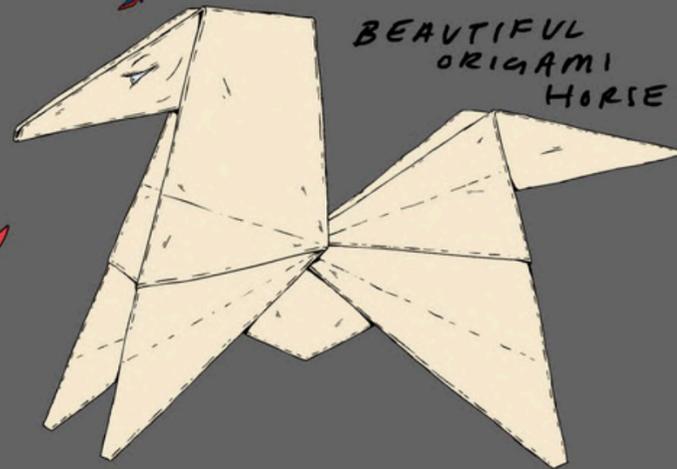
FAILED GROSS TUNA



Smoke ~ 3 or 4 frame loop



BEAUTIFUL ORIGAMI HORSE



VAN VATTAN



IRMA WASSER



TUNA TARTARE

CHARACTER DESIGNS



TUNA TARTARE

CONTACTS



DIRECTOR & PRODUCER:

Lena Greene

Lenagreene18@gmail.com

@_lena.greene_

DISTRIBUTION:

Luce Grosjean

Miyu Distribution

luce.grosjean@miyu.fr

MANAGEMENT:

Alison Mann

Fourth Wall

mann@fourthwallmanagement.com

★ thank you! ★