

Crossover

by Pierre Coulibeuf

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Film data

Year

2009

Format

35 mm colour, Dolby SR

Original negative

Kodak 35 mm
(camera 35mm PANAFLEX MILLENNIUM – lenses set:
PRIMO and 300/600 Canon)

Duration

28:25 minutes

Language

English

Synopsis

The subject: Erna Omarsdottir, PONI, Erna Omarsdottir in PONI...

The film projects Erna Omarsdottir into her own imaginative universe and composes a character through the looking-glass.

A manifold identity, Erna combines innocence and perversity—her Lolita side—, excess and cruelty. A body, a face in constant metamorphosis... Extreme plasticity and expressivity... Sometimes the face of an angel, sometimes that of a demon...

In the film *Crossover*, the group PONI appears from the point of view of the character played by Erna Omarsdottir: PONI is both an imagining of Erna and (almost) a recorded reality. In fact, it is on the borderline between the real and the imaginary: the shots featuring the musicians of PONI of course bring to mind a concert, but the daylight that lights them, conceived for the film, a light without any theatrical effect, 'de-realises' them and plunges them into an imaginary world. This de-realisation effect is reinforced by the use of very long focal lengths (150 and 300 mm), which give the two singers, Erna Omarsdottir and Kate MacIntosh, an exceptional presence that is nearly unreal. In fact, the shots with PONI simulate the concert: they play as if they were in concert but on a stage turned into a film set. This thoroughly strange situation gives their music a tension or a particular intensity. It is in that context that PONI produced their music: both the same and another, different.

Crossover is the first episode of a cross-disciplinary project by Pierre Coulibeuf, conceived from Erna Omarsdottir's mental universe.

Erna Omarsdottir is Icelandic. Dancer, choreographer and singer in the group PONI, she has collaborated with Björk, the visual artist Gabriela Fridriksdottir and with numerous choreographers—Jan Fabre in particular. PONI is a Flemish collective created by Frank Pay that plays in numerous venues in Belgium and throughout Europe.

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Credits

actors/performers

Erna Omarsdottir
and PONI: Rodolphe Coster, Lieven Dousselaere,
Marc Lallemand,
Kate McIntosh, Erna Omarsdottir, Frank Pay
with the participation of Charles Blondeel

music

PONI

location

Bruxelles (Belgium)

director of photography

Julien Hirsch

sound engineer

Quentin Jacques

editor

Thierry Rouden

produced by

Chantal Delanoë

coproduction

Regards Productions (France),
Fine Arts Unternehmen (Switzerland),
Savage Film (Belgium)
Images Plus with the participation of
Centre National de la Cinématographie,
MEDIA Développement,
Vlaams Audiovisueel Fonds, VGC

Pierre Coulibeuf. Filmmaker and visual artist. Lives in Paris.

Contemporary creation is the material of his artistic work. In cross-relation with cinematic genres (fiction, experimental, etc.) as well as with different ways of representing the moving image (35mm projection, installation, video, photographie), his works create a space and a language at the borders of disciplines, criticizing established forms and questioning the way reality is represented.

Cinema Retrospectives

2006 Pierre Coulibeuf, ...wie ein Schatten in der Ferne (Germany): Arsenal, Berlin ; Abaton-Kino, Hamburg ; Filmmuseum München ; Cinémathèque Leipzig ; Black Box, Düsseldorf ; Filmhaus im Künstlerhaus, Nürnberg ; Kommunales Kino, Hannover ; Kommunales Kino, Freiburg. 2005 Teatro Miela, Trieste (Italy) ; Itau Cultural, Sao Paulo (Brazil).

Solo Exhibitions/Film festivals

2007 TEL AVIV, Israel, Cinémathèque, 31 may-02 june 2007; MUSCAT, Oman,

Semaine de la Francophonie - Festival du Court Métrage de Clermont-Ferrand / Centre Culturel Franco-Omanais, 21-29 march 2007; PANTIN, France (93),

Festival Côté Court – Competition Fiction, 27 March-6 April 2007; WASHINGTON DC, USA, Shorts-Courts-Kurz - Festival du Court Métrage de Clermont-Ferrand / Alliance Française-Goethe Institute, 14 April 2007; BERLIN, Germany, Radialsystem-Sasha Waltz & guests, Somewhere in between, 4-5 may 2007.

2006 Deichtorhallen-Haus der Photographie, Hamburg (Germany) ; Galerie der HGB-Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst, Leipzig (Germany) ; PLAY-Gallery for still and motion pictures, Berlin (Germany) ; Galerie Traversée, München (Germany) ; Instituts français, München and Düsseldorf (Germany) ; 59th Locarno International Film Festival (Switzerland).

2005 5th Biennale internationale d'art contemporain of Mercosul, Porto Alegre (Brazil) ; Museo Nacional de Artes Visuales, Montevideo (Uruguay) ; 58th Locarno International Film Festival (Switzerland) ; Printemps de Septembre, Toulouse (France) ; 11th Biennale of Moving images, Centre pour l'image contemporaine, Genève (Switzerland) ; Centre d'art du Domaine départemental de Chamarande (France) ; Image Forum Festival-Experimental Film & Video, Tokyo, Kyoto, Fukuoka, Nagoya, Kanazawa, Yokohama (Japan) ; Saw Gallery, Ottawa (Canada).