

ANIMATED MOCKUMENTARY

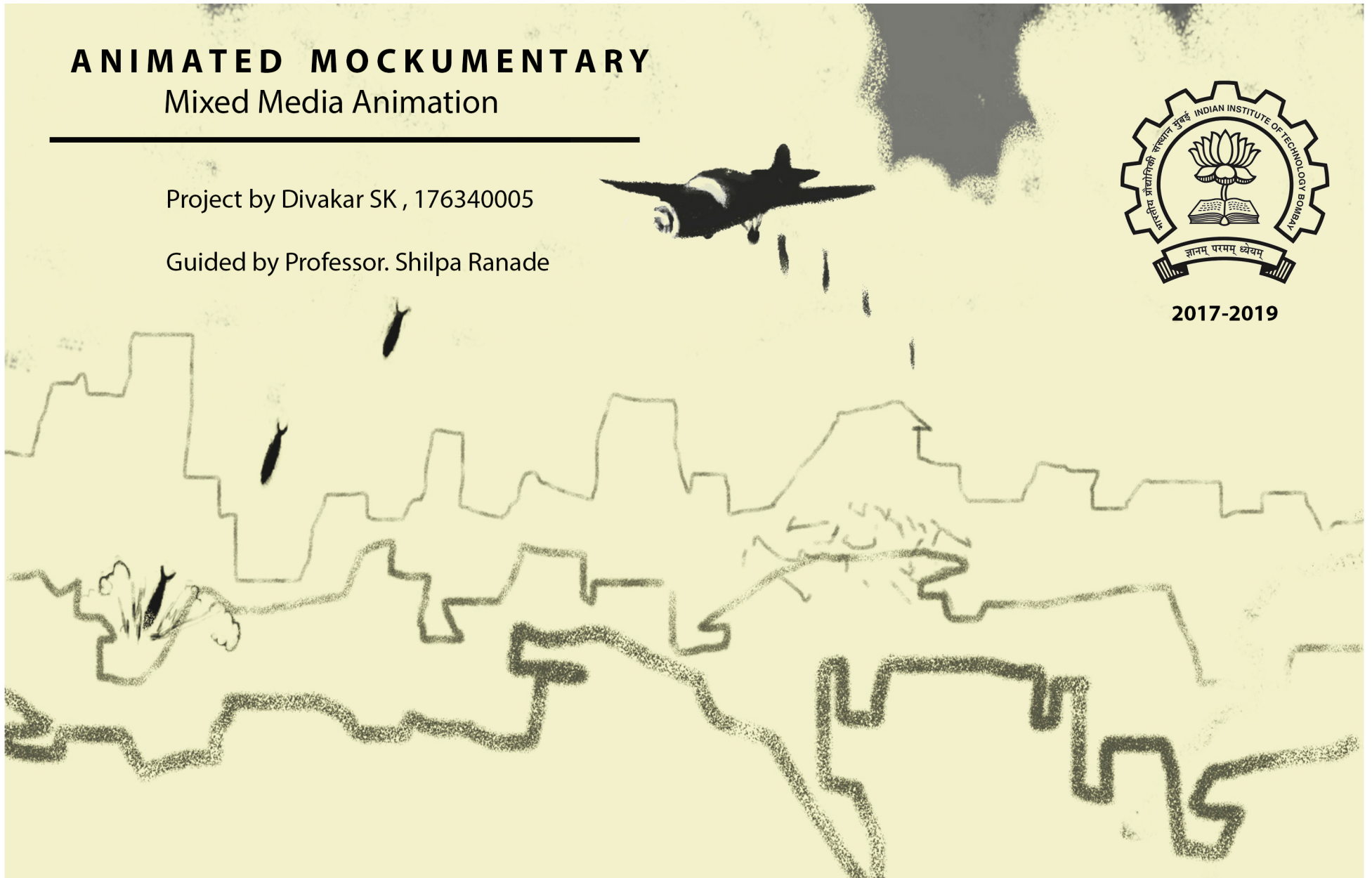
Mixed Media Animation

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Guided by Professor. Shilpa Ranade



2017-2019



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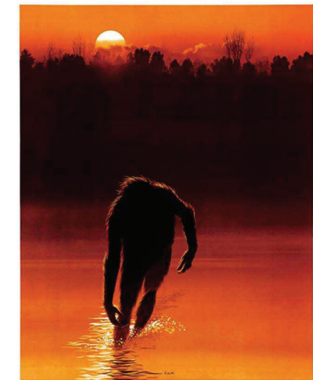
INTRODUCTION

Despite every city has its own signature identity, there's something very common between most of the cities around the world whether it's a US city or an African city or a Indian city. Globalization has gone a long way in blurring down the blockades between all these worlds. The advent of cinema, television and printed media over the past century has played a mammoth role in bringing the corners of the world into every person's home. And the people in the huge cities are the ones who get directly influenced by these agents that trigger rapid dispersal of global trends instantaneously. Over time these cities have developed a culture of their own which is highly fluctuatory, contagious and seasonal. It is called as popular culture. Popular Culture is a phenomenon that operates much intricately on the mental levels of the society. With the arrival of the internet, the radius of this phenomenon has broadened to a wider scale and it has developed its own traits of behaviour over the years. The idea of people being in sync with the top trending list is a key driving force behind the modern day popular culture. Amidst the conspiracies, it's very interesting to observe how people and the internet breathing as a whole like a single huge Organism. But like a candy, the trends in these virtual worlds come with a shelf life and they are meant to be highly volatile at times. No trend stays at the top of the pyramid more than a week in today's world. Every trend pops out of elsewhere, discussed over and over, brings in a lot of online commotions and celebrations, and then just disappears into thin air the next morning. What's more scintillating is that there is always a never-ending supply of these trends that always switch over and keeps our skullspace occupied. No matter to what extent people try to blanket themselves away from these trends, they are either directly or indirectly pushed into the theatricality of the proceedings of this modern day popular culture. I strongly feel this phenomenon has silently shaped up the cities as they decide a lot of political and corporal factors sitting right inside every person's head and dictating people day in and day out. So I decided to take this as a theme for the project and has given a mockumentarial narrative for this project. I found it very interesting as the mockumentarial narrative would give the project a generic approach rather than a singular opinion.

STORY INSPIRATIONS

I personally believe horror genre as a truest form of cinematic finesse as it brings out all the range of visceral performances to the screen with utmost expressiveness and freshness. Contrastingly, the documentary genre too never failed to impress me with its life mirroring approach and raw narrative. Its interesting to see some of the historically notable works have been created occasionally as a result of some unusual amalgamation of entirely different genres. Docudrama's, Docufictions, Docuhorror etc..were examples of such amalgamations. One Such pioneering work is The Legend of Boggy Creek 1972 by Charles B. Pierce. The film is a horror docudrama which has brought in an entirely innovative execution for a monster feature narrative. Personally, I had a great experience watching this film and the film has given me a new kind of outlook towards the horror film genre. It's purely a kind of magic that Pierce has produced with this flick as it gives the viewer a sense of literary horror along with a documentarized experience. What's more bizzare is that the fact the people in the movie seem so real [most of them are locals/non actors] , it comfortably makes the monster so appealing and relatable in the same grammar.

The 2007 found footage film Rec is another prime example which has set some remarkable standards interms of horror film genre and found footage films. There's never been such an original attempt in horror film making that is as effective as Rec. The flow of the film is highly intriguing and the extremely tense atmosphere it has created with the close to life characters has made Rec a completely unique and thrilling experience. I consider both the Legend of Boggy creek and Rec as driving force of this project. Though this project, has nothing to do with the horror themes, the soul and skeleton of this work is hugely inspired from these two works. Other than these, films like District 9, Trollhunter, Millineum Actress have directly or indirectly inspired some of the themes and narratives of this film.



The Legend of Boggy Creek
A TRUE STORY
A HOWE INTERNATIONAL PICTURES RELEASE
A PETER LEWIS PRODUCTION
Produced and Directed by CHARLES PIERCE. Written by DALE L. COOPER. Music by PAUL HENNINGSON. Executive Producers: M. LEMMON & JONATHAN PERCIE.
Cuts by TECHNOLOGY - FORMER A TECHNOLOGY

https://ae01.alicdn.com/kf/H1b1dc02XtWk11f5spqf6zXfXa3/Art-Print-Poster-14x21-20x30-24x36-inch-LEGEND-OF-BOGGY-CREEK-Movie-RARE-Bigfoot-Sci-Fi.jpg_q50.jpg



<http://i.imgur.com/99f68.jpg>

MEDIUM INSPIRATIONS



https://cdn-vsh.prague.eu/object/523/2.jpg?_ga=2.87181404.572139783.1559577818-159652488.1559577818

The results are some of the iconic works that would definitely give Melies the run for the money. His approach towards planning out the shots with different animation mediums has highly impressed me and I have tried some of the little things I have learned from his movies in this project. What Harryhausen has taught me is a set of whole new other lessons that is quite different from Zeman.



<https://lonelyplanetwpnews.imgix.net/2017/10/Ray-Harryhausen-behind-the-camera-Photo-courtesy-of-Oklahoma-Science-Museum.jpg>

In the world of animation and film making, the shoes of Karel Zeman and Ray Harryhausen can never be replaced. Considering their times and the kind of work they have produced, they both stand as unique visionaries and their legend can never be paralleled. Karel Zeman is unlike any visionary in the annals of cinema history. The Only person that came close to his works is Georges Melies atleast in my vision. Because of his command over a huge crews, with an artistic approach he has created some of the stupendous works that has brought the best of stop motion, illustration, live action, and hand drawn animation altogether. He had a wonderful visualisation and careful planning that he was never afraid of mixing the entirely different mediums and matching the mediums with a common aesthetic and maintaining the tone for the entire feature length is something that you can find only in a Karl Zeman films

Unlike Zeman, Harryhausen hasn't made complete features but has made a world of his own in puppet design and animation. The way Harryhausen's brings out the best out of his puppets that he personally builds and the kind of magic they create along with the live action footages is something that is definitely one witchcraft of a work. His every single character is a masterful work of precision as well as a blissful treat to the eyes. It's mindblowing to hear that he participates in the live action shooting with a marker in his hands, which he would ultimately replace with an animated puppet sequence. Moreover the range of factors such as the direction of light, the camera axis, the actions of the characters that he refines for the final shot is just extraordinary to hear. Harryhausen's approach has taught a lot in importance of basic photographic and animation skills in pulling out a decent character implant into a footage.

FINAL STORY

An anonymous city(Mumbai ref) is smoothly running in its routine and it catches the attention of the SETI department by some mysterious accident in a underground metrotrain construction site.Though the Witnessal's reporting of strange sighting doesn't send shockwaves in the city, he gets inquired by some of the SETI members and the inquiry helped the team to find some of the plot loops in the mystery.After a month a food delivery boy , finds an monster egg in the forest that he photographs and shares in the social media.It goes viral all over the city and gets mocked for all sorts of online criticisms and commotions in the virtual world.Everybody makes their opinion of the egg ranging from super silly to super genius speculations. Meanwhile the egg gets secured by the SETI and the Government and they have taken keen inspection over the egg and it went through all sorts of tests.End of the tests the team concludes its definitely no Extra terrestrial and there's no sign of life or danger out of the egg. But the Government has asked the body to keep calm on the subject. By the time , the buzz of the incident has already gone around every knook and corner of the city.Speculations and Anticipation over what's inside the egg has already started lot of quarrel and violence between various social bodies in the society.The hype for the egg is in the right ecitement level,and with the local election around the corner, Government has decided to release the faked scientific data in the newspapers, stating that a dangerous creature has been developing inside the egg and only their party can save the people from the danger that is coming to the city.Now the news is in papers and being its official, everyone were very afraid,and that fine afternoon there's a rain of eggs everywhere in the city and the city is in panic now and the people were shaken to the core,National emergency was brought and people were asked to stay indoors.Nobody were asked to go near the egg.Government has never expected this to happen,they were not ready for this.But to heighten everything as Further tests were conducted the rained eggs were way different from the previous find and these eggs were possibly extra terrestrial.Government doesn't have any technology to deal with these stuff and they do not want to mess anything with these eggs and they just ignored them.After a month people have just adapted to these eggs everywhere around the city.They just see it everyday, and now they treat them just like a rock, they have forgotten all the danger around it and have started just living around them.

FINAL SCRIPT

SCENE I

[Construction worker talking to a camera-indoor/]

V: Man talking to camera./

A: That night I was in the site, Usually it will be very warm in the night,

[Construction worker in the Metro Site - Underground]

V: man shivering sitting in a earthmover

A: but that night it was very cold in the site.

V: Man and his assitant were eating roti and looking around restlessly.

A: We kept on hearing a strange old radio tuning kind of sound

V: Man switching off the earthmover engine and walking down the tunnel

A: First I thought it was the engine and now the radio sound is even noisier.

V: Man looking up the ceiling.

A: It was from the ceiling and I kept on looking at the ceiling

V: Dusts falling from the Ceiling

A: The ceiling went quiet and there was creaking sound

V: Ceiling falls off

A: Then the ceiling fell off

Man 2:

V:worker starring at camera listening to a man

A:Do you remember the exact time,when this happened

V: Cosmic Signal decoder panel in the LED screen with running numbers.

A:It was around 2 in the night

SCENE II

V:Food delivery boy parking his bike

A:That day I was returning from the usual delivery and parked my bike near the college forest .

V:Food delivery boy answering his natural call near a tree

A:I was answering my natural call

V:Food delivery boy closing his eyes

A:By the time I am passing it, I heard a screeching noise.

V: boy stunned and starring at an huge egg behind him

A:There was this huge egg that came out of nowhere

V:Boy clicking the photograph of the egg in the smartphone

A:I clicked photographs of it and ran with my bike

V: Boy sleeping in the home and opening his eyes suddenly

A:Jhonny..Jhonny..

V: Boy taking his smartphone and operating it.

A: I have uploaded the picture of the egg in social media and it went viral

V: Boy looking at a camera

A: What happened to the egg then

V: Boy smiling at the camera

A: Next day I went that side It was full of police

SCENE III

V: Scientist in a radiation protective covering walking

A: Beep of the GM Counter keeps hearing

V: Scientist becomes very uneasy and stands still

A: Beep of GM counter shoots up

V: Scientist takes another step towards the egg

A: GM counter goes silent

V: Calls ringing up, Silhouette of the people running around the building

A: people distant shouts, phone ringing sounds.

V: Man Answering the phone

A: Yes Sir, Okay Sir, It will be confidential sir!

SCENE IV

V: couple in train

A: It's photoshopped

V: Barber cutting hair

A: It must be those Youtube channels

V: Techie guy in specs looking at camera

A: Am vegetarian okay!

V: Fish selling women talking to camera

A: They sell it in the next shop

V: Anda Paav Seller laughing at it

A: How much per egg! is that for sale!

V: Oldman talking very silently

A: We shouldn't have gone this far, We shouldn't have sent those signals, lately we have been very careless. Our carelessness has exposed us to these kind of threats. Science should behave with some discipline.

SCENE V

[shadow closing on everybody as they stare up]

V: couple in park looking at sky,

V: Dog looking at sky

V:Couple in beach looking at sky

V Cat looking at sky

V:People near gateway looking at sky

V: egg eclipsing down the sun

V:Egg dropping on link bridge

V: vehicles falling off the bridge.

V:people running in panic

V:Screen blanks out

V:long shot of the city with full of raining eggs

V:eggs falling from the clouds,with aeroplane passing.Screen again blanks out.

SCENE VI

V: Man popping out of tank with a huge speaker in his hand

A: Everyone stay indoors

V: Tanks crossing the street with full of eggs.

A: Everyone stay indoors

V: people peaking at the tanks through the windows.

A: Call SOS for emergency

V: Silhouette of eggs in the smoke with siren in background

A: Do not go near the eggs. Irrespective to anyone who does so will be shot dead.

SCENE III

V: People playing cricket near the egg

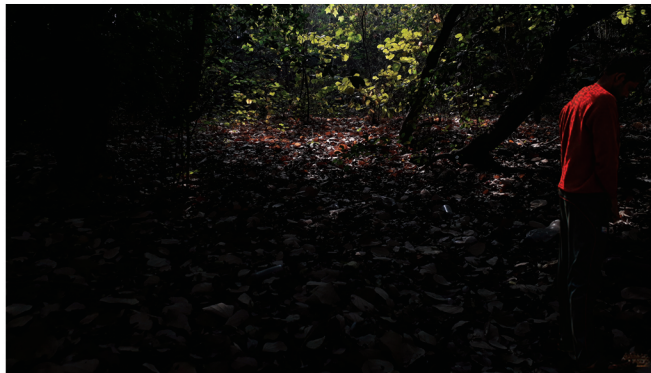
V: Man posting a poster over an egg which is already full of posters

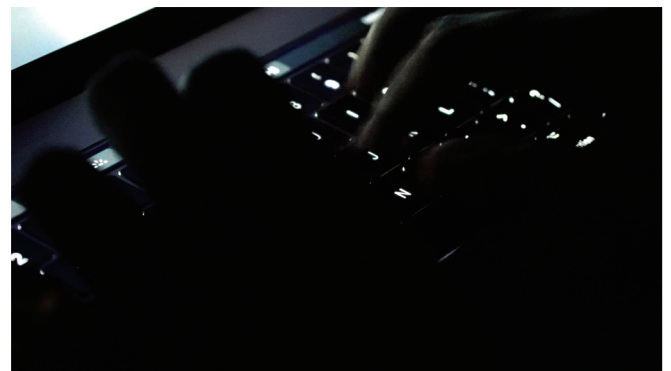
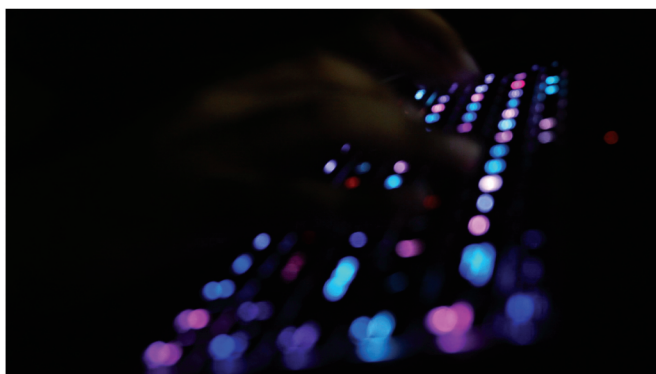
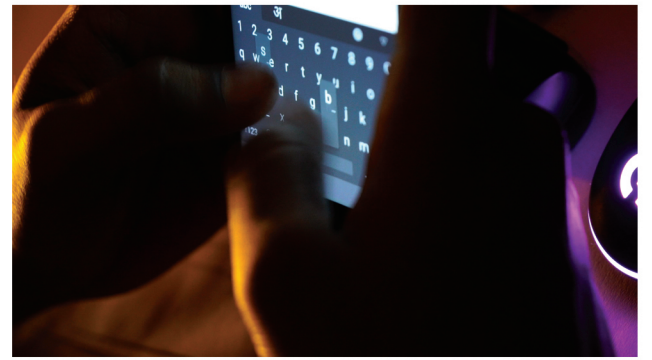
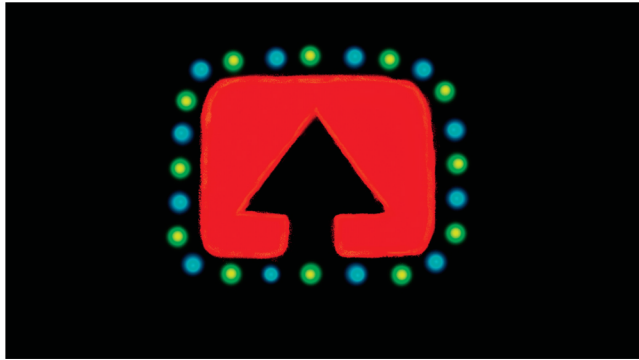
V: dog pissing over an egg

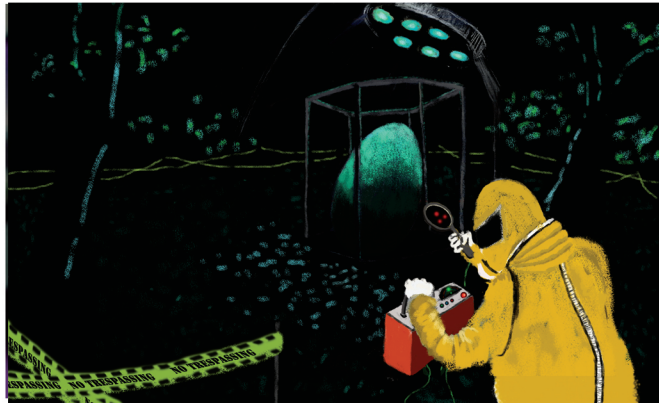
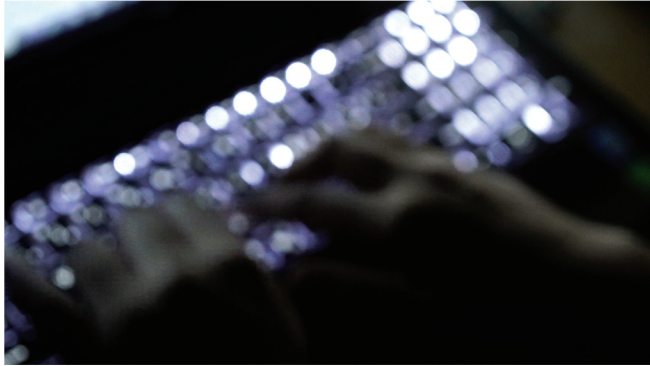
V: Guy silently sitting on one of the thousands of eggs in the marine drive and playing kite.

----End-----

STORYBOARD

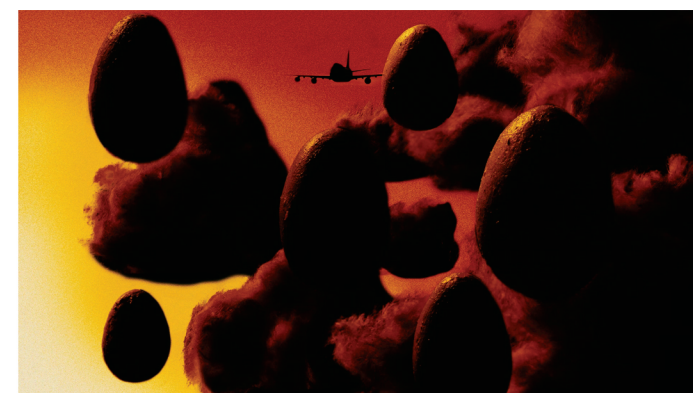
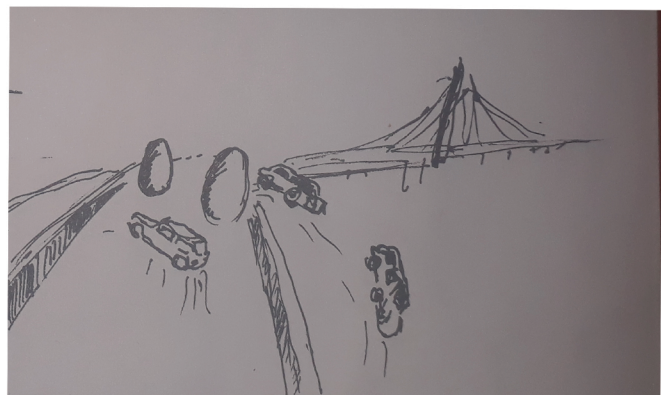
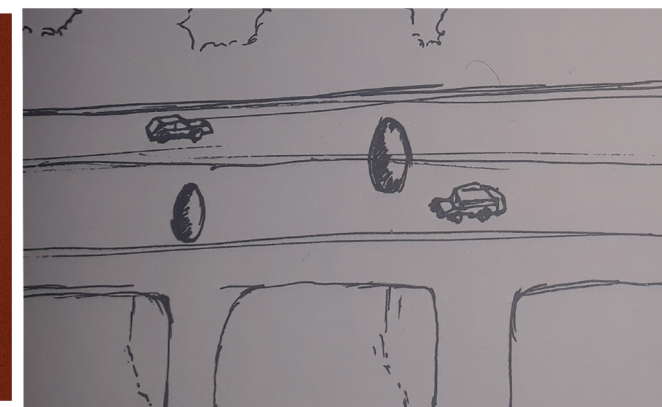
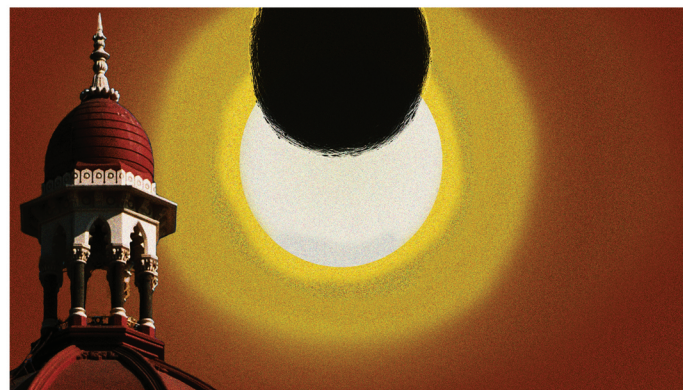
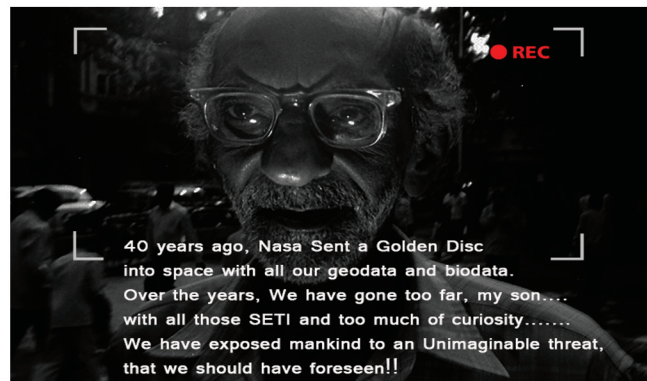
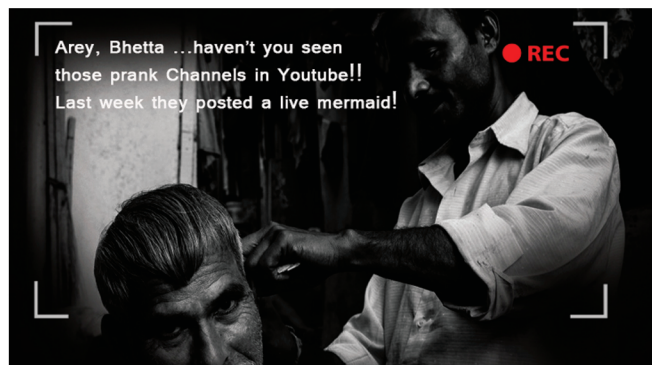


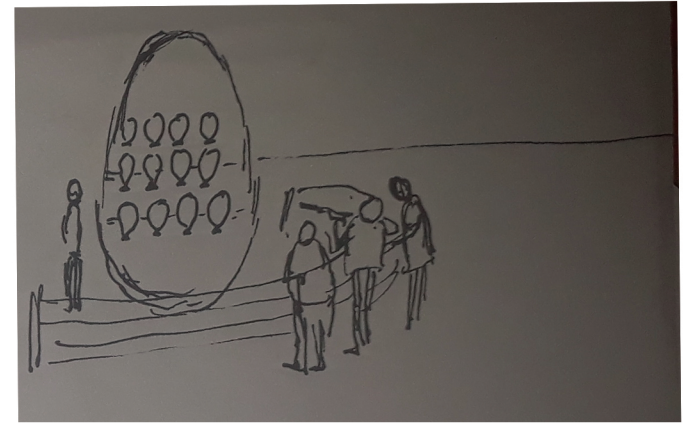
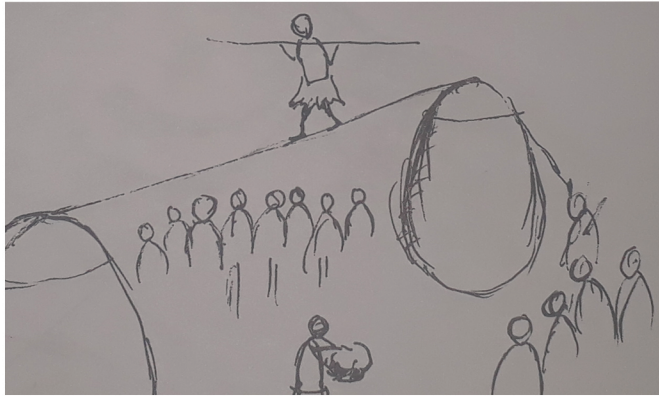




HEADLINES TODAY







MIXED MEDIA ANIMATION

Mixed media animation is an animation process which involves combining different animation mediums like papercut out animation, digital cutout, hand drawn animation, pixilation, live photographs, charcoal animation etc..and compositing them together to create a typical look and aesthetic subjective to a particular story requirement or just for experimental purpose. This kind of animation can be seen in some of the films of Karel Zeman which I mentioned earlier in this report.



PRODUCTION PROCESS

I have adapted to a variety of techniques in production of this film and its better I give you one simple example to understand the process.



miniature styrofoam eggs
Photographs



live action
pixilation



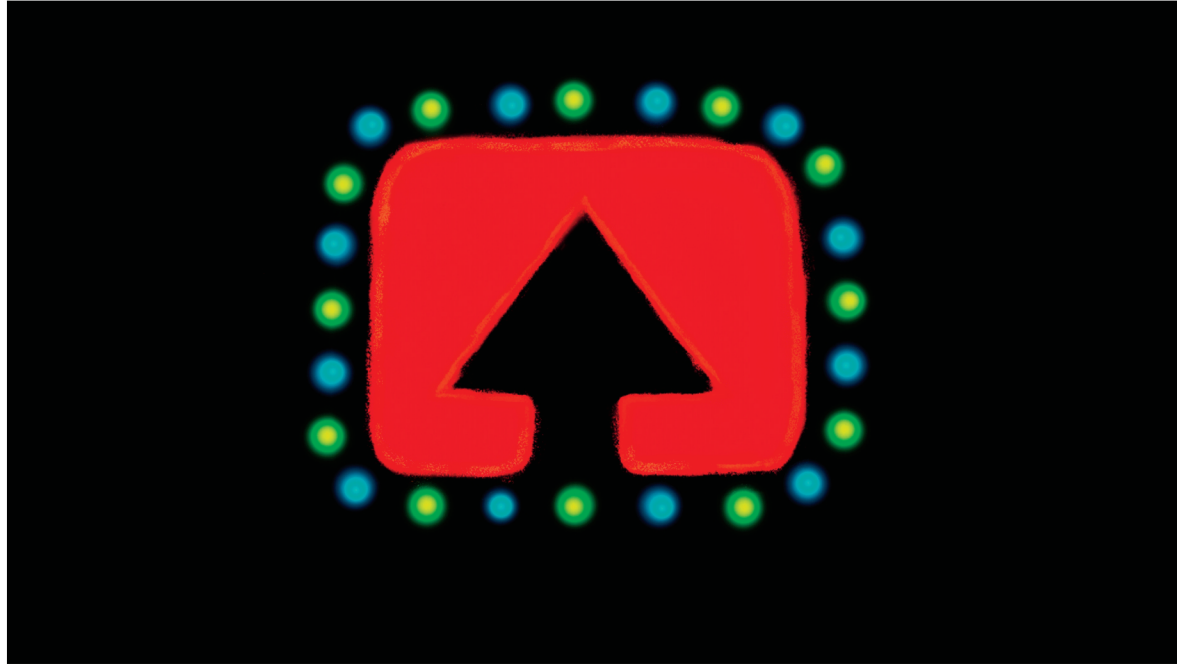
Illustrations
+
drawn
animated waves

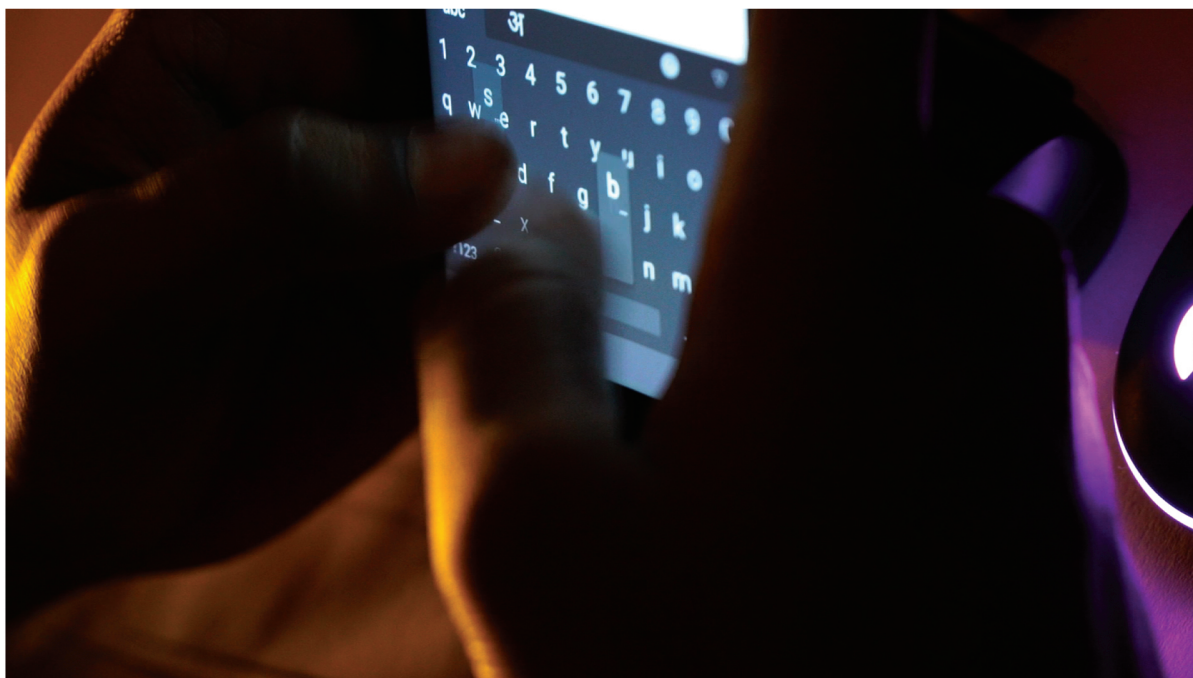
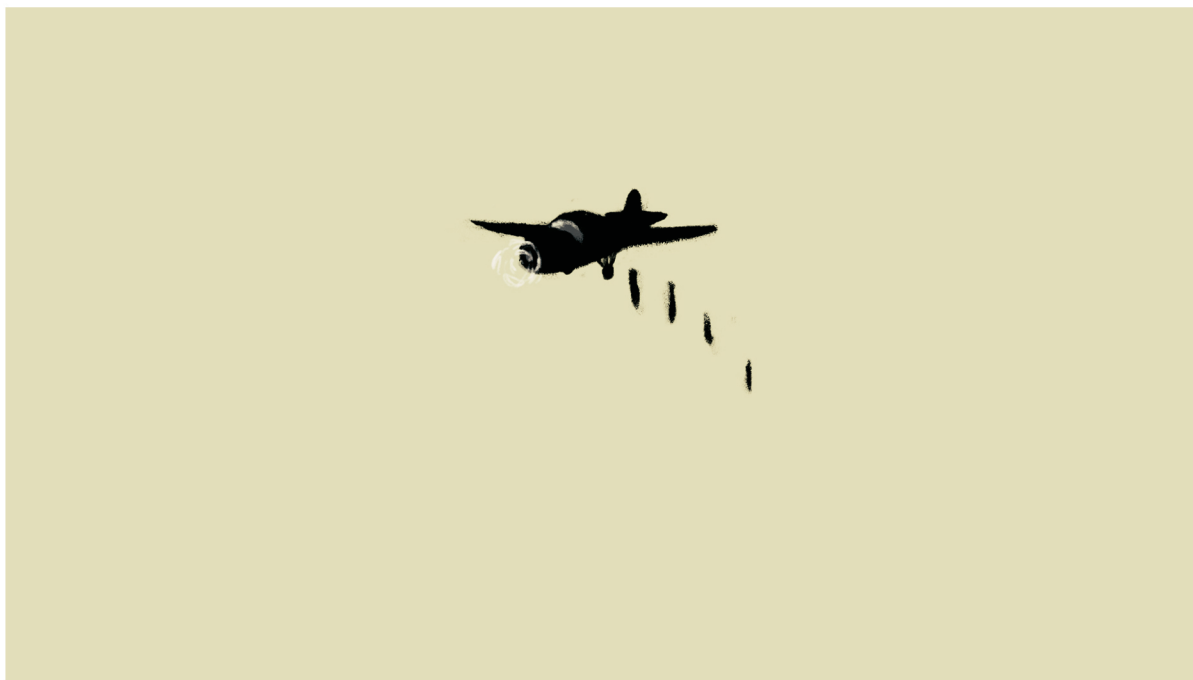
Photoshop

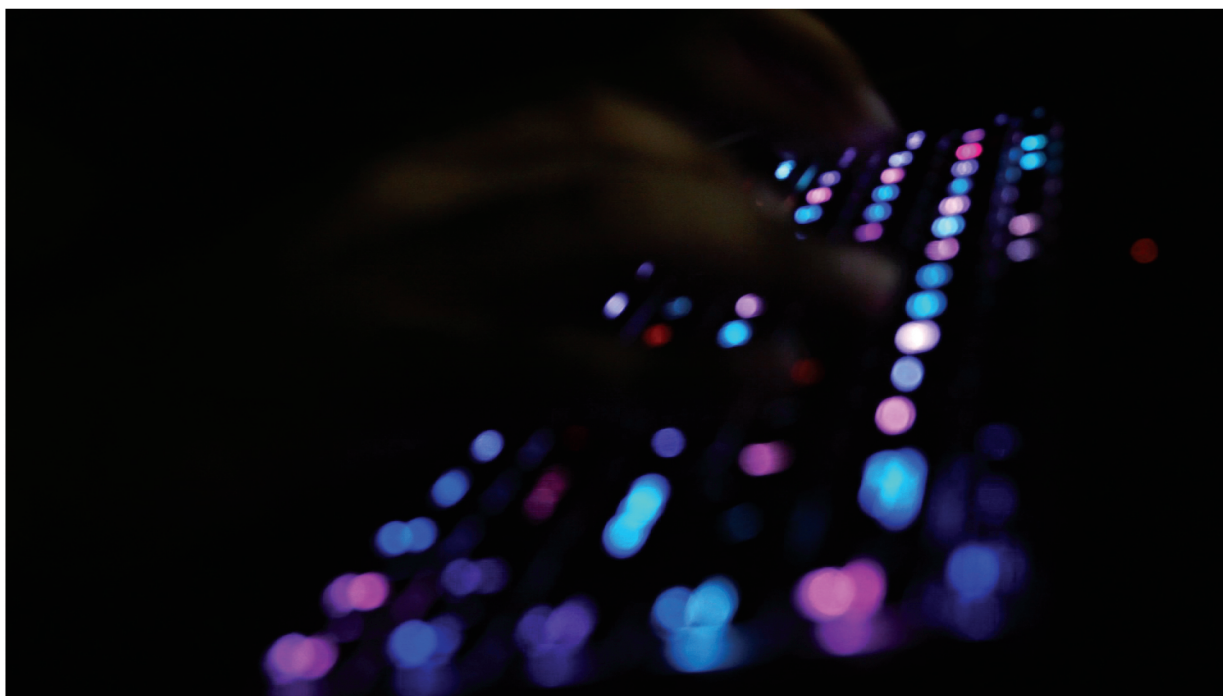


Final Shot

FINAL SHOTS

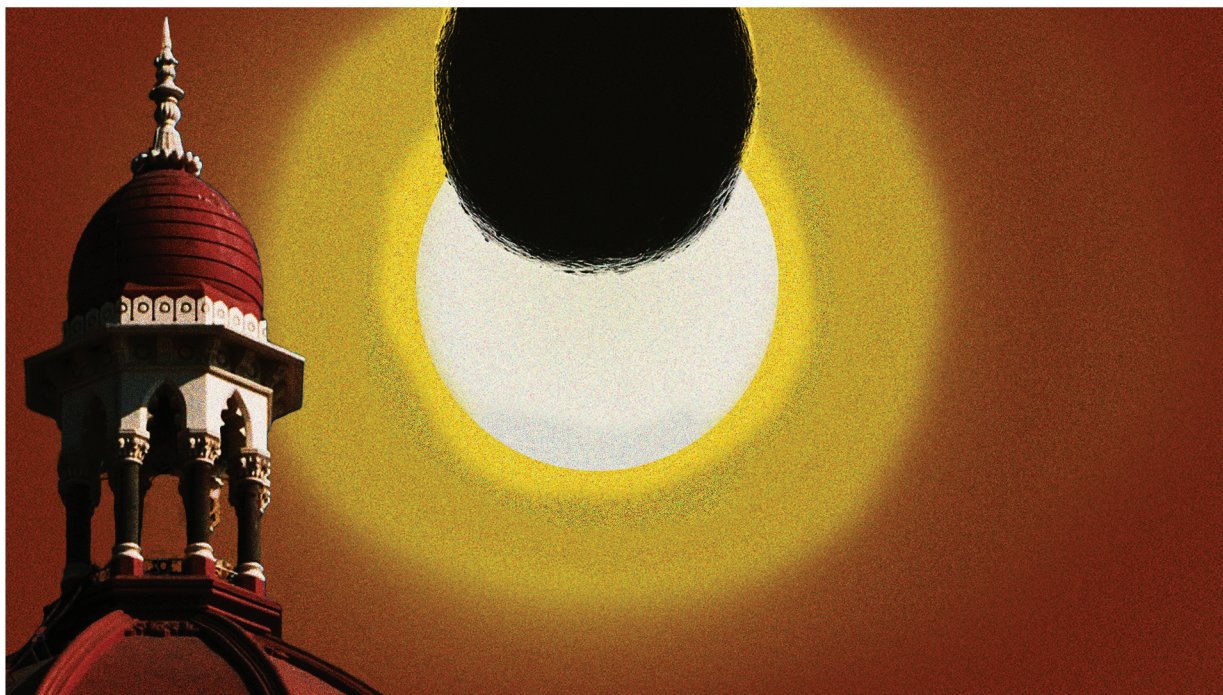


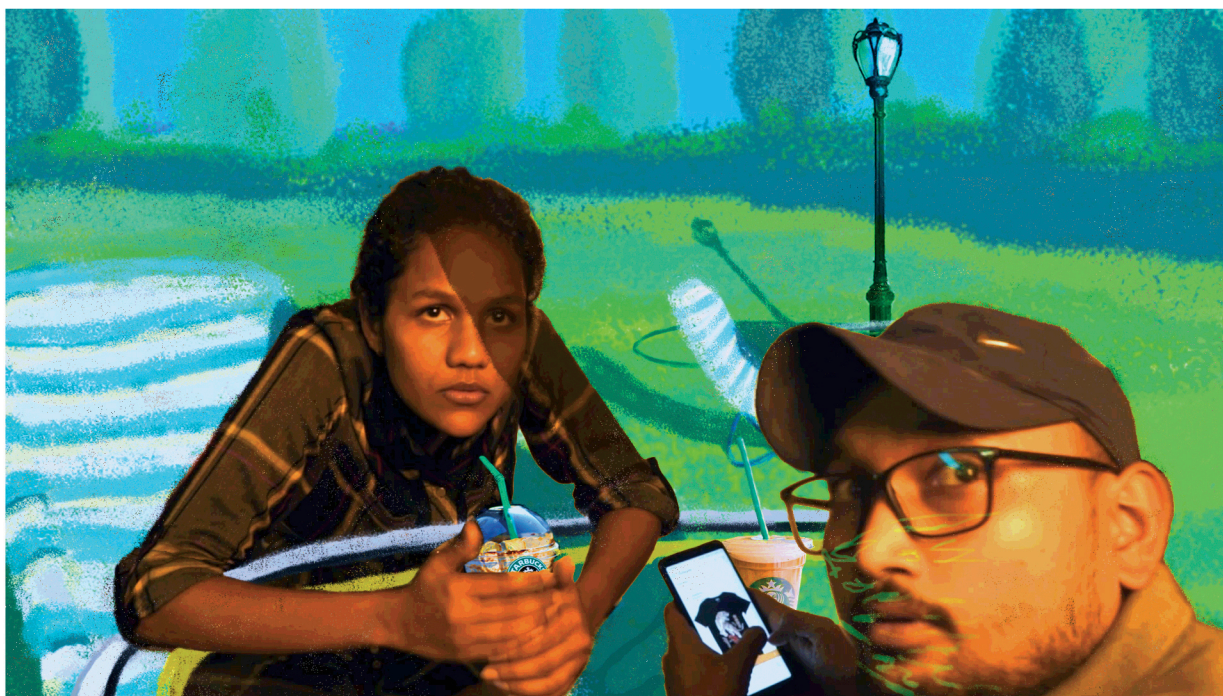












CONCLUSION

This project served as a good opportunity for the craft that I learned over the past two years in IDC from one of the bests in the field in Indian Animation Industry. I hope I will carry this spirit forward in contributing to the Indian animation gallery and I will strive to serve this art of animation in the upcoming future.

~The End~