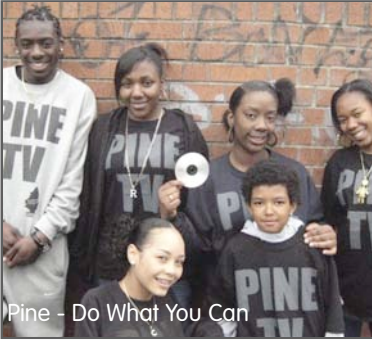


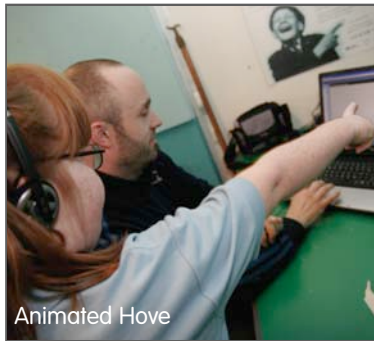
## Electric December 2008 - A Short Film Selection Box

[www.electricdecember.org](http://www.electricdecember.org)

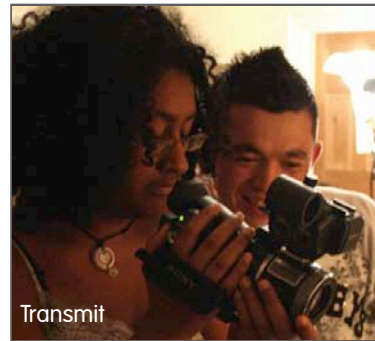
From Mon 1 Dec



Pine - Do What You Can



Animated Hove



Transmit

Get ready - on Monday 1st December **Electric December**, the original countdown calendar from Watershed, invites you to open the first of its webby windows to wonderland at [electricdecember.org](http://electricdecember.org). It's our gift to you: 24 presents and 24 premieres from a European smorgasbord of emerging cinematic skill.

Every one of the 24 fabulous films was made by young people from across Europe. Share their adventures as they escape from an ancient Egyptian pyramid, find their subconscious in their scrambled eggs, become baking behemoths, float into space, overdose on grapefruit and are controlled by a sinister retro radio.

The final selection of films is as diverse as the continent they come from. Quirky, colourful stop motion, 2D and 3D animations, experimental dance, French hip hop music videos, bizarre pieces of skateboarding surrealism and even a soap where the patrons at the local cafe are superheroes - there really is something for everyone this Christmas with **Electric December**. So log on, select a date, and electrify your imagination this December.

2008 is special. As this year **Electric December** celebrates an entire decade of delectable digital treats and, for the first time, is showcasing films from across Europe as part of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue.

**Electricdecember.org '08** is presented by the folks at eShed.net, a Watershed-hosted community for young people between 14 and 21 interested in film and media. They've been working in partnership with like-minded young creatives from Spain, Germany, Poland, France, the Netherlands, Lithuania and other regions of the UK.

You can view the **Electric December** trailer online on YouTube at <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=Sv2NKh0S6Dk> and on the BBC Big Screen network across the UK.

Felix Drake, a member of eShed's steering group, said: "**Electric December** is a unique way to connect with other young filmmakers from different countries, cultures and backgrounds. It gives you an excellent opportunity to showcase your talents to people all over Europe and see their absorbing work in return."

Mark Cosgrove, Watershed's Head of Programme, shares Felix's enthusiasm: "2008 is a hallmark year for **Electric December** - not only is it its tenth birthday but the celebrations have expanded Europe-wide. The variety of films we have received has been exceptional - check back every day to see for yourself the wealth of talent on show."

--Ends--

See the following pages for Editors' notes and descriptions of this year's films.

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# WATERSHED

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**Editors' Notes:**

- To request further information, images, or interviews with filmmakers, members of the eShed steering group or Watershed staff, please contact Cat John [catrin.john@watershed.co.uk](mailto:catrin.john@watershed.co.uk) or Claire Stewart [claire.stewart@watershed.co.uk](mailto:claire.stewart@watershed.co.uk) / Tel: 0117 927 6444.
- You are invited to the launch party of Electric December at 1830hrs on Mon 1 Dec at Watershed. Members of the eShed steering group, young filmmakers involved in the project, and Watershed staff will be attending and available for interview. Drinks and an international buffet will be served and this year's films will be screened. Please RSVP to [claire.stewart@watershed.co.uk](mailto:claire.stewart@watershed.co.uk) by **Mon 1 Dec**.
- Two awards will be presented at the launch. The first, the Electric December '08 South West Award, will be chosen by the eShed steering group and will be presented to one of the entries from the South West Region. The winning filmmaker will receive a bursary to attend a European Young Peoples' Film Festival in 2009. The second, the Electric December '08 Award, will be chosen by an international jury of young people and awarded to their favourite film from the 24 featured this year. The winning filmmaker will receive a travel bursary to attend a European Young Peoples' Film Festival in 2009.
- Bristol and Bath-based young filmmakers made ten of the films featured in Electric December - for a list of these films please see attached. For more information please liaise with [claire.stewart@watershed.co.uk](mailto:claire.stewart@watershed.co.uk)
- eShed.net is a Watershed-hosted community run by young people for young people (14-21) who love film and media with regular events and networking sessions. For further information please visit eShed.net or email [info@eshed.net](mailto:info@eshed.net)
- Three of the short films featured in Electric December '08 are part of the 'Calling the Shots Project,' an initiative led by the City Academy and The Pierian Centre, who have been working with three groups of young people aged 14-18 from Bristol (St. Paul's/Easton), Germany (Hannover) and Poland (Poznan) to produce 15-20 minute films with the theme of migration. The three groups are now developing a script for a drama entitled 'Full House' which will be filmed in each of the locations during summer 2009.
- Electric December is a Watershed project led by eShed.net supported by The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (EYID) 2008, the European Commission and the Europa Cinemas Network. With thanks to Bristol City Council.
- For more information on Watershed please visit <http://www.watershed.co.uk>

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**WATERSHED**

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## Film details

### Mon 1 Dec: Stand and Stare

The life of a single tree is examined through the seasonal and industrial changes of its environment.

**From Bristol, UK.**

Made by Josh Cawthorne and Simon Roberts, students from Bristol UWE's School of Creative Arts.

### Tue 2 Dec: Qui de nous deux? / Who between the two of us?

Lily is interrupted from her idyllic afternoon in the park by the local bully Nara. They forget their disagreements, however, when they are focussed in pursuit of a lollipop suddenly up for grabs. Who will snatch the prize?

**From Villeneuve d'Ascq, France.**

Made by Secondary students from Thérèse d'Avila High School.

### Wed 3 Dec: In the Gateaux

Two cake factories – The Merry Muffin and Mega Cakes – go to war in the kitchen and the cake-loving community. Which baking business will take the biscuit?

**From Bristol, UK.**

This comedic fairytale was devised, filmed and edited by Knowle West Media Centre's 'Digital Fish' film club for 13-17 year olds.

### Thu 4 Dec: Drzewo / The Tree

The apple really never falls far from the tree as a man creates a child from a fallen fruit.

**From Warsaw, Poland.**

By 18 year old Michael Mroz. Michael made his first film in 2005 and has continued ever since. This particular film, The Tree, has won more than 30 prizes at various festivals.

### Fri 5 Dec: Tacky UK

A piece of slow-motion surrealism following a skateboarder and the bizarre, dream-like obstacles he encounters along the street.

**From Bristol, UK.**

Filed and directed by James Gardnet and Nial Kenny starring Ben Nordberg from Blueprint skateboards.

### Sat 6 Dec: Me and My Home: Anca's Story

Anca, a girl from a Roma Gypsy village in Transylvania, introduces her extended family, home, and way of life.

**From Romania/UK.**

Anca's film was made as part of a digital pen pal project designed to get different groups of young people communicating with each other through film and other technologies. Made with the guidance of Awen Productions, a West Cornwall media production company.

### Sun 7 Dec: A Trip to Egypt

A group of children try to escape from inside a trap-ridden ancient Egyptian pyramid.

**From Bath, UK.**

Bath-based Suited and Booted provide opportunities to engage with moving image and digital media. Here they joined forces with a class from St Michael's, a Church of England voluntary controlled junior school for children aged 7-11 years old.

### Mon 8 Dec: Pine - Do What You Can

Uplifting music video for the track 'Do What You Can' from Bristol rapper Pine. Filmed in St Paul's featuring local young people.

**From Bristol, UK.**

Made by Channel Zero, a media club for young film makers and musicians based in St. Pauls, Bristol.

### Tue 9 Dec: Animated Hove

A little girl takes a colourful journey on a train, encountering magical characters along the way.

**From Hove, UK.**

Made by Carousel, a Brighton and Hove based charity for creative arts by and with people with learning difficulties and disabilities with the help of the pupils from Hillside School, Brighton.

### Wed 10 Dec: The Hulk Of Smaller Proportions

A regular unassertive guy encounters his rather unwelcome subconscious in his scrambled eggs.

**From Bristol, UK.**

Made by Taran Burns, a member of the eShed steering group.

### Thu 11 Dec: Otra Historia / Another Story

A football-obsessed boy takes his sporting passions out of his head and on to the streets. Gooaaaallll!

**From Salamanca, Spain.**

By Bruno Cebrián García. Featuring the filmmaker's family members and shot entirely without a script or storyboard, this film has been plucked from obscurity after three years hidden away in a drawer.

### Fri 12 Dec: Full House Hannover

A group of young Hannover-based filmmakers introduce themselves and the Calling the Shots project.

**From Hannover, Germany.**

Made as part of the 'Calling the Shots' Project.

### Sat 13 Dec: Ma Rue 2006

French hip hop from young people affected by the Paris riots in November 2005. The lyrics celebrate the cultural differences between the communities while urging them to unite for a better future.

**From Créteil, France.**

This is a collective work featuring over 150 young people who live in the area around the Cinémas du Palais in Créteil.

### Sun 14 Dec: The Jester

Curious dreams come to life in this 3D computer generated animation.

**From Bristol, UK.**

Made by Tom Gasson, a City of Bristol College student.

### Mon 15 Dec: Friendship

Yorkshire girls Iman and Jodie celebrate their lifelong friendship.

**From Sheffield, UK.**

Made by Iman Hussain and Jodie Hobson as part of Cube, a Sheffield-based magazine and website made by young people for young people.

### Tue 16 Dec: Full House: Where is My Mam?

A postcard from Poznań : a group of home alone local teenagers prepare for a party. Can they pull the wool over Mum's eyes?

**From Poznan, Poland.**

The Children's Art Centre in Poznan has been getting local children and young people involved in artistic pursuits since 1984. Filmed as part of the 'Calling the Shots' Project.

### Wed 17 Dec: Carne Farm

The country, the animals, the weather - the Hichens family from West Cornwall describe their love for the family farm.

**From the UK.**

Made by Awen Productions, a social enterprise media production company based in West Cornwall.

### Thu 18 Dec: Transmit

A formerly happy young couple have their domestic bliss interrupted by an unusual source – their sinister retro radio.

**From Manchester, UK.**

Made by the Cornerhouse LiveWire Studio. LiveWire is an award-winning informal education project for 14-19 year olds.

### Fri 19 Dec: Café Loop - Comic

Join the patrons of this curious café - Spiderman, Wonder Woman, Elastagirl, Magnet Woman, the Hulk and.. Coffee Man?

**From the UK.**

A Chew TV and Exeter Phoenix collaboration. Chew TV is an internet television channel run by and for young people.

### Sat 20 Dec: 1+1=1

Quirky experimental dance from Lithuania exploring how our personalities develop and mature.

**From Vilnius, Lithuania.**

Made by Eglė Pilkauskaitė and facilitated by Skalvijos Kino Centras.

### Sun 21 Dec: Sprookjesboek / The book of the fairytales

A passionate storyteller is continually thwarted in his attempts to entertain his audience by an interfering friend.

**From Den Haag, Netherlands.**

Made by Alexander Spoor and Bart Aarsse of Broken Camera Productions, a partnership the teenagers set up in 2006.

### Mon 22 Dec: Grapefruit

Who needs boys when you have a bag of grapefruit? This girl finds pleasure in the small things – not least fifteen of her favourite citrus fruit – as she takes a walk through her home town.

**From Vilnius, Lithuania.**

Made by Eleonora Kausinyté and facilitated by Skalvijos Kino Centras.

### Tue 23 Dec: Skateboard Café

Bristol's urban landmarks are the playground for these young local skaters.

**From Bristol, UK.**

Filmed and directed by Rich Smith starring Jason Lewer and Tom Gibbs.

### Wed 24 Dec: Full House Bristol - Our Bristol

Young people tell seven unique stories from the city of Bristol.

**From Bristol, UK.**

Made as part of the 'Calling the Shots' Project.