

**BERLIN RECYCLERS****Credits**

Animation · 6:02 min · Stereo · 16:9 HD/digiBeta  
 Direction · Animation · Sound: Nikki Schuster (AT)  
 Mixing: Sebastian Müller (D)  
 Production: Fiesfilm (D)  
 Supported by: Land OÖ  
 Distribution: sixpackfilm (AT)  
 © Nikki Schuster DE/AT 2012

**Synopsis**

Berlin – techno, cobblestones and a lot of graffiti. „Berlin Recyclers“ portrays the cultural, social and urban fabrics of this city by means of experimental animation. The viewer is guided to urban hideouts where little creatures dwell. These are digitally composed with collected trash and typical local products. The clatter of the limbs of these creatures interacts with the soundscapes of Berlin.

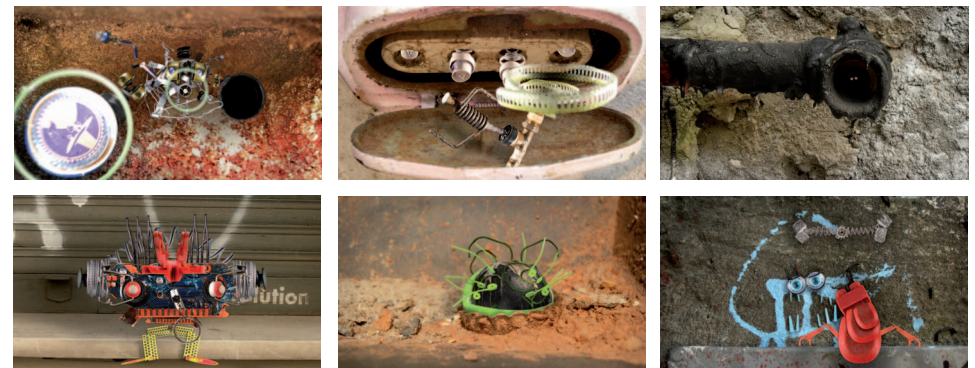
**Worldpremiere**

2012 Berlinale Generation

**Presstext „Berlin Recyclers“**

The streets of Berlin are where the animation artist Nikki Schuster searches for litter. Small pieces of waste, carelessly disposed of, without a second thought. They are the matter with which she creates a new world of lively and curiously moving figures. Sporadically chosen streets and urban enclaves are introduced, using frame-by-frame montages in dynamic pans, tiny details of a wall, a plug fixture, a waste container or a graffiti sign are zoomed into. There they come to life, grow, mutate and make noises, these tiny garbage-creatures. Shoe-soles, pieces of scrap metal, caps of spray-cans or disposable dental-floss gadgets – each piece of litter finds its purpose. In computer animated frames these evolving creatures move and with each motion they make sounds created with the items of garbage. These interact with found urban soundscapes: techno-beats, the buzzing of a tattoo-machine, street organ music, demonstration- chants, construction noise, hammering of cobblestones. An acoustic image of Berlin is portrayed. Fantastic fauna, humanoid mysteries, unknown new species are all performing their own characteristic ballet. There are no limitations to fantasy. As one creature comes to the end of its performance another continues in the next hideout, until a pan to the sky leaves Berlin behind us.

“Berlin Recyclers” is the third “Recyclers” film, following “Paris Recyclers” (© 2011) and “Buenos Aires Recyclers” (© 2011).



[www.fiesfilm.com/berlinrecyclers.html](http://www.fiesfilm.com/berlinrecyclers.html)

[www.recyclers-project.blogspot.com/p/berlin.html](http://www.recyclers-project.blogspot.com/p/berlin.html)

### Concept

„Recyclers“ is an animation film series that portrays the diverse cultural, social and urban fabrics of different cities by means of experimental animation and creates an ironic picture of human consumerism.

In different metropolises characteristic urban sounds are recorded. Objects, like litter from the streets, packaging of consumer goods and typical local products, are collected. “Recycled” figures are created with these objects and animated to the sound recordings. Each “Recyclers” film is divided into several scenes, in which the trash creatures react with humour to spontaneities and characteristic impressions of the urban ambience. The environment is thereby subjected to close examination from an unusual perspective. The filmic results are experimental, documentary portraits of different metropolises, so far from Paris, Buenos Aires and Berlin.

### Animation Technique

The collected items are animated frame-by-frame on green screen on the animation table, while being moved in all three dimensions. These modular clips show the objects three-dimensionally and are combined in After Effects to figurative creatures that are then animated in 3D space.

The backgrounds in front of which the creatures perform are animated series of photos taken from the urban surroundings of the city in question. While walking towards interesting wall textures, facades, old doors, street-art signs, etc, a photo is taken at each successive step. The results are „animated zooms“ towards these backgrounds which end in close-up views.



### The Sound

Each movement of the creatures has a sound effect created by the object itself. These sounds are sampled to rhythmic beats to which the figures perform. Sound fragments of the urbanity, such as traffic noise, market life, streetmusic, etc., create the score of the film.

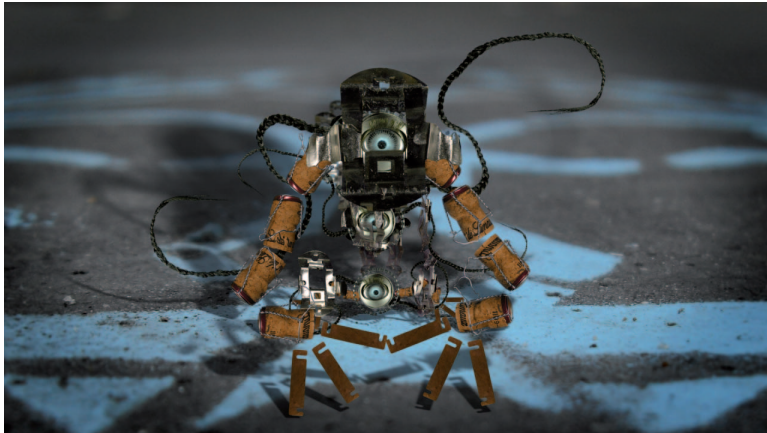


stills: „Buenos Aires Recyclers“



stills: „Paris Recyclers“

## #1: PARIS RECYCLERS



Animation · 5:39 min · Stereo · 16:9 HDTV/digiBeta  
Direction | Animation | Sound: Nikki Schuster  
Mixing: Sebastian Müller  
Production: Fiesfilm  
Financing: own resources  
Distribution: sixpackfilm & Interfilm Management GmbH Berlin  
© Nikki Schuster AT/DE/ARG 2011

[www.fiesfilm.com/parisrecyclers.html](http://www.fiesfilm.com/parisrecyclers.html)  
[www.recyclers-project.blogspot.com/p/paris.html](http://www.recyclers-project.blogspot.com/p/paris.html)

## #2: BUENOS AIRES RECYCLERS



Animation · 6:10 min · Stereo · 16:9 HD/digiBeta  
Direction | Animation | Sound: Nikki Schuster  
Mixing: Sebastian Müller  
Production: Fiesfilm  
Financing: Land OÖ & own resources  
Distribution: sixpackfilm  
© Nikki Schuster AT/DE/ARG 2011

[www.fiesfilm.com/buenosairesrecyclers.html](http://www.fiesfilm.com/buenosairesrecyclers.html)  
[www.recyclers-project.blogspot.com/p/buenos-aires.html](http://www.recyclers-project.blogspot.com/p/buenos-aires.html)

### About

The animation film artist Nikki Schuster, born in Austria 1974, lives and works in Berlin. In 2001 she found her animation label "Fiesfilm". Her films are successfully presented at international film festivals and she has won awards with her work.

In her animation films she combines traditional stop-motion technique with 2D computer. Material structures affect the digital collage. For the sounddesign she samples noises created with the animated materials.

Beside her film productions she works as onair designer, did video projections/stage design for a theater, animations for an installation in Senegal and gives animation film workshops. In 2010 she was as an artist-in-residence in Paris and Buenos Aires for her „Recyclers“ film project.

### Biografie

- 1974 born in Steyr, Austria
- 1993-00 study of Art Teaching at the University of Applied Art, Vienna
- 2000-02 study of Visual Communication and Experimental Media Design at UdK, Berlin
- 2005 animation film workshop, Tromanale Filmfestival, Berlin
- 2006 video projections / stage design for „*Humankapital*“, Depot X, Stuttgart  
animation film workshop, Tromanale Filmfestival, Berlin  
exhibition participation „The Noise of Art“, Tate Britain Auditorium, London
- 2005-09 on air designer for ARTE and MTV Networks Germany GmbH
- 2009-11 on air manager for Nickelodeon North
- 2010 animation/Installation for „*l'Exposition des Musiques Noires dans le monde*“, Dakar  
artist-in-residence in Paris and Buenos Aires for the „*Recyclers*“ film project  
participation at „*Inspiration Fest 2010 Buenos Aires*“ with the „*Recyclers*“ project  
exhibition participation at „*Zona Liberada*“ in Salta, Argentina
- 2011 exhibition participation „*Vidéo / Propriété Intellectuelle*“, Gallery Immanence, Paris  
animation film workshop at juvenile prison, Berlin

**Berlin Recyclers**

Animation, digiBeta, 6:02 min, Berlin 2012  
Direction/Animation/Sound: Nikki Schuster  
Sound-Mixing: Sebastian Müller

**Buenos Aires Recyclers**

Animation, digiBeta, 6:10 min, Buenos Aires 2011  
Direction/Animation/Sound: Nikki Schuster  
Sound-Mixing: Sebastian Müller

**Paris Aires Recyclers**

Animation, digiBeta, 5:39 min, Paris 2011, Direction/Animation/Sound:  
Nikki Schuster, Sound-Mixing: Sebastian Müller

**Microphobia**

Animation, digiBeta, 7:00 min, Berlin 2010, Direction/Animation/Sound:  
Nikki Schuster, Music: Laurent Pernice, Sound-Mixing: Sebastian Müller

**Robotant**

Animation, DV/digiBeta, 4:20 min, Berlin 2007  
Direction/Animation/Sound: Nikki Schuster, Sound-Mixing: Størfan Sender

**Holyman**

Musikvideo, DV/digiBeta, 4:35 min, Berlin 2006, Direction/Animation:  
Nikki Schuster, Band: FPM

**Geisterstunde**

Animation, DV/digiBeta, 2:20 min, Berlin 2005  
Direction/Animation/Sound: Nikki Schuster

**Drowning**

Musicvideo, DV/digi Beta, 4:34 min, Berlin 2005, Direction/Animation:  
Nikki Schuster, Band: Impure Thoughts

**Boom Boom Boogie**

Musicvideo, DV, 4:30 min, Berlin 2005, Direction/Illustrations: Andy  
Leuenberger; Animation: Nikki Schuster, Sound: The Scandals feat. Film2

**Knochenballett**

Animation, DV/digiBeta, 3:05 min, Berlin 2002, Direction/Animation/Sound: Nikki  
Schuster

**Friday Bar**

Animation, DV/digiBeta, 7:00 min, Berlin 2001, Direction/Animation: Nikki Schuster  
Sound: Christof Kurzmann

**Bedient**

Animation, DV/digiBeta, 3:30 min, Berlin 2000, Direction/Animation: Nikki Schuster  
Sound: Gerald Neumeister

**Fiesgänger**

Animation, DV/digiBeta, 5:00 min, Berlin 2000, Direction/Animation/Sound:  
Nikki Schuster

**kääntää**

Video, DV/Beta-SP, 4:34 min, Berlin 2000, Direction/Edit/Sound: Nikki Schuster

**Zitat**

Video, DV/Beta-SP, 1:30 min, Berlin 2000, Direction/Edit/Sound: Nikki Schuster  
Voice: Maria Vedder; Zitat: Brian Eno

**scxbdolftrh**

Animation, DV/Beta-SP, 2:00 min, Vienna 1999, Direction/Animation/Sound:  
Nikki Schuster

**Ohrfeigen**

Video, DV/Beta-SP, 9:00 min, Vienna 1997, Direction: Nikki Schuster, Claudia Dermutz  
Postproduction: Nikki Schuster

**Dreiundvierzig**

Video, DV/Beta-SP, 4:00 min, Vienna 1997, Direction/Edit/Sound: Nikki Schuster

**Berlin Recyclers**

2012 Berlinale Generation

**Buenos Aires Recyclers**

2012 Tricky Woman Vienna (AT) (upcoming)

2012 Transmediale Berlin (D) (upcoming)

2011 Balkanima, Belgrade (RS)

2011 Carton Int. Animation Festival, Buenos Aires (ARG)

2011 ASIFA Austria, Vienna (AT)

2011 Istanbul Animation Festival (TR)

**Paris Recyclers**

2011 Tricky Woman Vienna (AT)

2011 Crossing Europe Linz (AT)

2011 Anima Mundi, Sao Paulo &amp; Rio (BR)

2011 Badalona Festival (E)

2011 Animator Festival Poznan (PL)

2011 Tindirindis Vilnius (LT)

2011 Invideo Mailand (I)

2011 ANTIMATTER Victoria (CAN)

2011 Int. Short Film Festival Leuven (BE)

2011 Istanbul Animation Festival (TR)

2011 Clair Obscur Filmfestival Basel (CH)

2011 Corona Cork Film Festival (IR)

**Microphobia**

2011 Diagonale Graz (AT)

2011 Split Film Festival (Croatia)

2011 Ottawa Animation Festival (CAN)

2011 Atlantis Natur &amp; Umweltfestival Wiesbaden (DE)

2011 L'Étrange Festival Paris (FR)

2011 Anima Cordoba (ARG)

2011 Uppsala Filmfestival(SE)

2011 ASIFA Austria, Vienna (AT)

2011 Istanbul Animation Festival (TR)

2011 Int. Short Film Festival Leuven (BE)

2011 Anilogue Budapest (H)

**Robotant**

2008 Crossing Europe, Linz (AT)

2008 Tricky Woman, Vienna (AT)

2007 Interfilm, Berlin (D)

2007 European Media Art Festival (EMAF), Osnabrück (D)

2007 BIMINI International Festival of Animation Films, Riga (LV)

2007 Club der polnischen Versager, Berlin (D)

**Geisterstunde**

2006 Tromanale Film Festival, Berlin (D)

2005 Galaoshots, Berlin (D)

2005 International Short Film Festival, Halle (D)

**Drowning**

2006 European Media Art Festival (EMAF), Osnabrück (D)

2006 Tromanale Film Festival, Berlin (D)

2005 Ladyfest, Berlin (D)

2005 Shortfilm Open Air Kurt-Im-Hirsch, Berlin (D)

**Knochenballett**

2005 Tromanale Film Festival, Berlin (D)

2004 BIMINI International Animation Festival, Riga (LV)

2004 Diagonale, Graz (AT)

2003 Film Festival Fylkingen, Stockholm (SE)

2003 Odense Film Festival (DK)

2003 European Media Art Festival (EMAF), Osnabrück (D)

2002 Exhibition: Gallery Engler &amp; Piper, Berlin (D)

**Boom Boom Boogie**

2006 LUFF Underground Music &amp; Filmfestival, Lausanne (CH)

2006 Exhibition: Tate Britain Auditorium: The Noise Of Art, London (UK)

2006 Vienna Independant Shorts (AT)

2006 Melbourne International Animation Festival (AU)

2006 Australian International Film Festival, Sydney

2006 BIMINI International Festival of Animation Films, Riga (LV)

2005 Tromanale Film Festival, Berlin (D)

**Friday Bar**

2002 European Media Art Festival (EMAF), Osnabrück (D)

**bedient**

2005 Ladyfest, Berlin (D)

2005 Shortfilm Open Air Kurt-Im-Hirsch, Berlin (D)

2003 Lauter-Niemand-Lesung, Berlin (D)

2003 Film Festival Weiterstadt (D)

**kääntää**

2000 Exhibition: Literal Colloquium, Berlin (D)

**scxbdolfrh**

1999 Exhibition: Schikaneder Gallery, Vienna (AT)

**ANIMATION FILMS****Paris Recyclers**

Predicate: „Valuable“, Board of Film Classification, Wiesbaden 2011

**Microphobia**

Predicate: „Particularly Valuable“ and „Short Film Of The Month“

Board of Film Classification, Wiesbaden 2011

„Special Mention“ ASIFA Austrian animation film festival 2011

**Robotant**

Diploma for: „Elegance working with rough forms“, BIMINI, Riga 2007

Predicate: „Particularly Valuable“ and „Short Film Of The Month“

Board of Film Classification, Wiesbaden 2008

**Boom Boom Boogie**

„Best Animation“, Tromanale Film Festival, Berlin 2005

**COMMERCIAL PRODUCTIONS****MTV Germany Redesign 08**

Silver, ADC for Design / Kategorie Audiovisual Media, Berlin 2009

**VIACOM Sales Tape**

Gold, PROMAX/BDA for „Best Sales Tape“, Prague 2009