

**Drive Safe / 3 mins 56**

**Director:** Cal Thomson

**Synopsis:** Gemma drives home from a friend's house one evening but her journey is interrupted....

**How did the film come about?** After writing and starring in numerous comedy sketches, Cal took the challenge of trying a new genre having always been a horror fan.

**About the Filmmaker:** Cal is a self-employed camera operator and the entire team (3 crew, 1 actress) creatively collaborated on the film.



**The Action Records Story/ 14 mins 04**



**Directors:** Daniele Baron & Conor O'Grady

**Synopsis:** A look at how Action Records in Preston has survived for nearly 35 years. The film explores the history of the shop and record industry through different chapters, music and the local community.

**How did the film come about?** After watching *Comic Book Heaven* and *Searching for Sugarman*, Daniele & Conor wanted to produce their own short music documentary about a business that they grew up with which has survived in their hometown. Gordon Gibson agreed to make the film and it grew naturally as people came forward with music, archive footage and great stories about the shop.

**About the Filmmakers:** Daniele and Conor grew up in Preston together before moving to Leeds for university & film school. Alongside full time jobs in the industry they both have an interest in telling unique stories through short film & documentaries.

**Obsolescence/ 1 min 58**

**Director:** Shahrokh Na'el

**Synopsis:** Contemplating the ravages of age, *Obsolescence* examines the perfunctory role ascribed to the elderly in a culture enthralled by the allure of youth and incessant, rapid change. This short challenges the viewer to reflect upon a likely personal future that each of us would rather not have to confront.

**How did the film come about?** Shahrokh felt moved to produce a visual discourse illustrating the predicament often faced by the UK's senior citizens using a fusion of moving images and experimental animation. Old age is a subject that impinges upon us all- and *Obsolescence* seeks to shine a spotlight on the way that we perceive and treat our counterparts in their twilight years.

**About the Filmmaker:** Shahrokh left Iran at the age of 18 to evade the escalating abuses of its government and to pursue his burgeoning artistic aspirations. Negotiating the perilous Afghani and Pakistani borders on foot, he eventually settled in Manchester as a multi-faceted commercial artist and independent filmmaker.



**Chosen / 4 mins 26**



**Director:** Weirdos Are Heroes

**Synopsis:** A music video for the song 'Chosen' by the Cowards.

**How did the film come about?** Approached by the band, Weirdos Are Heroes presented several ideas. Obviously, they chose the most difficult one to shoot.

They then spent ages perfecting fake blood, digging a grave and looking for a friend that most looked like a priest.

**About the Filmmaker:** Weirdos Are Heroes make short films and music videos, like going out and staying in, GSOH, WLTM someone similar for long/short term relationship.

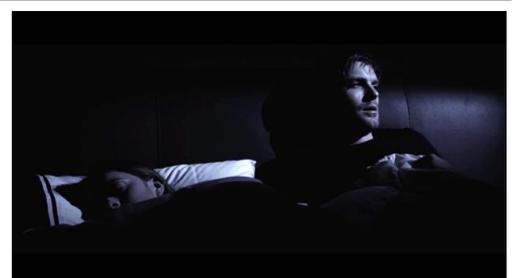
**Banshees / 3 mins**

**Director:** James Starkie

**Synopsis:** Powerless to help, John is forced to watch as his partner gradually fades away. Based on a poem by Gaia Holmes

**How did the film come about?** The film was created as part of the Bokeh Yeah poetry film challenge in collaboration with Comma Press. Ten poem films were created and screened in Manchester.

**About the Filmmaker:** Starkie is a part-time filmmaker from Manchester, primarily as a hobbyist. He is a web developer by trade and has been into photography, animation and filmmaking for a long time. Most of his film experience has come about after buying a DSLR and getting involved in the Manchester Filmonik scene. In doing so he has met many incredibly talented people, including most of his collaborators on this film.



## Throw Me to the Dogs / 12 mins 15



**Director:** Aaron Dunleavy

**Synopsis:** A troubled teenage boy is stripped of his dignity as his father abandons him for the outside world which he is trying to retreat from.

**How did the film come about?** The characters and story were inspired by Aaron's childhood in the North and the film uses non-professional actors and young people who were street-cast from local schools and youth groups. The filmmaking methods used included improvisation and character-building workshops with the hope of achieving natural and authentic performances.

**About the Filmmaker:** As a northern lad growing up in Blackburn, Aaron has always been interested in stories about small people in small towns. He went to London to study film, but moving away made him realise just how interesting his hometown really was and how many interesting characters lived there. He travelled back to make a film that was inspired by his childhood, almost entirely improvised and made on a shoestring budget.

## Flow / 6 mins 17

**Director:** Paul McNulty

**Synopsis:** Moments after an argument, a young couple express their love for each other with dance.

**How did the film come about?** Paul had wanted to make a dance film for a while and was introduced to some dancers and a choreographer who came together to make the film. He was able to crowd fund some money to pay for some of the expenses and everything else was stolen or borrowed. He asked a very talented friend of his, Huw Davies, to light and operate the camera, which was the final piece of the puzzle.

**About the Filmmaker:** Paul is a full time lighting cameraman who sometimes directs and is working his way up to be a DOP. He is from the North East and has worked all over the world doing corporate work and documentaries.



## Little Jacque / 1 min 30



**Director:** John Davide

**Synopsis:** A whimsical story of a boy's sub-aquatic quest.

**How did the film come about?** John made *Little Jacque* as part of a course at the National Film & Television School. The module required him to think about how he could use sand to bring an animation to life and was inspired by memories he had of playing in the bath as a young boy.

**About the Filmmakers:** After studying sculpture at the Wimbledon School of Art, John Davide was awarded a place on the Animation

Direction course at the NFTS. John specialises in stop-motion hand-drawn animation and has previously created videos for Paul Duffy, James Skelly and the Intenders, Bill Ryder-Jones and Kontakte.

## Roads / 11 mins 30

**Director:** Moss Davis

**Synopsis:** A man struggles to accept life's predefined path.

**How did the film come about?** The idea of being on life's winding 'road' had cropped up in Moss' work before. He wanted to convey a sense of 'whatever happens, happens for a reason'. He believes that the idea came from him leaving everything he had known to go to University.

**About the Filmmaker:** Most of the crew had collaborated before through their BA Filmmaking course at the Manchester School of Art. It was a small production crew of four with two main actors working on their graduation film. They shot the film in the Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire over three days. It was a great experience shooting with such talented people and creating a film they are all very proud of.



**More information on Filmed up at [homemcr.org/filmedup](http://homemcr.org/filmedup)**