

THE BRANWELL WUTHERING HEIGHTS 1898

38:55, 2018, Jim Finn ([director's website](#))

SYNOPSIS:

When Branwell — the ne'er-do-well, tubercular brother of the Brontë sisters — discovered that Emily was writing her first novel, he offered to be her editor. Once he realized that he was the model for the alcoholic Hindley Earnshaw character, he reimagined the story as a musical memoir of his own life with Hindley as the hero. Edited and arranged from the damaged film fragments, notes, sheet music and letters to his best friend Francis, this weird and revisionist adaptation is meant to have premiered on the 50th anniversary of the deaths of Emily and Branwell Brontë.



Murray Gordon as Heathcliff



Isabella Pinheiro as Cathy Linton

CAST & CREW

Created by Jim Finn

Soundtrack by Colleen Burke with Jim White, Sally Timms, Michael James & Munaf Rayani

Photography by Ty Flowers, Jim Finn, Josh Lewis

Sound Design by Jesse Stiles

Costumes by Carrie Peterson, Isabella Pinheiro

Film created by Josh Lewis at Negativland Film Labs and Joey Carducci at Pratt Institute

Starring: Linda Montano, Isabella Pinheiro, Murray Gordon, Nandini Khaund, Jim Finn, Cat Mazza, Franz & Cosmina Mazza Finn, Jacob Burckhardt

ABOUT THE MUSIC

The soundtrack was created by musician Colleen Burke. She brought together musicians like Jim White (The Dirty Three), Sally Timms (The Mekons), Michael James and Munaf Rayani (Explosions in the Sky) to create this strange revisionist musical. This is the fourth film that Jim Finn and Colleen Burke have collaborated on. The other films *Interkosmos*, *La Trinchera Luminosa del Presidente Gonzalo* and *Chums from Across the Void* have all gone on to have some kind of cult musical status.

ABOUT THE CAST & CREW

Jim Finn brings back actors from previous films to play the two Cathy's: Isabella Pinheiro from *Chums* and Nandini Khaund from *Interkosmos*. Murray Gordon (Heathcliff), a South African philosopher and tech entrepreneur, is acting in his first film though his brother played a minor character in Roman Polanski's *Macbeth*. Linda Montano (Hindley Earnshaw) is a seminal performance artist best known for her acupunctured-head video *Mitchell's Death* and being roped together for a year with Taiwanese performance artist Tehching Hsieh. Jesse Stiles returns to work his sound magic. He teaches at Carnegie Mellon and has worked on projects by the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, The Yes Men, filmmaker Penny Lane as well as various films by Jim Finn. Filmmaker Josh Lewis created the handmade 16mm film emulsion for the project at his artist-run lab in Ridgewood, Queens.

ABOUT JIM FINN

"Steeped in the obsolete language of revolutionary art," The New York Times said Jim Finn's films "often play like unearthed artifacts from an alternate universe." Critic J. Hoberman in The Village Voice calls Jim Finn "the solitary vanguard of post-Communist Communist cinema". His films, according to Variety, "upturn notions of documentary and fiction, propaganda thought, reality and restaging, and even what an 'experimental film' actually is." His award-winning movies have been called "Utopian comedies" & "trompe l'oeil films", and his Communist Trilogy is in the MoMA's collection. He's had retrospectives in seven countries and screenings all over the world at festivals like Sundance, Rotterdam, Sao Paulo, AFI and Edinburgh and museums, universities and cinemathèques. He is featured in a 2010 Phaidon Press book called *Take 100—The Future of Film: 100 New Directors*. His most recent project was the Inner Trotsky Child video series which premiered each year from 2013-2015 at the New York Film Festival. He was born in St. Louis in 1968 and teaches at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.

SUPPORT

Jerome Foundation
Pratt Institute Faculty Development Fund
Lucas Artist Residency at Montalvo
Clothing provided by Beacon's Closet

JIM FINN'S SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Inner Trotsky Child series:

Chums from Across the Void (17:30, 2015)

Zinoviev's Tube (22:15, 2014)

Encounters with Your Inner Trotsky Child (21:10, 2013)

Communist Trilogy:

The Juche Idea (62:00, 2010)

La Trinchera Luminosa del Presidente Gonzalo (60:00, 2007)

Interkosmos (71:00, 2006)

Great Man and Cinema (3:45, 2009)

Dick Cheney in a Cold, Dark Cell (2:30, 2009)

Decision 80 (10:00, 2003)
wüstenspringmaus (3:00, 2002)
el güero / comunista! (3:00 / 3:30, 2001)

Museum Collections

MoMA permanent collection: Communist Trilogy (2005-2010)

Retrospectives

dOCUMENTA (13), Summer 2012
Anthology Film Archives, New York City, May - June 2010
SANFIC—Santiago International Film Festival, Chile, Aug 2010
MoMA PS1, Greater New York Cinema, New York City, July - August 2010
Institut Valencia de Cinematografia, Valencia, Spain, Jan 2009
Gijón International Film Festival, Spain, Nov 2008
Centro Gallego de Artes da Imaxe, A Coruña, Spain, Nov 2008
BAFICI—Buenos Aires International Independent Film Festival, Argentina, April 2008

Selected Screenings

International Film Festival Rotterdam 2016 (*Chums from Across the Void*)
New York Film Festival 2015 (*Chums from Across the Void*)
Internationales KurzFilmFestival Hamburg, Germany 2015 (*Zinoviev's Tube*)
New York Film Festival 2014 (*Zinoviev's Tube*)
Valdivia International Film Festival 2014 (*Zinoviev's Tube*)
New York Film Festival 2013 (*Encounters with..., Christmas with Chávez*)
Edinburgh Film Festival, June 2014 (*Encounters with..., Christmas...*)
14th Nowe Horyzonte Festival, Wroclaw, Poland, July-Aug 2014 (*Encounters with...*)
Lenin: Icebreaker, Austrian Cultural Forum, Winter 2014-5 (*Encounters with...*)
Ann Arbor Film Festival, March 2014 (*Encounters with...*)
BAFICI (Buenos Aires), 2014, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008
Time Machine Biennial of Contemporary Art, Tito's Atomic Bunker,
Bosnia-Herzegovina 2011 (*Interkosmos*)
Museum of Modern Art, New York City 2010 (*The Juche Idea*)
Sundance Film Festival, New Frontiers 2009 (*Great Man and Cinema*)
56th Intern'tl Short Film Festival Oberhausen, Germany 2010 (*Great Man and Cinema*)
Film Society of Lincoln Center, NYC 2010 (*Great Man and Cinema*)
Impakt Festival, The Netherlands 2002, 2010, 2014 (various shorts)
AFI Festival, Los Angeles 2008 (*The Juche Idea*)
Sao Paulo International Film Festival, Brazil 2009 (*The Juche Idea*)
Edinburgh International Film Festival, Scotland 2008 (*The Juche Idea*)
Vancouver International Film Festival, Canada 2007, 2008
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2003, 2006 (shorts, *Interkosmos*)
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid 2006 (*Interkosmos*)