

DON'T FEAR DEATH

LOGLINE:

Today is the first day of the end of your life.

FESTIVAL & DISTRIBUTION ENQUIRIES:

For all enquiries contact: louis@diceproductions.co.uk

INFO:

2D drawn animated comedy **TRT:** 3:03mins **(MINUS CREDITS):** 2:53mins **COMPLETED:** 16/07/2013

Don't Fear Death is a fast-paced animated comedy about arguing the benefits of being dead.

It stars the voice of comedy legend Rik Mayall (Young Ones, Bottom, Blackadder) and was commissioned as part of Channel 4's Random Acts strand.

Red Dwarf and Bottom director, [Ed Bye](#) also helped the film as an Associate Producer.

LINKS:

- Don't Fear Death website: www.diceproductions.co.uk/dontfeardeath
- Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/diceproductions>

FESTIVAL OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| • Milano Film Festival | Milan, Italy | 5-15/9/2013 |
| • London Int'l Animation Festival | London, UK | 25/10-3/11/2013 |
| • Malta Horror Filmfest | Zabbar, Malta | 31/10-3/11/2013 |
| • Bradford Animation Festival | Bradford, UK | 12-16/11/2013 |

CAST LIST

[Rik Mayall](#)

[Marc Silk](#)

[Myles McLeod](#)

CREW LIST

A Dice Productions film in association with Lupus Films and Channel 4.

Director – Louis Hudson

Writer - Ian Ravenscroft

Producer – Ian Ravenscroft

Associate Producer – [Ed Bye](#)

Music – [Rob Connor](#)

Sound Design – [Mark Ashworth](#)

Animation – Louis Hudson, [Ross Butter](#), [Jo Hepworth](#), [Ian Whittle](#)

Animation Assistant – [Alex Joliffe](#)

SYNOPSIS:

A fast-paced comedy about arguing the benefits of being dead, aided by a montage of corpses and a dance-crazed Grim Reaper.

LONG SYNOPSIS:

A narrator cheerily argues the benefits of being dead, aided by a montage of corpses in everyday situations and a dance-crazed Grim Reaper. After delivering his positive spin, it is revealed that the narrator is in fact an airline pilot addressing his doomed passengers on a plummeting jet.

Disappointed with their lack of support, the pilot gives up and hypocritically jumps from the plane with the only parachute. The passengers will just have to find out for themselves.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The aim of this film was to twist the connotation of death in an absurdly positive way, while still making a rich, layered film that rewarded multiple viewings. Hopefully we've created a 3 minute film that you could happily watch on a loop for 15 minutes.

Starting with Ian's great script, we weaved in as many jokes, visual gags and plot twists as we could. When Rik Mayall came aboard and added his glorious performance the ambition of all aspects of the production were raised. A lot of attention to detail was spent on the character animation, music and sound design to heighten every laugh and to bolster Rik's voice at the forefront of the film.

Over 50 characters were created to make the film feel like it was exploring different aspects of a world, rather than just a series of isolated events. Using a brightly lit '90s throwback world full of lumpy worn people gave the film a grubby kitsch which felt right for a cast that are being eyed up as potential corpses.

While the film is a series of vignettes with a punchline, the actual plot is non-linear. When put in order it is about a criminally insane butcher who poses as a pilot so he can crash a plane. Although partly told in the real world, most of the scenes occur within the pilot's imagination. Plane passengers are addressed to as he places them in scenes, and he envisions himself as the Figure of Death.

BIOGRAPHIES

Rik Mayall

[Rik Mayall](#) is a British comedy icon and pioneer of the alternative comedy scene. He's starred in shows such as [The Young Ones](#), [The Comic Strip](#), [Blackadder](#), and [Bottom](#), and he was the title character of the film [Drop Dead Fred](#).

Louis Hudson - Director/Animator

[Louis Hudson](#) is a 2D animation director and co-founder of comedy collective Dice Productions. He has created work for UK Film Council, Channel 4, BBC Comedy, Warner Entertainment and Oxfam, having created an established YouTube channel with millions of views. He is also a steering member of local support network, [Animation Forum West Midlands](#).

Ian Ravenscroft - Writer/Producer

[Ian Ravenscroft](#) has written for UK Film Council, Channel 4, and BBC Radio 4 Extra and is currently producing short films for Channel 4. Ian is developing concepts with independent production companies and was recently selected for the [Cofilmic Comedy Lab](#) to develop a comedy feature film.

Mark Ashworth - Sound Designer

[Mark Ashworth](#) is also known as ZnO Sound Design. His first piece of sound design was for BAFTA nominated [Robert Morgan](#) on [he Cat With Hands](#) and has since worked on all of Rob's films. He has recently finished the horror feature, [Entity](#). Mark's music, including free downloads, can be found at: www.z-no.org.

Rob Connor - Musician/Composer

[Rob Connor](#) is a recent graduate of the Birmingham Conservatoire in Piano. He is now Head of Music at Birmingham based film production company [Little Bad Wolf](#). His work can be heard on his personal site, robconnormusic.com

Ed Bye - Associate Producer

[Ed Bye](#) is a director and producer best known for his work on Red Dwarf and Bottom. He also recently directed the sketch show [Anna & Katy](#).

All ENQUIRIES:

Louis Hudson

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