

# Spike and Mikes Classic Festival of Animation hits Portland



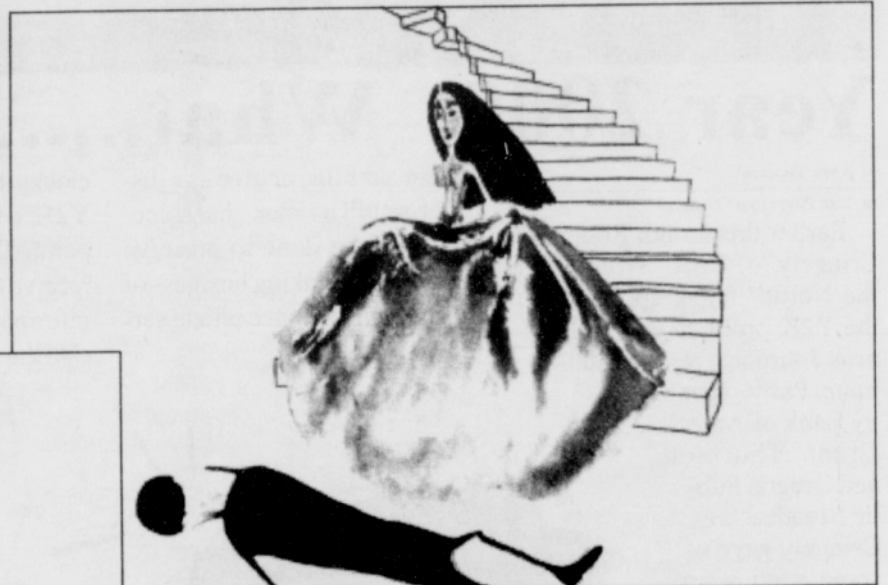
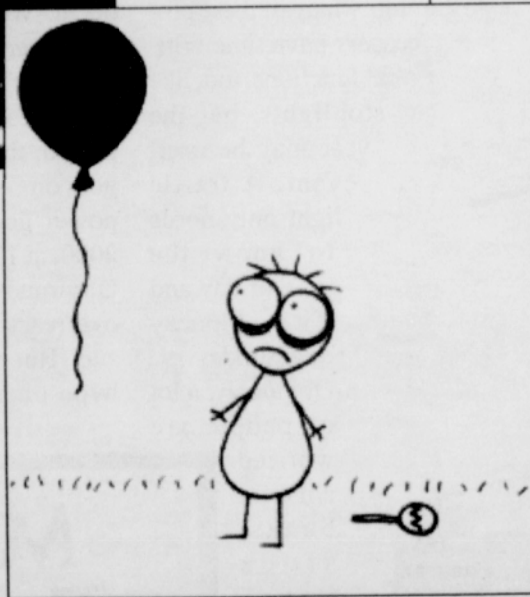
(above)  
**WINNER OF THE 1998 ACADEMY AWARD FOR BEST ANIMATED SHORT FILM. BAKING ALONE IN HER KITCHEN, TATTERED OLD BUNNY RECEIVES A TROUBLESOME LATE-NIGHT VISITOR FROM THE DEEPEST WOODS. WHAT IS IT ABOUT THIS NOCTURNAL PEST THAT STIRS HER DEEPEST FEARS AND MEMORIES?**

Animation fans will delight as the 1999 Spike & Mike's Classic Festival of Animation opens in Portland. Bring the kids and join us at Cinema 21 as we showcase this year's collection of world class animated short films from France, the Netherlands, England, Germany, Canada and the United States. The 1999 Festival's limited engagement opens Friday, October 22 and will screen **TWO WEEKS ONLY** through Thursday, November 4.

Portland-area animation guru Will Vinton says, "Kudos to Spike and Mike! They're that rare, maverick organization that's backed the underdog and come up a winner! Their belief in independent animation, and tenacious, irreverent style has wowed audiences nationwide, elevating the art form to cult status...and beyond!" Featured films include 1998 Oscar winner **Bunny**, from Blue Sky Studios. Also included is **Hum Drum**, the newest from Aardman Animation; **Billy's Ballroom**, the winner of the 1999 Slamdance competition and newest from cult favorite Don Hertzfeldt; and **The Queen's Monastery**, winner of the Silver Hugo at the 1998 Chicago Film Festival from Emma Calder of England.

(Below)

*Billy's Balloon* by Don Hertzfeldt of U.S.A. Winner of the Grand Jury Prize for Best Short Film 1999 Slamdance. A darkly hilarious and unbelievably twisted look at a little boy and his balloon.



(Above)

*The Queen's Monastery* by Pearly Oyster Productions of England. Winner of the Silver Hugo, Chicago Film Festival, 1998. Inspired by Leos Janacek's *Sinfonietta*. *The Queen's Monastery* is about a woman whose lover, a former acrobat, has returned to her from war a changed man. Using a highly individual watercolor technique, the narrative explores themes of love, escapist fantasy, obsession, jealousy and guilt.

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