

CANARY

A SHORT ANIMATED DRAMA
DIRECTED BY PH & BEN



TECHNICAL DETAILS

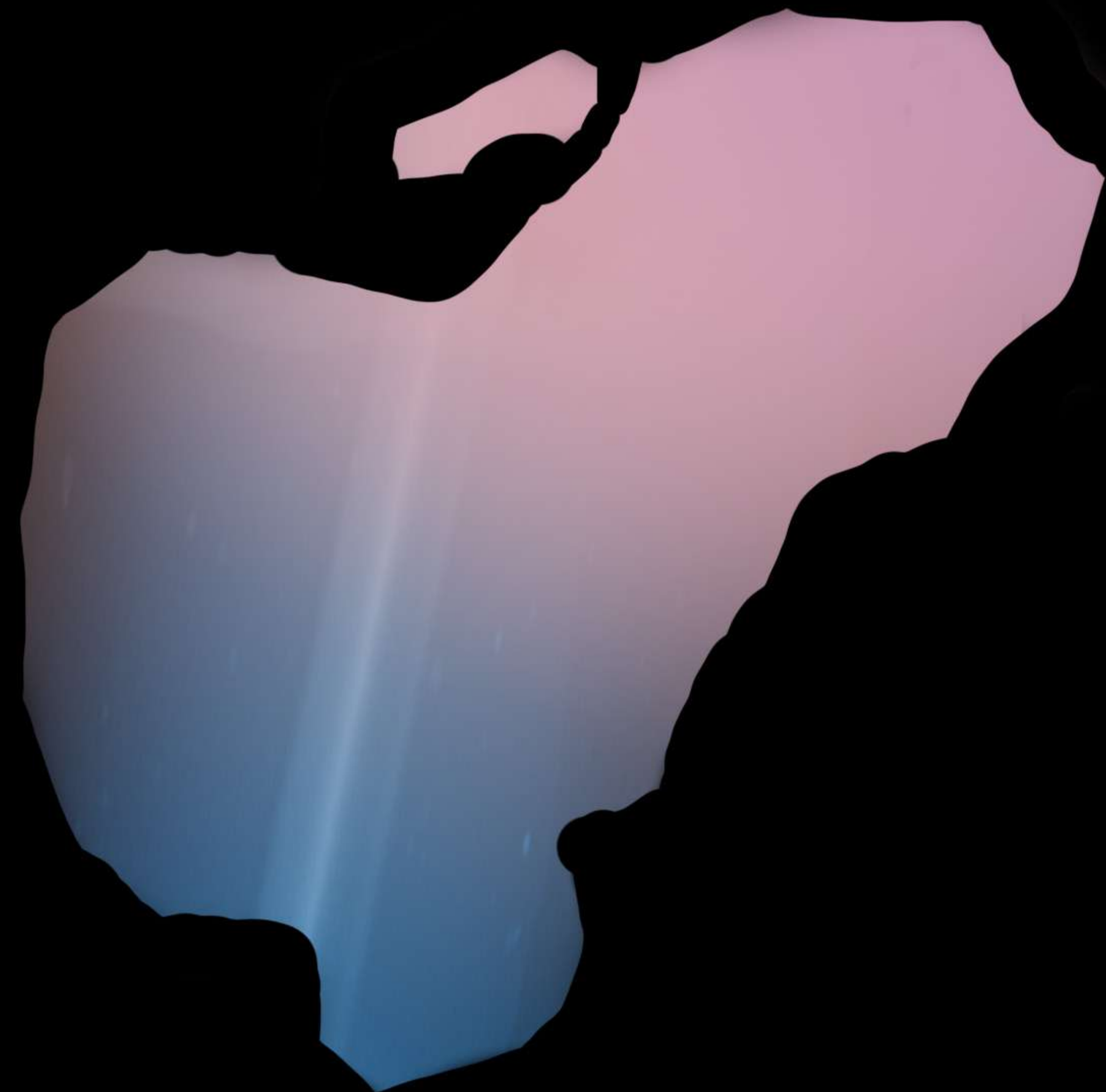
Short Film - Animated -Drama

2022 | 12:03 min | No Dialog | Color | 16/9 Ratio

CANADA | DCP | 24FPS | All audiences

RODEO^F_x

ANIMATION







SYNOPSIS

In 1922, a young boy named Sonny works in an underground coal mine with a group of adult miners. He takes care of the caged canary which the men use to detect deadly methane gas.

Hoping to escape the dark and dank underground, the boy teaches his bird to play dead. The clever prank sends the panicked miners to the surface, where Sonny and the canary enjoy playing in the sunlight.

When the boy naively ignores the dangers of the game he is playing, it leads to a tragedy he may never recover from.





MEET THE DIRECTORS

PH

&

BEN



Pierre-Hugues “PH” Dallaire first discovered the thrill of animation at the tender age of 12, giving life to cute, inappropriately homicidal clay figures. His studies in hand-drawn and computer animation led to the creation of animated skits for a nationally televised comedy show and co-founding Shed Studios, which is where he met Ben...

Benoit “Ben” Therriault was born with a pencil in his hand and a cap on his head. His passion for storytelling found an outlet in comic books and filmmaking until he discovered the process of animation. With his storyboarding and design skills, he became a creative force at Shed Studios where he met PH...

PH & Ben are now resident directors at RODEO FX. Their short films and commissioned work have been featured at the Annecy International Film Festival (“Share The Joy”, IGA “Vraiment Frais”, IGA “Aide Gourmet”). Other Accolades include Vimeo Staff Picks (“Share The Joy”), Queen Palm International Film Festival Honourable mention (LottoMax “Bear”) and CREA Award (MSSS Smoke).

The directing duo have recently completed their long-awaited short film CANARY and are now actively developing longer format stories.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"Many people aren't aware of the fact that canaries were used in underground coal mines as recently as 1986.

These incredibly fragile creatures can detect dangers that we humans cannot even perceive—we find this quite amazing. But then we used their delicate sensitivities and exposed them to some of the harshest environments in the world against their will, much like the children who were also forced to work in the mines.

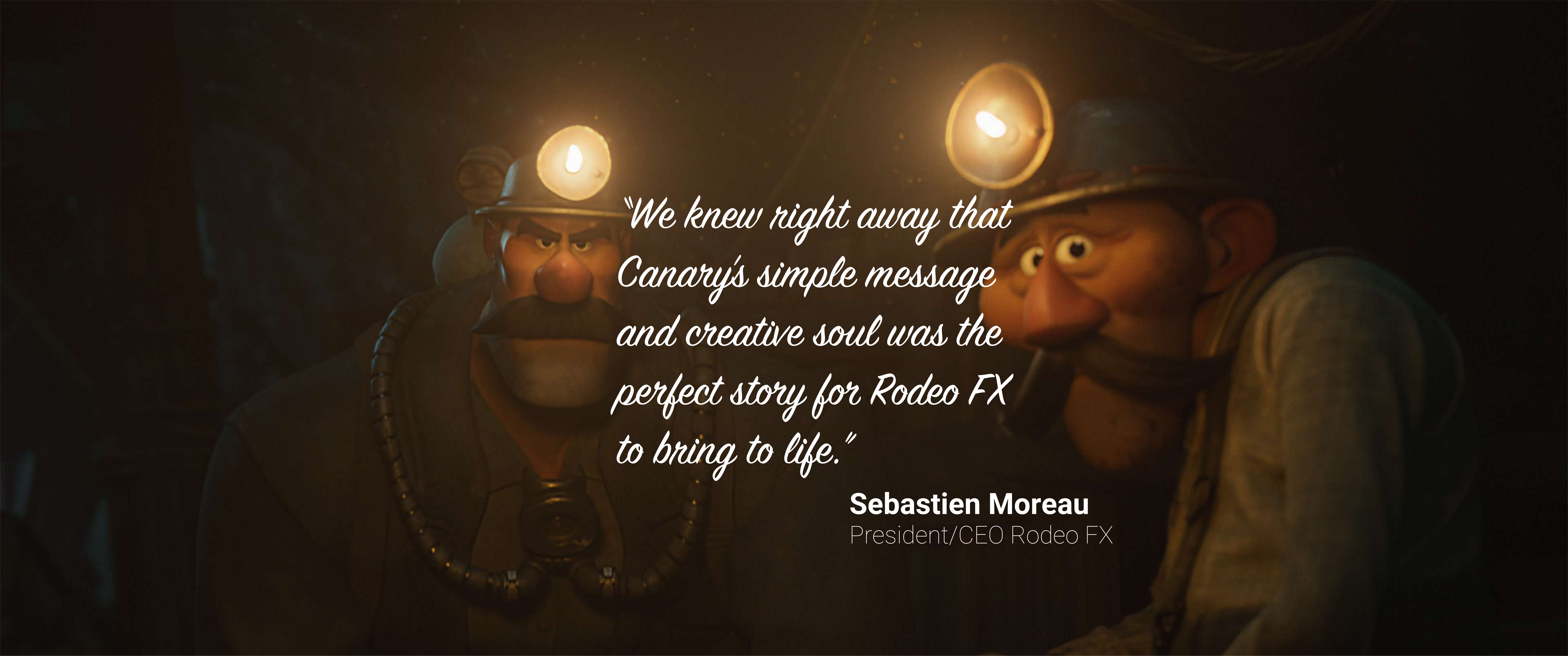
What if one of these coal mine canaries had developed a friendship with a child miner?

It was imagining the existence of this special bond between a young boy and his bird, both trapped within this extremely fraught setting, both striving for an improved situation, that was the genesis of our story.

It is a story we have been determined to tell for nearly ten years now. We hope it resonates with you as strongly as it does for us.”

- PH & BEN



The background of the image shows two animated characters in a dark, underground setting. They are wearing hard hats with glowing headlamps. The character on the left has a large, dark mustache and a serious expression. The character on the right has a smaller mustache and a more neutral expression. The lighting is dim, with the primary light sources being the headlamps, creating a moody and atmospheric scene.

"We knew right away that Canary's simple message and creative soul was the perfect story for Rodeo FX to bring to life."

Sebastien Moreau

President/CEO Rodeo FX



CREDITS

Directors - PH & Ben

Executive Producers - Sébastien Moreau, Jordan Soles

Producer - Marie-Cécile Dahan

Editor - Guillaume Poulin

Music/Sound - Iohann M. Miller

DOP - Philippe Sylvain, Jonathan Meret

Character Design - Gop Gap

Production Design - Gabriel Gomez, Pedro Conti

Animation Supervision - David St-Amant, Dave Mullins

Written by - Pierre-Hugues Dallaire, Thomas Michael, Benoit Therriault







CONTACT

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