



FISK, UNTITLED PORTRAIT

Logline

Canadian artist William Fisk risks it all for representation by a world-renowned New York art dealer.

Synopsis

Artist William Fisk has become successful in the very limited way that an artist in Canada can be; he has sold his work. He has made a living, but nothing more. His pieces are breathtaking, still-life images from an era wherein things were made to endure. The subject matter can be anything; cameras, motorcycles, chairs, sewing machines, shoes, glasses, so long as they evoke a time when manufactured goods were not constructed with a limited lifespan, a pre-set duration that forced the consumer to purchase again. Perhaps this is what resonates so strongly with the viewer, we instinctively recognize that what we see was made to last, to have longevity, to mean something to someone, to be passed on through generations.

Fisk lives with his wife and two boys in Toronto. He is a loving father and husband, articulate, possessing a bristling wit, as at home watching hockey as he is talking art. He paints 6 hours every day, period. Each of his pieces take 2 to 6 months to complete depending on the complexity and size.

Until recently he has been represented by Toronto's most prestigious gallery, but now one of the world's most important dealers has expressed interest in Fisk's work. This would greatly benefit the Canadian dealer as Fisk's paintings would increase in value, and the New York dealer is more than happy to collaborate with the Toronto gallery. But in an act of idiotic short-sightedness, the Canadian dealer dropped Fisk, not wanting to lose control.

Fisk now needs to create a body of work to show the New York gallery, a process that will take a year. Having lost his only means of selling his paintings, Fisk has double-mortgaged his home and staked his family's future on this gamble so that they can survive while he paints. If the dealer takes him on his career will reach a level he never even imagined, but the opposite will mean ruin.

Picture format	Color
Aspect ratio	1.78 (16x9 VIDEO)
Shooting format	4k
Exhibition format	.MOV (Quicktime)/DCP
Duration	18 min 46 sec
Trailer	https://vimeo.com/200435271

Alejandro Álvarez Cadilla - Director/DOP



Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Alejandro Álvarez Cadilla studied scriptwriting with Oscar-nominee Pedro Loeb and is a graduate of The Oxford School of Drama. A self-taught director/cinematographer, his first short film “Le Trac” was personally selected by Edward James Olmos for the Los Angeles International Latino Film Festival. His second short film “Deep Sleep” won Best International Short Film at the London Independent Film Festival and had 33 international film festival selections. His first feature documentary “Disportrait”, a co-production with ZDF/Arte and the Tribeca Film Institute, won the Golden Prague Grand Prix TV Award and was nominated for a Robert Award in Denmark. Alejandro is currently developing several fiction feature lengths scripts.

Anne-Marie Gélinas - Producer



EMAFilms produces stories for the screen that both inspire and entertain, with potential for international appeal. With vision and creative drive, Anne-Marie Gélinas, the founder and producer, works with innovative and ambitious writers and directors from around the world.

In 2015, TURBO KID, a Canada-New Zealand coproduction, written and directed by the RKSS collective, premiered at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival and has since participated in over 50 festivals, garnering more than 15 prizes, including the Audience Award at SXSW and a Quebec Cinema Gala Award for Best Make up. The film, distributed in the USA by EPIC Pictures Group, in the UK by Lionsgate-UK, in Australia by Transmission and sold in 13 other territories, has also won Best International Film at the 2016 Saturn Awards.

In 2012, MARS & AVRIL by Martin Villeneuve premiered at Karlovy Vary, and also played at the Mumbai, Whistler and Mill Valley Film Festivals. The film, distributed in Canada by Seville/eOne and in the USA by Gaia- TV, received 5 nominations at the Canadian Screen Awards and 4 nominations at the Quebec Cinema Awards in 2013. After much critical acclaim, Martin was invited to give a Ted Talk on the creative process.

In 2015, Hélène Choquette’s documentary A DOG’S LIFE had its world premiere at the Vancouver International Film Festival, played at the Festival du Nouveau Cinema in Montreal and at the One World human rights festival in Prague and was selected in competition in Hot Docs 2016. Also in 2015, Raphaël Nadjari’s NIGHT SONG, a France-Canada coproduction, had its March premiere in Montreal and has opened in theaters in Europe in April 2016.



Fisk mixing the pallet in his studio.

Fisk begins the underpainting for rotary phone.



Fisk the morning after his Canadian dealer unilaterally terminated his contract.



Timelapse of Fisk as he begins pencil drawing of rotary phone.



Fisk discusses pricing in front of his “Motorcycle painting #4”.