

CREATIVE  
REVIEW

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CR

STUDENT  
SHOWCASE  
FRESH FROM  
THE MINDS OF  
THIS YEAR'S  
GRADUATES





## One to Watch: Johnny Kelly

Dubliner Johnny Kelly (above) has just completed his animation MA at London's Royal College of Art – where we spotted his film, *Procrastination* (two stills shown below right), whilst on the hunt for great graduate work to show in this very issue of CR.

Kelly first applied for a place on the RCA animation course whilst studying graphic design at the Dublin Institute of Technology – although his application was rejected. His response: move to London, work at NB:Studio for a year and re-apply. "Although I enjoy the practice, process and rules of working in print, animation allows you the prospect of handling all stages of production yourself," Kelly tells us. "Also, seeing the work produced by people like Shynola, Smith & Foulkes and Michel Gondry – with ideas, humour and a design aesthetic – helped me realise how much potential for creativity

there is in animation."

Procrastination, which, in his own words, is "a hands-on, gloves-off study into the practice of putting things off," is as visually engaging as it is topically universal. We're all familiar with the fine art of doing something else rather than that which is most pressing and Kelly's film sees him employ a variety of animation techniques as it works through a list of the various forms that procrastination can take, each announced to superb comic effect by voiceover artist Bryan Quinn.

"We were asked to produce a film on a topic of our choice and given a year to do it – so *Procrastination* came out of the struggles I was having with such an open brief," explains Kelly of his choice of subject. "Eventually I stopped floundering around with worthy concepts and overworking ideas and

just started making sequences based on my own personal experience."

The film earned Kelly one of just six Conran Achievement Awards given to students at the RCA this year.

So what's next? "Working as an animation director in a production company would be what I'd hope to do," he tells us, "although I would like also to continue illustrating, do the odd design job and continue to co-edit our little magazine baby, co-op ([www.cooperatewith.us](http://www.cooperatewith.us)). Ultimately I'd like to find a pool of like-minded people to collaborate and share space with and to continue learning new, tricky things." *Procrastination* obviously has its reward... 🍷

For details on future screenings of *Procrastination* and more of Kelly's work see [www.mickeyandjohnny.com](http://www.mickeyandjohnny.com)

