

EAGER BY ALLISON SCHULNIK

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Once in a while you come across something so gobsmackingly amazing you can't wait to share it with everyone you know. I have been a bit beside myself waiting for an opportunity to post this magical claymation video by artist **Allison Schulnik**. "Eager" is set in a fantastical world of dancing ghostly figures, swaying carnivorous flowers, a boneless horse and creatures that melt from one state into another. In this world everything is melting, oozing, growing, merging and transforming. The only constant is change, as the cycles of life and death swiftly flow into one-another.

Claymation is a bit of a favourite of mine when it come to animation, and I have never seen it been manipulated in this way. Schulnik has an incredible mastery of the material, managing to guide dancers through mesmerising movements, and mould the faces of flowers into monsters in a seamless transition. Prior to her current reincarnation of an artist she studied dance, this explains the deft skill with which she evokes such elegant movement from clay. The video is accompanied by a perfectly matched soundtrack — a haunting bespoke piece of music by Aaron M Olsen.

Allison Schulnik is an artist that works in several mediums, though her work is populated with a host of recurring characters and landscapes. Her paintings, often huge in scale, are rendered in thickly textured, whirling globs of paint, making the progression to claymation seem quite natural. Schulnik still paints, exhibiting on a regular basis. She has made several animations, including a video for Grizzly Bears' "Ready, Able" and has taken part in multiple film festivals. What an inspiring maker! But enough words, dim the lights and get ready for a mesmerising journey. The video starts off slow, but stay with it and be greatly rewarded.
Anna Tokareva

Source: <http://www.wearethefrontier.com/allison-schulnik/>