

THE EPIC OF ENKIDU



LOGLINE

A fractured tale

SHORT SYNOPSIS

When the catastrophic king Gilgamesh meets the grass-fed Enkidu, things don't go according to the clay tablets. A cartoon take on the ancient Mesopotamian tale, featuring doom, despair, deception, and sheep.

LONG SYNOPSIS

A classically animated cartoon short based on the Epic of Gilgamesh, the world's oldest known piece of literature. Written on clay tablets in the Bronze Age, the original epic describes the chest-pounding friendship of the Mesopotamian king Gilgamesh and the animal-like Enkidu. When the shared adventures and hubris of the two result in Enkidu's death, Gilgamesh undertakes a despondent, doomed search for the secret of immortality. More than 4,000 years later, *The Epic of Enkidu* presents a glumly slapstick take on the source material, wondering what might have been lost in the fragments of clay. Did Enkidu's heart ever leave the wilderness? Was Gilgamesh bright enough to understand it all? Years in the making, this hand-drawn short film takes us from the walls of Uruk to the forest of Humbaba and finally to the ends of the earth, where the house of the immortal Utnapishtim may hold the answers. A cartoon retelling of our most ancient tale, The Epic of Enkidu presents a fractured paean to cuneiform, the animal kingdom, and good intentions in complicated times.

CREDITS

Direction, Story, and Animation: Mike A. Smith

Music: John Morgan Askew

Sound Design and Mix: Jason T. Edwards

Voices: Darin Dahms

DIRECTOR BIO

Mike A. Smith first began animating as a kid with a borrowed Super 8 camera and some plasticine. Since then, he's dug his way into a career in archaeology, thrown away a mountain of bad drawings, and made animated shorts including the award-winning *Cooped* (2014) and *Missionary* (2005). From 2009 to 2011, Mike served as president of ASIFA Portland, the Pacific Northwest chapter of the international animation society.

WEBSITE (Trailer, Images, Poster, and More)

<http://tenpoundtoons.com/EpicofEnkidu>

CONTACT

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SPECIFICATIONS

- Total Running Time 00:09:26
- 24fps
- 1920x1080p (16:9)
- DCP, ProRes, or H264
- 5.1 Surround Sound or Stereo (L-R)
- No dialogue
- Subtitles available for on-screen text