CA' FOSCARI SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 9
20-23 MARCH 2019
AUDITORIUM SANTA MARGHERITA, VENEZIA
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ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS THE 3D

Once upon a time there was the 3D is the special program dedicated to the cinema of the origins of this year's edition of the **Ca' Foscari Short Film Festival**. The protagonist of this event, curated as always by **Carlo Montanaro**, is the father of the three-dimensional animation, **Ladislas Starewitch** (1882-1965).

Russian of Polish ancestry, **Wladyslaw Starewicz** (as is the original transcription of his name), is a pioneer of stop motion animation, to which he initially dedicated himself to document the life of animals and insects, helping himself with the creation of highly articulated puppets. Starewitch also directs many feature-length films with flesh-and-blood actors full of 'special effects', eventually devoting himself to the three-dimensional animation with his family in France after the revolution. His great craftsmanship in the construction of puppets, in fact, allowed him to experiment with various sides of the cinematographic world, enriching it with a number of innovations to increase its spectacularity. The special program dedicated to him focuses on three elements that define the stages of his career: painted colors, sound, realistic colors. This program was created with the collaboration of Léona Béatrice Martin-Starevich and François Martin, who work to preserve Starewitch's work.

SCREENING PROGRAMME:

EXTRACTS FROM 1914-20 (Russia/France, 1914-20, 2'50")
Three short extracts from three unfinished works from the time of silent film, with a Charlot-insect in action on a set…

LA VOIX DU ROSSIGNOL – THE VOICE OF THE NIGHTINGALE (France, 1923, 13')
A little girl sets a nightingale free. The singing of the bird at dawn is a thanksgiving to her kind gesture.

FETICHE PRESTIDIGITATEUR (France, 1934, 12')
Fètiche is a cuddly dog that lives a series of adventures resembling the dreams of a little girl (Nina Star), like in this case on the tracks of a circus.

ATTEMPTS AT ADVERTISING (France, 1934, 24")
Attempts at adding advertisement in *Fetiche prestidigitateur*.

HOW A *MARIONNETTE* IS BORN AND COMES TO LIFE (France, 1930s, 3'15" e 1'37")
In these two short inserts of the '30s Starewitch tells his brilliant and painstaking work.

BOREAL CAROUSEL (France, 1958, 12')
Three stuffed animals (a bear, a rabbit and a dog) survive in snow and ice, enjoying the awakening of nature after the thaw.