
TITO AND THE BIRDS

Directors Gustavo Steinberg, André Catoto, Gabriel Bitar / Brazil / 2018 / Portuguese w/English subtitles / 73 min / Animated / Ages 8+

A young boy named Tito and his two friends set out on a mission to find his father's missing research on bird songs, the one thing that might save their world from an epidemic where being afraid makes you ill.

SET THE STAGE | WORDS TO KNOW

FILM TERMS:

- **ANIMATION:** the appearance or illusion of movement when a series of drawings, computer graphics, or photographs of objects (such as puppets or models) are viewed in sequence
- **MONTAGE:** selecting, editing, and piecing together separate sections of film to form a continuous whole
- **PLOT:** basic layout or path of the story
- **EDITING:** the selection, manipulation and combination of shots to create structure and story

For more film terms, refer to the PCFF Film Glossary (pcffri.org/FilmHub)

TALK ABOUT IT | DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR BEFORE...

- Have you ever known anyone who had a pet bird, or kept many birds? Someone who goes birdwatching? What have humans learned from birds? Do you think birds communicate with each other?
- What are you most afraid of? What helps you be less afraid?
- Do you think fear is an emotion that is used in news or other media today? If so, how does it help or hurt us?
- Think about the way media has influenced any aspect of your life, whether it was a new product, or an event in the world. What techniques do media (TV, video games, commercials, books, music) use to grab your attention and influence you?

... & AFTER FILM VIEWING

- What techniques did this film use to hold your attention?
- What do you think is the film's message? How is the animation and visual style used to convey the message?
- Think about how fear is manufactured in the film. How does this relate to our everyday life?
- How would you describe the character of Alaor, the TV news anchor? What is his role in the film?
- Think about what fears cause each of the characters to become sick. What does that tell us about each of them?

RESOURCES:

- **Official film website:** titoandthebirds.com
- **Media Education Lab at the University of Rhode Island** (mediaeducationlab.com): Advancing media literacy education through research and community service.
- **Audubon Society of Rhode Island** (asri.org): Environmental organization fostering conservation of wild birds and other plant and animal life.
- **All About Bird Song:** (academy.allaboutbirds.org/features/birdsong/songbirds-in-action)
- **Providence Raptors** (www.providenceraptors.com): Photographer Peter Green's website about the birds of Providence.