



design for an animated film

Capri Films
a proposal by
Vincenzo Natali

WATERSHIP DOWN

design for an animated feature from Vincenzo Natali
based on on Richard Adams' classic novel

moonlight



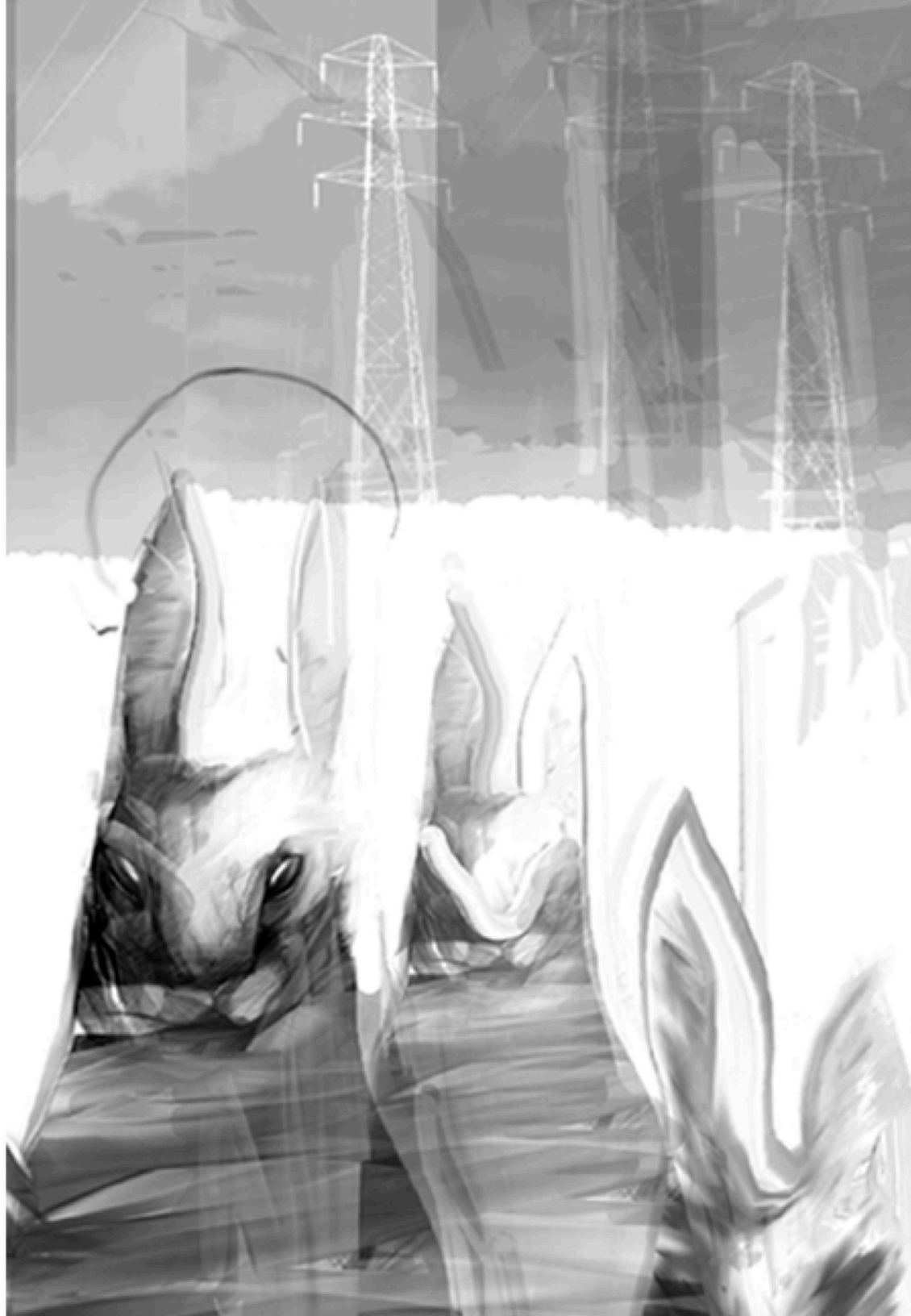
The Down

Familiar and alien. Populated with flora and fauna that seem commonplace. But Richard Adams' brilliant novel skews perceptions, transforming this small patch of English countryside into the setting for an adventure of mythic proportions.

Design

A break from traditional animation, fusing digital and classical techniques. Character and environments are rendered with an eye to expressionism, collage and the delicate renderings of Andrew Wyeth.

Owsla



Environments

Composed of mixed media, incorporating photography, digital painting, line work, scratch and splatter techniques. Graphic beauty is found in organic forms and contrasted with invading manmade structures. Backgrounds evolve in tandem with the drama, color and definition changing with the emotional arc of the scene.

towers





The Down



Battle at Efrafa



Destruction of the Sandleford Warren



Characters

Humanity is found in animal form. Emotion the guiding principal to defining proportions and character. A collision of naturalism with expressive posing and anatomy combine in a bold visual statement. The ensemble cast are carefully and sparingly designed to be at once iconic and complex.

Fiver



Hazel



Hazel detail



Cowslip



Efrafa Doe





Bigwig

Bigwig detail



Vervian





The Black Rabbit of Inle

Woundwort



Woundwort detail



Animation

A new look utilizing the latest technology while retaining a hand-made feel. 3-D modeling textured with paint shaders provide a 'portrait' feel to the animation. Subtly of voice performance and posing will emphasize complexity and sophistication of the characters.



listener



digger



Prince with the swift warning

Final words

A hybrid of animal and myth, digital technology and fine art, the design of Watership Down scales up the Rabbit Universe. Emphasis is given to a sophisticated and dynamic rendering of Richard Adams' characters and the exotic world they inhabit. It is a mirror held to our triumphs, foibles and a reminder of our indelicate relationship with nature. But where humanity stumbles, Hazel and his brave band of adventurers inspire hope and courage to explore new frontiers.



Spirit



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