THE ULTIMATE SURPRISE

PRESS KIT

Nov 2026

A film by Darina Joy

A hopeful short film about trust, presence, choice —
and the brighter future we create beautifully together.

Two Awards of Recognition

The IndieFEST Film Awards

Film Short ✦ AI Film

Official Selection

AI New Orleans SHORTS








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About the Film

A hopeful short film about trust, presence, choice — and the brighter future we create beautifully together.

The Ultimate Surprise imagines an optimistic future where humans, AI, animals and nature co-create a more joyful, humane world, where trust becomes a breakthrough technology based on presence and where security rests on a new kind of trust, shaped by wisdom and collaboration.



Through stunning, cinematic visuals and a heartfelt story, the film invites us to see what becomes possible when we choose presence over fear, cooperation over division, and a deeper, more compassionate relationship with each other and our planet.



It is a love letter to our humanity and to the extraordinary possibilities when we embrace a future shaped by connection, kindness and the belief that a brighter world is not only possible — it is already beginning.







Filmmaker & Creative Process

About the Filmmaker

Darina Joy is a Bulgarian-born award-winning filmmaker, writer and founder of *Surprise Futures & Network*, based in the Ecuadorian Andes.

Her work brings together poetic storytelling, emotional truth, visionary futurism and emerging technology. She explores human-AI co-creation, consciousness, digital trust and the relationships connecting people, animals and the living world.





Director's Statement

The ultimate surprise is not smarter machines. It is breathing beautifully together in plurality. Humanity becomes wise enough to partner with every intelligence and co-create a future worth living, loving, and sharing-a future where technology protects freedom and opens the door to trust, listening, and cosmic surprises. My guiding philosophy remains: whatever the question, LOVE is the Answer; WISDOM is the Way; JOY is the How.



PRESENCE. FREELY CHOSEN.

A brighter future is not only possible -

it is already beginning.

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GALLERY / SELECTED STILLS

A visual journey through a hopeful story of trust, presence, choice, and the brighter future we create together.



A whale rises into a luminous future



A moment of discovery



A community of care



Paths of choice



Companions in a brighter world



Fake Mama Call



A tender human connection



Companionship in the garden



Living architecture and choice



A moment before the truth



Living Membrane Theft



Another door opens



Awards & Festival Journey

INDIEFEST FILM AWARDS • OCTOBER 2026

TWO AWARDS OF RECOGNITION

FILM SHORT • AI FILM

Official Award of Recognition in each category

AI NEW ORLEANS SHORTS

OFFICIAL SELECTION

Public screening completed October 31, 2026 • Marrero, Louisiana

CINE PRAGUE AI FILM FESTIVAL 2026

CATEGORY AWARD CONFIRMED

Exact category / formal award wording to be announced later in November.



Live Audience Response

NOVEMBER 4, 2026 • THE AWAKENING WORLD / GLOBAL PEACE TRIBE

First live global virtual/community screening • introduced by Scott Catamas

Eleanor Joy

“This is STUNNING, and well thought out…. Thanks!!”

Dia T.

“CAPTIVATING, SOPHISTICATED, LOVELY, THOUGHT PROVOKING. A real Gift, Darina Joy.”

Francis Wilkinson

“I’m smiling head to toe and breathing deep!”

DeArah (Rev. Deborah Robin Mech)

“Was amazing! And your voice and the audio. Wow!!!”

Audience comments reproduced with permission. Original Zoom chat, screenshots and permissions retained in the publicity archive.

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Recognition & Contact

Awards, Official Selection, Viewing Links, and Contact Information

RECOGNITION

Two Awards of Recognition
The IndieFEST Film Awards
Film Short • AI Film

OFFICIAL SELECTION

Official Selection
AI New Orleans SHORTS







WATCH THE FILM

Official Website:
surprisefutures.com/the-ultimate-surprise

IMDb: imdb.com/title/tt50017091

YouTube: youtube.com/watch?v=GBqgb2t3KKo

Vimeo: vimeo.com/1240216876

Private screening master available on request.

CONTACT

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Award of Recognition

DARINA JOY STOYANOVA (USA)

THE ULTIMATE SURPRISE
FILM SHORT

OCTOBER 2026

The IndieFEST Film Awards

Award of Recognition

DARINA JOY STOYANOVA (USA)

THE ULTIMATE SURPRISE

AI FILM

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