

ANIMATION: A World History
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Women in the Limelight

Deanna Morse

Deanna Morse (b. Sioux City, Iowa, 26 February 1950) produced, directed and animated more than 40 short films. Sometimes she focused on soft, ironic subjects for children. At other times she dealt with people and their issues, and later she collected languid impressions about time's passing. Morse's world is populated by swans, cats, butterflies, seagulls, stars, flowers, plants and smiling faces Her irony is polite and gentle, miles from sarcasm, as we can see from the shorts she made for *Sesame Street: Dogs* (1991), *Monkey's T-Shirt* (1991) and *Night Sounds* (1992). *Charleston Home Movie* (1980) is probably her most famous film, celebrating the welcoming city in South Carolina. Partly thanks to its warm country music, the film carries the viewers into a homely atmosphere. *Hand* (1982) is about hands: white, purple, overlapping, intersecting, appearing, disappearing to music. *August Afternoons* (1985) focuses on the feelings and sensations of a summer day. Time is the main subject in Morse's later works. She analyzes nature through its lens in *Time Flights* (2007) and explores light through time's lens in *Breathing Room* (2009). In the latter, Morse shot images from nature one frame at a time and presented them in time-lapse. Time as variation, grown, and decay is treated in *Postcards from my Backyard* (2007) where a single space is presented through time-lapse footage and motion graphics.