



UKI (80:00, 2023)

a Scifi Viral Alt-Reality Cinema

<http://u-k-i.co>

Story/Script/Direction: Shu Lea Cheang

Produced by Shu Lea Cheang and Jürgen Brüning

A Jürgen Brüning FilmProduktion

Major funding provided by

The Guggenheim Fellowship (USA)

Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg (Germany)

“Set your electric sheep free range. It is 2060, what do you do with expired humanoids?”

UKI's storyline unfolds as we follow a defunct replicant REIKO dumped on Etrashville - a vast dump for tech - who tries to pull themselves back together with the help of its transgenic inhabitants. A virtual BioNet owned by GENOM Co. has occupied human bodies and re-engineered red blood cells into nano-computing self-generated orgasms. Parallel to REIKO's trajectory is that of an infected city in which a besieged diner gathers the infected to exchange own orgasm data for fresher, intenser, mutual orgasm. The diner is also the meeting-place for hackers who traverse time and space, bringing in news of protest and manifestation while uncovering GENOM's bio-engineering scheme. As the plot thickens, REIKO's body is coded, recoded and finally collapses to re-emerge as UKI the Virus. Setting back GENOM's plans, UKI the Virus seems on the brink of swarming through the infected city to liberate the red blood cells. Through virus Becoming, viral Love, we find a way to reclaim our viral bodies.

“This extraordinarily visually intense film moves from 3D graphics to game engine generated cinematic *mise en scène* to visual effects enhanced live action scenes in an extraordinary *tour de force* of contemporary digital collage.” – Matthew Fuller, Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths, University of London

