



A SHORT DOCUMENTARY ABOUT  
HARES AND HURRICANES

THE  
TWELVE-FOOT-TALL  
RABBITS  
OF ROKEBY FARM



CROW-TONE PRESENTS A FILM BY SAMUEL CROW AND RUBI ROSE "THE TWELVE-FOOT-TALL RABBITS OF ROKEBY FARM" FEATURING  
SOPHIA MICHAELLES ALEX KAHN AND JEANNE FLEMING CINEMATOGRAPHY BY RUBI ROSE MUSIC BY J. ALEXANDER BROWN  
ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE BY THOMAS CONNORS AND JON FORDHAM WRITTEN, DIRECTED, AND EDITED BY SAMUEL CROW AND RUBI ROSE

CROW-TONE

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## TITLE / LOGLINE / SYNOPSIS

### TITLE:

"The Twelve-Foot-Tall Rabbits Of Rokeby Farm"

### LOGLINE:

Alex, Sophia, and the team at Superior Concept Monsters struggle to build twelve-foot-tall puppets for the New York City Village Halloween Parade - as Hurricane Sandy bears down on the city.

### SYNOPSIS:

Every year, novice and expert puppet makers alike converge on a farm in New York's Hudson Valley to build giant-scale puppets for the New York City Village Halloween Parade. Under the direction of Alex and Sophia from Superior Concept Monsters, a full performance is designed, built, and choreographed, all leading up to the big night of the parade, where millions of people around the world will watch them come to life in the largest Halloween celebration on the planet.

The performance and its twelve-foot-tall puppets take a full month to create, with Alex, Sophia, and their team of volunteers struggling against deadlines, creative chaos and the natural limits of corrugated cardboard. As if that weren't enough, Hurricane Sandy, the largest Atlantic storm ever recorded, arrives at the worst possible moment, threatening everything they've worked so hard to build.



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## PRODUCTION INFORMATION

**Genre:** Short Documentary

**Country Of Production:** United States Of America

**Budget:** \$3700.00 USD

**Date Of Completion:** June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Format:** Color, NTSC HDV

**Running Time:** 22:03

**Language:** English

**Aspect Ratio:** 1.78:1

**Sound:** Stereo

**Exhibition Formats:** DVD, DigiBeta, BetaSP, .MOV, .MPG

**Releases and Permissions** available upon request



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## DIRECTOR BIO: SAMUEL CROW

Writer and director Samuel Crow was born and raised in New York City. He began making movies on Super-8mm film in high school. After five years in Portland, Oregon, where he received a degree from Reed College, made several short films, and worked on his first professional sets, Samuel moved back to New York City and began a full-time freelance career as a location sound recordist and camera operator for features, shorts, television, commercials, corporate films, and many other productions.

Around this time, he joined forces with producer Ramon Wilson, currently an executive at Relativity Media, to form Voodoo People Productions. They created original music videos, pilots, commercials, and industrial videos, most of which were directed by Samuel, with the company also enjoying success as a full-service production company for other directors and organizations. Voodoo People's productions have screened theatrically and on cable and network television both here and abroad, in addition to winning multiple awards at both foreign and domestic film festivals.

Today, Samuel continues to work as both a director and freelance crew member, splitting his time between New York City and the Hudson Valley region of upstate New York.





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## **DIRECTOR BIO: RUBI ROSE**

Rubi Rose's lifelong passion for photography began at seven years old when her uncle gave her a bright pink Kodak 35mm camera. Rarely seen without it, she trained her eye by taking hundreds of 35mm shots of friends, family, and her surroundings. Training at the Woodstock Youth Center brought her her first proper SLR camera, and eventually brought her to studying at Bard College, where she received her degree in photography.

Her photo projects have been realized on mediums as diverse as black-and-white and color, large-format 4x5 and digital. In addition to her art portfolio, she works as a photographer's assistant for MacArthur Fellowship winning-photographer Wendy Ewald. and as a freelance camera operator. Her freelance work has included weddings, parties, bar- and bat-mitzvahs, and events as diverse as shoots for Vogue Italia, One Voice For Haiti, and the New York City Village Halloween Parade. This is her first documentary.

Coming off of her acclaimed show "Between a Peasant and a Patroon", Rubi was selected for a fellowship from the Tierney Foundation, who provided the funding for her latest show, "Ten Again", which opened in the spring of 2012.



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## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

It was supposed to be a straightforward project - tell the story of the design and creation of a set of towering clockwork rabbit puppets meant for a performance during the New York City Village Halloween Parade.

When we first started production on "The Twelve Foot Tall Rabbits Of Rokeby Farm," Hurricane Sandy was still weeks away from forming in the western Caribbean sea. By the time it formed, we had completed the bulk of principal photography, had arranged our media/backstage passes to the Halloween Parade, and packed our kit for the actual event. By the week of Halloween, we knew enough to pack rain gear for our camera rigs, but nobody could have predicted what happened next.

The "superstorm" devastated the entire northeastern seaboard of the United States, and although the Halloween Parade's cancellation was only one item on a long list of destruction and damage caused by the storm, it was still heartbreaking for all of the talented craftspeople and artists who had worked to build the theme puppets. Months of work, miles of travel, hundreds of volunteers, and the best party on earth - all swept away by the storm.

We hope this documentary helps to heal those wounds, presenting the performance of "Tick-Tock" in lieu of the live event that never was. For everyone that has worked on or celebrated at the New York City Village Halloween Parade, this is for you. If you haven't, well, we hope you enjoy this look at one of its myriad elements, and we hope you can make it out to the parade someday!

- Samuel Crow and Rubi Rose



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## CREDITS

### DIRECTED BY

Samuel Crow and Rubi Rose

### FEATURING

Sophia Michahelles  
Alex Kahn  
Jeanne Fleming

### FEATURED VOLUNTEERS

Ben Bratcher  
Jeff Bratcher  
Esther Chang  
Alexandra De Suze  
Aurelio Del Muro  
Shari Gab  
Laurel Halter  
Johnny Li  
Tamara Ochoa  
Moiria Sauer  
Kent Sawyer  
Mark Skelly  
Surge Velez  
Clara Waloff

### CINEMATOGRAPHY BY

Rubi Rose

### MUSIC BY

J. Alexander Brown

### EDITED BY

Samuel Crow and Rubi Rose



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## CREDITS

### ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE BY

Thomas Connors  
Jon Fordham

### DRESS REHEARSAL MUSIC BY

Nicholas Shellenberger

### SOUND DESIGN AND MIX BY

Samuel Crow

### MUSICIANS

#### "Through The Motions"

Conductor: Richard Nobbe III  
Flute: Matthew Wascher  
Violins: Kristen Kapalka, Michael McCarthy  
Viola: Abigail McGreehan  
Cello: Jeffrey Borrebach  
Percussion: Samuel Haese, Eric Young

#### "Simple Lines And Patterns"

Soprano Saxophone: Kendra Emery  
Violins: Rebekah Butler, Angela Lamb  
Viola: Matthew Primm  
Double Bass: Evan Runyon

#### "Meditations On Stasis (1<sup>st</sup> Movement)" "Epoch"

Conductor: Kevin Michael Sullivan  
Violins: Boris Abramov, Micah Gwanger,  
Alexandria Mae, Jennifer Warrilow  
Double Bass: Catrin Dowd  
Violas: Rachel Sanders, Julie Michael  
Cellos: Mark Yee, Joseph Woodward





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## CREDITS

### SPECIAL THANKS TO

Rokeby  
The New York City Village Halloween Parade  
Jordan Matthews  
Brad Crumb  
Ricky Aldrich  
And all of the volunteers who make the  
parade a truly special event

### OTHER CREDITS

Hurricane Sandy imagery courtesy of NASA  
Weather Radio Audio courtesy of NOAA/NWS  
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### WEBSITES

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[www.superiorconcept.org](http://www.superiorconcept.org)  
[www.halloween-nyc.com](http://www.halloween-nyc.com)  
[jessealexbrown.weebly.com](http://jessealexbrown.weebly.com)



photo: The rabbits come out to dance.

# THE TWELVE-FOOT-TALL RABBITS OF ROKEYB FARM

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photo: directors Samuel Crow and Rubi Rose