



Happy Kwanza-Hannukah-Christmas-New Year!

Hi! I'm Nika Belianina - lighting technician on film sets in Toronto, a passionate filmmaker and an art photographer. I'd like to share with you this letter highlighting my successes and adventures of 2011. And to wish you a very happy Holiday Season and a fantastic, prosperous 2012!!

This is also my first official newsletter. Some of you were getting less official ones every now and then. But let me assure you, my future newsletters won't clog your email. I'll be writing them once every 2 months or so, unless I'm exploding with something very exciting that needs immediate share :-). If you still can't figure out who I am, you're welcome to visit my imdb page - <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2122033/>. But first, take a look at my events of 2011. And feel free to share yours with me!



Festival tour

My short film "Butterflies of Trip City"



"The Last Mermaids"

This year I also made a new short film, "The Last Mermaids" which intercuts

had exciting screenings this year: from the Oscar qualifying 35th Atlanta Film Festival, to one of the oldest in USA - the 53rd Rochester Int'l Short fest. And the prestigious (among ex-USSR countries) 20th Kinotavr Film Festival in Sochi (Russia), the home of the next Winter Olympic Games. The film also appeared in school classrooms and got a good review from one of the biggest newspapers in Moscow. You can watch the trailer of this post-apocalyptic short film here at <http://www.nikabelianina.com/Butterflies.html>

The film was made with the support of the Ontario Arts Council.

[The Last Mermaids](#) , which intercuts between two worlds - the one of the mermaids and the one of a hospital drama, interconnecting the lives of its inhabitants. Picture is now locked, I am working on the sound and music. The release is aimed at the festival circuit in 2012. Please stay tuned for the teaser in early January.

This film was made possible with the Ontario Arts Council grant. It was co-produced with Willowood productions.



Artist residency

I was awarded an interdisciplinary residency at KHN Center for the Arts in Nebraska City, NE, USA, where I spent 3 weeks in October working on the 2nd draft of my feature-length script "Next time I die... (Story of Boing)" and discovering levitation and medium format photography. I also taught a few art classes in the local high school there.



Travels

I've been blessed with the opportunity to travel in 2011! I've explored [Morocco](#) from Marrakech to Atlas Mountains and the small towns of the west coast with my boyfriend. I visited the biggest aquarium in North America in **Atlanta**, walked the blue festival carpets in **Sochi** (Russia), schmoozed in the middle of France at **Clermont-Ferrand** film festival, explored the forestry and corn fields of **Nebraska City**, encountered numerous turtles in **Louisiana swamps** and enjoyed street jazz in **New Orleans**! I'm working hard on unleashing best



Photography

I'm finishing this year with **fewer, but better quality photo exhibitions, (the overall count is 19)**, including prestigious **36th Annual Paducah Photo show**. Earlier this year I was represented by one of the oldest galleries in Toronto. I've decided to concentrate my work on getting a solo show off the ground in the next months to come. I'm also excited to find out which country and venue will be my honorary 20th.

My photographic works are periodically updated and could be found here at <http://www.nikabelianina.com/Photography.html>



2012 resolutions

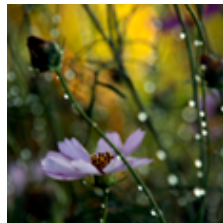
As I updated my photo equipment this year, I surely want to devote more time to



Calendar 2012

I've prepared a calendar with my works for the year of 2012. This is a perfect simple gift that you can purchase for **only \$30** (incl. taxes, excl. delivery)! This means that each photograph costs you only \$2,5. It's ready to hang wall calendar, **8x11, coloured**. Buy now by [clicking here!](#)

nara on uploading best photo-results of these travels onto my [website](#).



Happy Holidays and have a fantastic 2012!!!

underwater photography in 2012. I'm looking to **expand my exhibition horizon to a wider range of countries**. High hopes always surround the new creation, and so I hope for a **bright future for my new short film "The Last Mermaids"**. And I'm getting close to embracing **the world of feature filmmaking** with all it's ups and downs, so help me gods! :-)

I hope to be good to my loved ones and not to disappoint those who count on me. I wish for 2012 to be the year of new stepping stones and new heights, but with few or shorter falls. Happy holidays!

[forward to a friend](#)

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Some formatting issues may occur, as I'm a newsletter beginner.

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