

Curriculum Vitae

Michael Hirsh

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Key Skills

Dynamic team leader, respectful of differences in ability. Highly skilled at organizing, managing, delivering & reporting projects. Lateral thinker with a creative multi-disciplined approach to problem solving. Constantly striving for quality and clarity in production values. Unfailing sense of humour. Fluent French.

Art and Animation

Life Drawing, Storyboarding, Layout, Colour Key design, Background Painting in acrylics, gouache and oils and digital, Typographic design. Photography. Team trainer & Supervisor.

Software Packages & IT

Production level experience in Photoshop (7.0)

Expert knowledge of Satori FilmFX film painting software. (Beta tester)

Production experience in Alias Wavefront Maya 4.0 for texture mapping using Hypershader

Website design and publishing using Macromedia Dreamweaver 4 & MX

Frequent use of: Corel Painter, FTP, Adobe Acrobat, MS Office, Image cataloguing.

Built and maintaining 5 graphics workstations. Network design, build and maintenance.

Writing

Screenplay development for feature length projects for Uli Meyer Studios and Columbia Pictures.

Screenwriting live-action shorts.

Tutorial articles for Satori Film FX in computer graphics magazines and for the Web.

1985 Established The Bamboo Society. Co-organised an International Bamboo Conference in France (1988) Edited & published Society newsletter

Employment in Film & TV

1972-2004

Freelance Designer, Storyboard artist, Background painter, Art director, Illustrator & Colour stylist for Feature Films, TV commercials, TV series, Title sequences, Music promos, etc., using traditional and digital media. Salient projects:

- 1996- 2003 Freelancing at Uli Meyer Animation, London. Backgrounds Supervisor, "Space Jam" feature film Designing for 2D & 3D. Art direction, layout, storyboarding, painting for TV commercials & TV Series. Website design. Illustration for very large format print
- 1995 –1996 Art Direction & Colour Key styling for Cinevox; Various TV series & pilots
- 1993-1995 Amblimation (Universal Films), London. "Balto", feature film Senior background painter
- 1993 Don Bluth, Dublin. "Thumbelina" feature film. Background artist
- 1992 TVC Productions, London. "Father Christmas". TV special. Background artist

- 1991-1992 Walt Disney Animation (UK) & Walt Disney Animation (France) Backgrounds Dept. Supervisor for :
Duck Tales -The Movie" feature film
"Winnie the Pooh" TV series
"Tale Spin" TV series.
 - Production Art Director & Designer for dozens of 2D & 3D TV commercials
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Teaching Experience

Duncan of Jordanstone School of Art, (Dundee) School of Imaging & TV
Seminars & Student mentoring.

Lectures:

- "The Function of Backgrounds in Animation" (April 2002)
- "Composing Images for Film & TV" (April 2003)

Thames Valley University. Block course in Animation

Berkshire College of Art and Design. Animation

Warner Bros Feature Animation. Artist training

Walt Disney Animation (UK). Artist training

Web publishing of graded tutorials for film painting software

Teaching mission: To encourage the acquisition of knowledge to match technical skills, through a self-critical growth process.

Education

Ealing School of Art (Thames Valley University) Diploma. (Distinction)

Royal Academy Schools (Part Time) Anatomy and LifeDrawing

Birkbeck College, University of London: Introduction to Screenwriting (Merit); Techniques of the Re-write (Merit).

Training in: Satori Film FX, Photoshop, Softimage 3D, Alias Wavefront Maya

Referees available on request

Client List

Alchemy Communications
Alive Television
Amblimation / Universal Films
Animation City
Animation Partnership
Animus
BBC Television
Don Bluth
Brooke Edwards
Canning Factory
Cartoon Network
Chums Animation
Cinevox
Cucumber
Dragon Animation
Tony Collingwood Productions
Ealing Animation
FARM
Grand Slamm
Halas & Bachelor
Hannaywood Productions
Hibbert Ralph (HRA)
High Eagle
London Weekend Television
Lost In Space
Mike Lodge Animation
Molinare
Moo Movies
The Moving Picture Company
Passion Pictures
Pizzazz (Studio AKA)
Real Time Graphics
Richard Purdum Productions
Shootsey
Siriol Productions
Speedy Cartoons
Snowden-Fine
Tandem
Thames Television
The Entertainment Department
Time - Spirit
TV Cartoons
Uli Meyer Animation
Warner Bos Feature Animation
Walt Disney Studios (UK)
Walt Disney Animation (France)
Richard Williams
Wyatt-Cattaneo
Yorkshire Television
Zoo Films