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In the early hours of a drizzly day this summer I was peddling furiously around Central Park when I finally figured out just how this industry works. This oxygen-generated revelation turns out to be handy because students and the newly graduated often ask me for guidance on that very subject. A recent example, "So, like, I think this business is awesome but I'm totally confused about the whole thing and how it relates to me." To which I dribbled a bit and then sighed something about "a complex industry and constantly changing but that's why it's so interesting and dynamic." The resulting look of disappointment – thinly disguised as pained thoughtfulness – still stings.

So the next time the subject came up – with a group of students about to graduate – I was ready. "Think of animation and VFX as a professional sport," I pronounced with a flush of fatherly wisdom. "Animators and artists are the players, studios are the teams and executive producers are the managers. Creative directors are the coaches, freelancers are the free agents, agencies and broadcasters are like the fans and competitive pitches are the games."

Smiles spread and eyes widened as they grabbed the metaphor and made it their own. "I totally get it," said a robust and eager young woman named Georgia. "And that makes Stash like... the sports highlight reel on the evening news."

Yes, Georgia, I guess it does.

Stephen Price Editor New York, August 2007 sp@stashmedia.tv "TRANSFORMERS: THE GAME" Game intro/trailer

Game developer: TRAVELLER'S TALE ACTIVISION

Director: BLUR STUDIO

Animation: BLUR STUDIO

www.blur.com

"Activision's brief was simple," says Blur CG Supervisor Dave Wilson of this epic clip for Transformers: The Game. "They gave us the key story points to hit, but they left us to our own devices to just come up with something cool. They wanted a montage style open to the game, and we were lucky to get Peter Cullen [the original voice of Optimus Prime] to narrate.

"When you've got giant robots, transforming, flying through cities, running on rooftops and generally beating the hell out of each other, the creative challenges aren't that tough, the hardest part is keeping your own creativity somewhat in check, not something we like doing, so you don't go way over budget

The transformers are quite intricate characters, all those moving parts can sometimes look like a mess of techy details, so hitting good poses and making sure the silhouettes read well was something we pushed hard for in the layout phase. You don't want shots looking like a battle between amorphous masses of car parts."









For Blur Studio

CG supers: Dave Wilson. Jain Morton Animation super: Leo Santos CD: Tim Miller Producer: Mandy Sim EP: Al Shier FX super: Kirby Miller Layout: David Nibbellin, Derron Ross Modeling: Shaun Absher, Heikki Anttila, Corey Butler, Marek Denko, Kris Kaufman, Barrett Meeker, Brandon Riza, Daniel Trbovic Rigging: Steve Guevara, Brvan Hillestad, Mattias Jervill, Malcolm Thomas-Gustave Transformation rigging/animation: Heikki Anttila, Remi McGill Animation: Jean-Dominique Fievet, Jeff Fowler, Brent Homman, Marlon Nowe, Derron Ross, Peter Starostin, Adam Swaab, Gus Wartenberg, Brian Whitmire Lighting/compositing: Heikki Anttila, Corey Butler, Kris Kaufman, Barrett Meeker FX: Seung Jae Lee, Gus Wartenburg, Attila Zalanyi

Toolkit

3ds Max, Digital Fusion, Brasil

MAIL ON SUNDAY "BATTLE" Cinema

Agency: BARTLE BOGLE HEGARTY

Director: TRAKTOR

Production: PARTIZAN LONDON

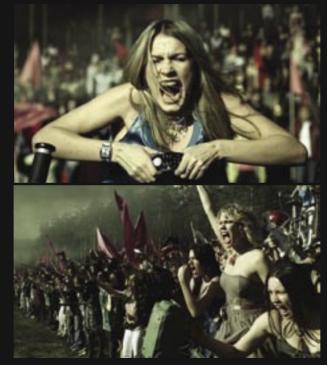
VFX: MOVING PICTURE COMPANY

www.moving-picture.com

MPC gives this battle of the sexes (shot, appropriately, on the same location as the opening sequence of Gladiator) epic dimensions by adding 5000 digital domestic warriors with Massive and then carefully rotoscoping them in behind the 200 live extras. The volleys of dogs and remote controlled cars were also enhanced with duplicates. The aggressive atmosphere of the battle scenes was further enhanced by darkening the clouds, adding 2D smoke and a matte painting to fill out the vista of post-battle carnage.

For Bartle Bogle Hegarty

Producer: Sam Robinson CDs: Matt & Dave ECD: Russell Ramsey



For Partizan London

Director: Traktor DP: Tim Maurice-Jones Producer: James Tomkinson

For Moving Picture Company

Post producers: Justin Brukman, Graham Bird VFX super: Franck Lambertz CG super: Vicky Osborn VFX team: Chrys Aldred, Paul Bayliss, Robin Carlisle, Ali Dixon, Adam Geffen, Miles Glyn, Lewis Guarniere, Henrik Holmberg, Duke Miller, Cenay Oekmen, Dean Robinson, Mark Robinson, Leila Smith, Greg Wilton

Toolkit Massive, Flame

For DDB Sydney

ECD: Matt Eastwood CD: Steve Back AD: Antony Simmons Copy: Alexander Wadelton Producer: Honae MacNeill

For Window Productions

Director: Jonathan Baker Producer: Johnny Greally Editor: Bernard Garry Colorist: Ben Eagleton

For Fuel

VFX super: Andrew Hellen FP. Jason Bath Producer: Kilou Picard 3D super: Anders Thonell Character TD: Craig Baxter Modeling: Aiden Weatherby Texturing: Richard Pritchard Animation: Anders Thonell. Andv Sutton, Craig Baxter, Gael Matchabelli Ray Van Steenwyk Lighting: Pawel Olas, Matt Hermans 2D super: Sam Cole Designer: Marianne Khoo Compositing: Chris Davies. Danielle Hession, Dexter Davey, Edwin So, Koji Yamaguchi, Matthew Wynne, Tate Arbon

Toolkit

Syntheyes, XSI, Photoshop, Zbrush, Maya, After Effects, Flame







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WRIGLEY'S "TAB", "WHITE" TVCs x 2

Agency: DDB SYDNEY

Director: JONATHAN BAKER

Production: WINDOW PRODUCTIONS

VFX: FUEL VFX www.fuelvfx.com

Cute vinyl toy-style CG characters perfectly integrated into sophisticated live-action lift these ads out of the usual clutter running on Australian TV. Director Johnathan Baker recalls the production challenges lay, "in the interaction between the in-camera environment and the 3D characters. Mimicking the reflective and shadow properties of various surfaces, and matching the complex lighting situations in the scenes took time. Both spots were also very animation intensive, with 14 characters to design, model, rig and animate. And we spent a lot of our 3D schedule exploring ways to give each toy an individual personality."

Watch Behind the Scenes on the DVD

SPRINT "DREAMS" TVC :60

Agency: GOODBY, SILVERSTEIN & PARTNERS

Director: DAYTON/FARIS

Production: BOB INDUSTRIES

VFX: BRICKYARD VFX

www.brickyardvfx.com

Part of a two-spot national campaign shot and directed by Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris (back from their success in the feature world with *Little Miss Sunshine*) using light to symbolize creativity and speed. Shot entirely in-camera, the :60 was created from a series of stills linked together in post by Brickyard who also performed extensive beauty work, compositing, and final color grading.

For Bob Industries

EP: TK Knowles Director: Dayton/Faris Line producer: Bart Lipton



For Goodby, Silverstein & Partners

Co-chairman/ECD: Rich Silverstein CDs/copy: Ronny Northrop, Franklin Tipton ADs: Pete Conolly, Randy Stowell Broadcast producer: Michael Damiani Group account director: Rob Smith Account manager: Zoe Kretzschma

For Brickyard VFX

Lead VFX: Geoff McAuliffe Compositor: Mandy Sorenson, Narbeh Mardirossian Lead CG: Robert Sethi, Yafei Wu CG artist: Aaron Vest Jr CG: Carl Harders, Johnny Diaz, TV Tran EP: Kristen Andersen Producer: Cara Farnsworth Prod coordinator: Ananda Reavis VFX super: Eric Swenson

For Scion

VP: Mark Templin Corporate manager: Steve Haag National marketing/ communications manager: Lisa Materazzo Advertising manager: Nancy Inouye

For ATTIK

Group CD: Simon Needham CD: Wayne Hanson AD: Greg Coffin Copy: Michael Brenner Retoucher: Robert Karns Sr producer: Michele Morris Producer: Jay Cortez

For Shilo

CDs: Jose Gomez, Andre Stringer Director: Shilo Lead design: Jose Gomez, Tom Green Lead 3D design/animation: Cody Smith 3D animation: Billy Maloney, Nate Davies, Blake Guest Character animation: Kiel Figgins, Chris Mead, Jorma Auburn, Bren Wilson, Christopher Adams, Richard Lico, Dax Pallotta, Joe Jones Compositors: Jose Gomez, Tom Green, Jon Wu, Marco Giampaolo Editor: Mike Goubeaux Producer: Jake Hibler EPs: Tracy Chandler, Santino Sladavio



For Lola VFX

/FX/Flame super: Thomas Nittman /FX/Flame: Edson Williams

Toolkit

Maya, After Affects, Illustrator, Photoshop



SCION XD "FABLE OF THE DEVIANTS"

Cinema :60

Client: SCION Agency: ATTIK Director: SHILO Production: SHILO VFX: SHILO VFX: SHILO LOLA VISUAL EFFECTS www.shilodesign.com

This :60 cinema spot is the centerpiece of a multi-platform launch for Scion's xD five-door compact. "Because the xD is brand new, we're establishing its attitude and identity," says ATTIK cofounder and GCD Simon Needham "Everything in this campaign conveys the message that the character of the xD is a little badass." The vehicle's non-conformist message is lodged firmly at www. LittleDeviant.com but started life with character illustrations from artist Dave Correia (www. playwithknives.com) and grew into the sinister 3D world of Deviants and Sheeple via the considerable talents of Shilo. Shedule: eight weeks.

CITROËN "JUNGLE" TVC :33 (director's cut)

Agency: EURO RSCG MADRID

Director: DANIEL BENMAYOR

Production: RCRFILMS

VFX: MIOPÍA EFECTOS VISUALES www.miopia.es

The all-Madrid team of Euro RSCG. RCRfilms and VFX house Miopía brings off a convincing approach to the urban jungle theme with this Citroën spot airing throughout Europe. The problem-solving required in animal wrangling, matching of head perspectives, tracking and compositing were considerable, but Ines Aylmira King, head of the International Department at RCR says, "The main challenge was not any of the technical ones. but to convince the client about the possibilities of the concept." Schedule: six-day shoot followed by five weeks of 3D and post.

Watch Behind the Scenes on the DVD





For EURO RSCG CD: Jose Luis Rois

AD: Björn Henriksson Producer: Marian Casado

For RCRfilms

Director: Daniel Benmayor Executive director: Esteve Riera Producer: Mikel Ayesta

Toolkit XSI, Flame, Photoshop, Shake impossible so several tracking packages were used to lock down the shots. Digital snow elements were then added using simulations involving the 3ds Max plugin FumeFX. The figures were then blended into the backgrounds with their own simulated plumes and particle passes from the Mental Ray renderer (and sub surface scattering) built up the look of the snow."

For Chemistry

AD: Adrian Fitzsimon Copy: Emmet Wright Producer: Fiona McGarry

For Blinder

Director: Richie Smyth Producer: Michael Duffy

For Piranha Bar

VFX super: Gavin Kelly Character design/lead animator: Simon Burke Particle effects: John O'Connell Compositing: Gavin Kelly

Toolkit

XSI, 3ds Max, Flame



COORS LIGHT "THE SNOW" TVC :60

Agency: CHEMISTRY

Director: RICHIE SMYTH

Production: BLINDER

Animation: PIRANHA BAR

www.piranhabar.ie

VFX super Gavin Kelly on how Dublin post boutique Piranha Bar pulled off "The Snow": "Different mocap takes were combined with custom animation to create the characters' action. Then a pre-visualisation phase plotted out camera movement around simplified characters and a rough edit compiled. These previs camera moves were then recreated on location in Norway along with a whole section of improvised camera work including a 20-foot jump filmed by a stunt skier holding a film camera.

"After the edit, where new previs animation was inserted over the final plates, each shot had to be precisely tracked. The speed and size of the area covered by the ski shots made tracking marks

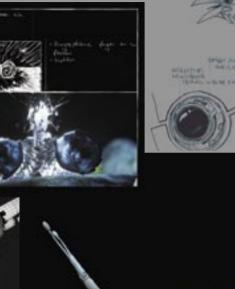
POLYNOID "458NM" Student film

School: FILMAKADEMIE BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

Directors: JAN BITZER, ILIJA BRUNCK, TOM WEBER

Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg occupies a link near the very top of the animation school food chain, and this exceptionally paced and intricate film from graduates Jan Bitzer, Ilija Brunck and Tom Weber demonstrates why. 458nm – the title denotes the frequency of blue light snails perceive as a signal for food – has won numerous awards including a special jury prize at Siggraph 2006.









Directors: Jan Bitzer, Ilija Brunck, Tom Weber Models: Jan Bitzer, Tom Weber Animation: Ilija Brunck Cinematography/lighting: Jan Bitzer Texturing: Jan Bitzer, Tom Weber, Heiko Schneck Compositing: Jan Bitzer, Heiko Schneck Music/sound: Mic Irmer, Roman Jungblut, Alex Klein Producer: Sinje Gebauer Title design: Nina Juric Translation: Lisa Flanakin, Tom Harris

Toolkit

XSI, Photoshop, Combustion

EBONY BONES "DON'T FART ON MY HEART" Music Video

Director: TEAR ANIMATION: TEAR

www.tearapart.tv

So, just what sort of brief comes with a song called "Don't Fart on My Heart"? According to London directors' collective Tear (artist Theo Michael and designer George Tsioutsias), "We were asked to deliver a video that would reflect the energy of Ebony's music. It should be loud and raw and shouldn't look like an Enrique Iglesias pop promo." Their solution was this frenetic and nonlinear mess/collage held together by layers of video graffiti - the duo calls it "orderly disorder". Schedule: one week for prepro/ research/style frames, three weeks for production.

Commissioner: Ebony Bones

For Tear

CDs/animators: Theo Michael, George Tsioutsias

Toolkit

After Effects, 3ds Max, Flash, Photoshop, Illustrator, Audition, Final Cut Pro





Station & ALLINE CONTRACTOR



OCEANWARMAIR

www.oceanwarmair.com

London design and animation collective Oceanwarmair bring a vibrant and playful punch to these virals, part of the MTV Me "Staying Alive" campaign (www. staying-alive.org) stressing safe sex, accurate information and open minded discussion. Oway Lau, director at Oceanwarmair, says the biggest challenge of the project was schedule, "We had to finish making the animation within two and a half weeks. So, we had only two and a half days to finish each of the five clips."

For Oceanwarmair

CD: Cam Levin Project leader: Andrew Lo Animator: Pete Mellor Musician: Richard Spillar

Toolkit Illustrator, After Effects



ESPN X GAMES 13 TVCs :30 x 3

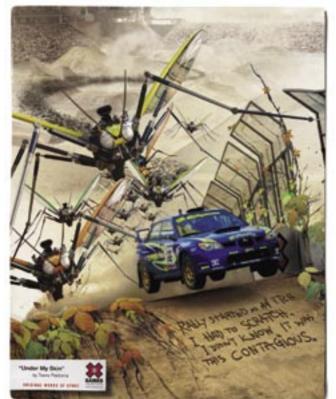
Agency: THE MARTIN AGENCY

Director: SUPERFAD

Animation/design: SUPERFAD

www.superfad.com

By pairing a tone of calm amazement with fresh visual treatments. The Martin Agency has expanded the appeal of the X Games promos of the last couple years to an audience beyond the expected core demo. The 2007 campaign started with the four studios of Superfad (Seattle, New York, Los Angeles, London) designing street posters and then translating three of them (the ones on the right) into 30-second spots. The studio scanned through the X Games archive to create the underlying narratives, then used whatever techniques were needed. including 3D, 2D and traditional cel-animation, to build up the full stories



For The Martin Agency

Copy: Dave Gibson, Cedric Giese ADs: Mark Brye, Michael Carpenter CD: Rob Schapiro Producers: Darbi Fretwell, Holly Flaisher Assistant producer: Rebecca Gricus

For Superfad

CDs: Justin Leibow. Erin Sarofsky FPs: Kevin Batten Robert Sanborn Producers: Nathan F. Barr. Christina Boldan Designers: David Viau, Tom Oakerson, Will Johnson, Russ Murphy, Alexander St. John Smith Editors: Justin Leibow, Kevin Lau, Jonathon Vitagliano Animators: Justin Leibow, Kevin Lau, Eric Edwards, Alexander St. John Smith, Michael Wharton, Mark Kim, Andy Kim, Will Johnson, Will Campbell, Victor Lau, Ron Winter, Scott Stewart, Domel Libid, Chris Covelli





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www.stashmedia.tv/feed

MTV SWITCH Broadcast IDs

Agencies: LOWE WORLDWIDE, NY 180 AMSTERDAM

Directors: NO DOMAIN, PISTACHIOS, PANDAPANTHER

Production: BLACKLIST PANDAPANTHER

Animation: NO DOMAIN PISTACHIOS PANDAPANTHER

www.no-domain.com www.pistachios.se www.pandapanther.com

MTV is mobilizing its worldwide audience of a billion people to help slow down global warming by turning them onto greener lifestyle choices. No Domain, Pistachios and PandaPanther contributed these four spots to the pool of thirty-five PSAs produced for the MTV Switch campaign to air across the network's 55 local TV channels in 162 countries. support will come from 44 online and 16 mobile services all pointing viewers to mtvswitch.org.





For Pistashios

Art direction, animation, compositing: Pistachios Illustrations: Joakim Ojanen Sound design/mix: SoundReid

For Blacklist

EP: Adina Sales Producer: Owen Katz

For Lowe Worldwide

CD: Fernanda Romano ADs: Shawn Kelly, Maggi Machado Copy: Adam Fels, Stephanie Price Producer: Sasha Stollman



For No Domain

Producer: Lorena Medina CDs: Martin Allais, Joaquin Urbina ADs: Martin Allais, Nelson Martinez, Joaquin Urbina Illustrations: Martin Allais Animators: Martin Allais. Wyzton Borrero, Lorena Medina, Markus Feder DOP: Juan Carlos Vega Set construction: Martin Allais. Roberto Ramirez, Enrique Giner, Wyzton Borrero, Nelson Martinez Post/finalizing: Martin Allais, Wyzton Borrero, Nelson Martinez Music/sound design: Wyzton Borrero

For Lowe Worldwide

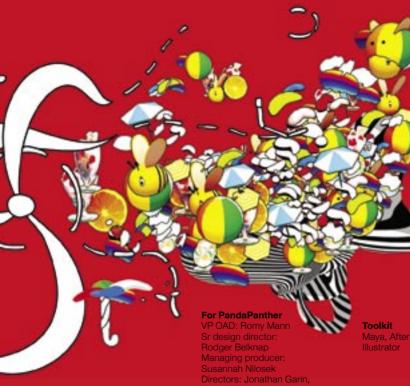
CD: Fernanda Romano Copy: Stephanie Price AD: Maggi Machado Producer: Sasha Stollman



For PandaPanther Directors: Naomi Nishimura, Jonathan Garin Animation: Yansheuw Ke, Naomi Nishimura, Jonathan Garin EP: Lydia Holness

For 180 Amsterdam

ECD: Richard Bullock, Andy Fackrell AD: Chris Landy Copy: Lee Hempstock EP: Cedric Gairard Sr producer: Claire Finn Producer: Sarah Billens



Benjamin, Ari Wang, Yansheuw Ke

stash 35.13

Directors: JONATHAN GARIN, NAOMI NISHIMURA

Animation: PANDAPANTHER

PandaPanther takes on the show packaging needs of three MTV shows: TRL, Big10, and SuckerFree. Lydia Holness, EP at the Manhattan studio, says MTV's creatives steered the project away from anything too literal or straightforward, encouraging the studio to explore experimental and fun ways to execute the opens. "This project was a good break from some of our normal creative routines. It was a great way for us to put our minds toward something very creatively free and develop our personal style."

Maya, After Effects, Photoshop, Illustrator

LOW IN THE SKY "COOL SANSON" Music video

Record label: PATTERNBASED

Director: TYLER JAMES

Animation: TYLER JAMES www.tylerjames.tv

Working alone to an open brief, Georgia-based Tyler James created this labor of love by tracing every third frame of his live action footage from the screen of his television onto plastic sheets with a marker then spread them on his dining room table and carefully covered them with various shades of sand. With his fulltime gig at a post house eating up the days and each frame taking 20–30 minutes to construct, James could produce about five frames per night. Total schedule: five months.

Boy: Brendon Darby Mom: Kaila Williams Dad: Matt Rose

Toolkit

Photoshop, After Effects, Final Cut



JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE "LOVESTONED" Music video

Record label: JIVE RECORDS

Director: ROBERT HALES

Production: HSI

Animation: BL:ND SUBVERT

www.blind.com www.subvert.us

For their fifth collaboration - and their follow-up to 2006's phenomenon "Crazy" by Gnarls Barkley - HSI director Robert Hales and Santa Monica studio Bl:nd were asked to. "present a physical representation of Justin and his music directly interacting," savs BI:nd CD Vanessa Marzaroli, "After the project was green lit, it was a whirlwind from supervising the shoot in Manchester, England straight into two weeks of production. The design and construction of the 3D environments, tracking and compositing in the latter part of the video were handled by Venice, CA, studio Subvert

For HSI

Director: Robert Hales EP: Coleen Haynes Post producer: Oualid Mouaness Editor: Ken Mowe DP: Jake Polonsky

For Bl:nd

CD: Vanessa Marzaroli EP: David Kleinman Producer: Claudina Mercado Designers/animators: Yan Ng, Maithy Tran, Craig Tollifson, Christian DeCastro, Jesse Franklin, Angie Tien, Lawrence Wyatt,

Sakona Kong, Gabriel Pulecio, Paul Lee

Paul Lee Design exploration: Lauren Indovina, Christine Kim, Lawrence Wyatt, Christian DeCastro, Angela Zhu Keying/post assistant: Lin Wilde Prod coordinator: Vincent D'Angelo Flame: Alan Latteri

For Subvert

Designer, VFX super, modeling, tracking, lighting, compositing: Dylan Nathan Post super, keying/roto, color correction, modeling: Eva Flodstrom Animator, modeling: Paul Nilsson EPs: Christopher Buckley, Michele Maples (Continuum Content)

Toolkit

After Effects, 3ds Max, Maya, Shake, Flame, Photoshop

"TRUE COLOR" Student film

School: SUPINFOCOM

Directors: PIERRE+BERTRAND

Pierre Ducos and Bertrand Bev are yet another extremely talented animation team to emerge from under the wing of French media school Supinfocom. The duo spent a total of nine months on True Color - an allegory about urban conformity - with the first 16 weeks spent on developing the narrative, style frames, storyboards and animatics. They collaborated with French electro artists Matsa (as DJ) and Cedric Benoit (as mixer) on the soundtrack with Matsa scratching live to the footage. Pierre+Bertrand are now represented for commercial and video work by Not To Scale in London.

Animation: Pierre Ducos, Bertrand Bey

Toolkit

3ds Max, After Effects, Combustion, Premiere





For Revolver Entertainment

Writer/director/producer: Chris Atkins Co-producer: Kurt Engfehr

For Nexus Productions Director/head of animation: Simon Robson



"TAKING LIBERTIES" Documentary film excerpts x 4

Distribution: REVOLVER ENTERTAINMENT

Director: SIMON ROBSON

Production: NEXUS PRODUCTIONS

Animation: NEXUS PRODUCTIONS

www.nexusproductions.com

Taking Liberties is a feature documentary about the dismantling of fundamental civil liberties in the UK by Tony Blair's Labour government. Director Simon Robson took on these four sequences (forgoing his director's fee) after meeting the filmmakers whose passion for the subject he found "infectious". Robson, who created a related graphic treatment for his 2004 short film What Barry Savs. helped write the voiceover and designed visual analogies he explains. "had to be absolutely right... I wanted to approach the animation with a certain amount of reverence. When you're illustrating points in history like the Rwandan Genocide and the Second World War the motion has to hit the right tone yet be striking, engaging and respectful of the subject."

FORD "WIND" TVC :60

Client: FORD ARGENTINA

Directors: PUCHO MENTASTI, FRANCO BITTOLO

VFX: BITT ANIMATION & VFX www.bittanimation.com

www.bittanimation.com

Co-director Franco Bittolo reveals it took a crew of 25 in the Buenos Aires studio of Bitt Animation almost three months to craft what he calls the "moving paint look that gives the story the poetry the script deserved." Only the talent close-ups were shot live. All the other elements, including the flving people, are CG. After the 3D was rendered, each frame was treated in Photoshop and finished by hand. "We also worked on many elements and particles to show how the wind was present, moving people from where they are uncomfortable, and taking them to places where they feel much better - that was the metaphor of the story and it needed to be clear."

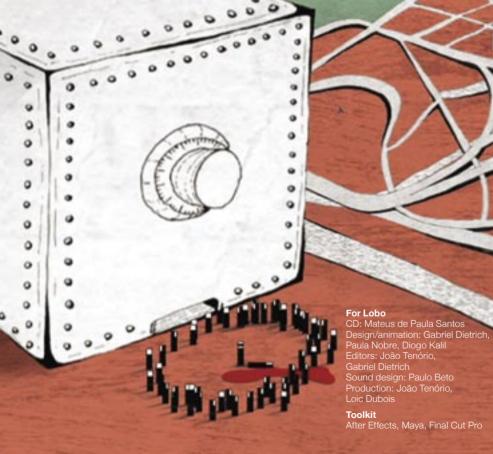


For Ford Argentina

CDs: Ramiro Crosio, Cristian Camean, Javier Mentasti Copy: Daniel Sacroisky AD: Pablo Tajer Directors: Pucho Mentasti, Franco Bittolo

For Bitt Animation & VFX

EPs: Mariana Motta, Fernando Rey Goyena Head of art: Nano Benayón 2D: Pablo Kousovitis, Damián Maxwell, Julián Totino, Victor Ahmed, Abril Barrado, Joli Gonzalez, Nelson Luty 3D animation director: Crisitán Morales 3D: Mauro Corveloni, Lucía Vidal, Ariel García, Pablo Contento, Gerardo Verrone, Ignacio Ochoa, Pablo Grato Compositing: Pablo Zamparini, Jorge Bompart Prod coordinators: Maité Colombatto, Mariana Lorschi, Mauro Bittolo



FOX "DO NOT DISTURB" Broadcast design

Client: FOX LATIN AMERICA Director: LOBO

Animation: LOBO www.lobo.cx

Working with the supplied V.O. from Fox Latin America. Lobo turns on the funny to promo the cabler's "Do Not Disturb" programming block. Loic Dubois, Head of Production at Lobo: "This was a humor-oriented spot. so the main challenge was to work with timing in a way that we could get some laughs. Comedy is all about ridiculousness and timing. The challenge was keeping the detached and distant point of view of the camera and still make the action clear and understandable." Schedule: 18 weeks from brief to final color correct.

For Fox Latin America

VP creative services: Corina Capuano CD: André Takeda Copy: André Takeda, Soledad Fernandez Podestá

SONY "DON'T WALK ALONE" Viral

Agency: VANKSEN BUZZ & COMMUNICATION AGENCY

Director: SANTA MARIA

Animation: SANTA MARIA

www.santamaria.tv

Santa Maria is a collective of NY motion designers a.k.a. Josh Goodrich and David Hill (who are otherwise gainfully employed at Loyalkaspar and Shilo respectively). Goodrich says the brief for this project - one of a series of virals commissioned for the French Sony Music website www.dontwalkalone.com - was straightforward and about as open as they get, "The client told us to make a 45-60 second piece based on the theme 'Music Like No Other'." Schedule: start to finish in a little over a week.

For Vanksen Buzz & Communication Agency

Producer: Grégory Eggermont



For Santa Maria

Design/animation: Josh Goodrich, David Hill Additional animation: Joe Russ Music: Huma-Huma

Toolkit

After Effects, Photoshop, Illustrator, Maya

"FLIGHTY" Short film

Director: LEIGH HODGKINSON

An animated film about speeddating butterflies has a highconcept Hollywood ring to it, but this Papilionoidic tale emanates from the University of Wales, Newport Animator in Residence scheme where director Leigh Hodgkinson was in production for a month (about twice as long as her winged subjects are apt to live). Hodgkinson, who is repped out of Slinky Pictures in London. generated the eyes and mouths with pixelated photographs, the lip sync with Flash, the wings with stop motion and the final assembly with digital cut outs in After Effects.

Director: Leigh Hodgkinson Voices: Liz Barnett, Justin Cliffe, Matthew Jenkins, Antonio Rimola, Rebecca Travers, Charlotte Wood Animators: Cat Davis, George Diakou, Kerry Dyer, Aimee Hibberd, Oliver Klinkenberg, Anita Melia, David Moody Music: David Schweitzer Sound: Scott MacDonald



SWISSCOM MOBILE "PLAY THE BUTTON" TVC, cinema, viral

Client: SWISSCOM MOBILE

Agency: PUBLICIS ZURICH

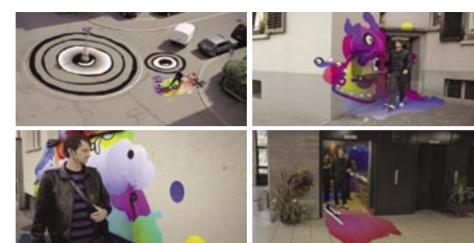
Director: UWE FLADE

Production: MARKENFILM SCHWEIZ AG VFX:

DAS WERK

www.das-werk.de

German digital post production power house Das Werk brings a little hip to the button-down world of Swiss mobile communications with this roto, tracking and design exercise produced in HD and seen online, on TV and in cinemas in Germany, Switzerland and Italy. Das Werk producer Edith Herrmann says the brief was to create, "a stand-out, musicclip like commercial that will surprise the audience and clearly differentiate the client from his competitors and make the subject of mobile music the company's own." The campaign also included billboards, newspaper and magazine ads, point of purchase, and open air festivals.



For Swisscom Mobile Client head: Dierk Schehrer, Monica Cabano

For Publicis Zurich

CD: Philipp Skrabal AD: Denis Schwarz Graphic designer: Simone Platz Copy: Claude Ramme Producer: Ines Bossart

For Markenfilm Schweiz AG

Director: Uwe Flade EP: Heinrich Reinacher Line producer: Sandra von Hacht

For Das Werk

Producer: Edith Herrmann Set super/head of motion graphics: Alexander Kähler Color grading: Philipp Orgassa Editing: Niko Brinkman Rotoscoping/retouching: Philipp Fehling, Flo Decker, Stefan Tietz, Rudi Hensel Motion graphics/After Effects: Wolf Bosse, Mik Rahner, Carsten Böhnert, Alexander Janke, Caroline Philippi, Katrin Widmann, Zeljko Filipovic, Farid Rivas Michel 3D: Gunnar Radeloff, Alexander Janke Compositing: Eric Schaechter

Toolkit

Flame, Shake, Combustion, After Effects, Cinema 4D, Match Mover, Illustrator, Flash









Director: SL CO Animation: SL CO www.sl-co.net

For the sixth episode of their personal project called "Tri-p" (featuring CG characters Bubla. Gobal and Globul), co-directors Ludovic Vernhet and Stéphane Rogeon explore the concept of reincarnation but say the film is also, "a reflection that life should be lived as it is and not in expectation of something better that could fall from the sky. Well... it was a bit too serious and philosophical for Bubla's little squared brain so it gave this result. The project took between three and four months. Because it's a personal work, we had no boundaries and we could try some new things like working much more with 2D vectorial tools."

For SL Co

Directors/animators: Ludovic Vernhet, Stéphane Rogeon

Sound design: Orchard Road

Toolkit Maya, After Effects, Flash



HELIO TVCs x 3

Client: HELIO

Director: GRÉGOIRE POGET

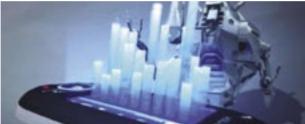
Production: TETSOO PRODUCTIONS

Animation: TETSOO PRODUCTIONS WIPIX

www.tetsoo.com www.wipix.fr

Tetsoo is the studio of Swiss animator/director Grégoire Poget who says these shiny, snappy spots (seen across US cable channels) started with, "a very open brief from Helio describing three characters building the company's new Ocean device. So it gave me the chance to propose designs for the characters and ideas for the development of the animation. As I am really new in character animation and as I worked on this project alone for 90% of it, it was very challenging for me to deal with three animated characters in the same scene." Additional animation help was supplied by French studio Wipix. Schedule: six months.







For Helio Commissioner: Joe Spencer

For Tetsoo Director/design/animation/audio: Grégoire Poget

For Wipix Animation: Clément Vaucelle, Vincent Vuillaume

Toolkit Cinema 4D, After Effects

SMIRNOFF "SIGNATURE Viral/cinema

Agency: JWT NEW YORK

Director: EDOUARD SALIER

Production: PARANOID US www.paranoidus.con

Post Production: DEF2SHOOT www.def2shoot.com

Part of a multi-platform campaign – including extensive online components, digitized billboards, kiosks and live events in Moscow, Paris, Shanghai and New York – this stylized 3D clip was in production for three months

For JWT New York

CCO: Ty Montague CD: Jeremy Postaer, Damian Totman AD: Damian Totman Copy: Matt MacDonald

For Paranoid US

Director: Edouard Salier EP: Phillip Detchmendy, Claude Letessier Producer: Anne Lifshitz



For Def2Shoot

3D: Julien Fabbris, Laurent Guillot Jimmy Cave, Vincent Viriot, Laurent Guerin, FX Pourre Jr VFX artist: Seif Boutella 3D/VFX: Jean Lamoureux, Alymeric Renaud

PLATFORM INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION FESTIVAL "BOX" Event titles

Director: SMITH & FOULKES

Production: NEXUS PRODUCTIONS

Animation: NEXUS PRODUCTIONS

www.nexusproductions.com

The first year of the Platform animation fest in Portland, OR, opened with this ambitious signature sequence for its from animation superstars and festival guest speakers Smith & Foulkes. The Brit directing duo blocked out the clip as a 3D animatic they used as reference on set where a digital Canon SLR linked up to a laptop captured and played back the stop motion work.

"It's not often you get the chance to do pretty much what the hell you like, so we took the opportunity to get our hands dirty – with pigeon muck mostly. The Platform Festival supports a very DIY aesthetic so we wanted to reflect this working within whatever physical constraints on set that were thrown at us, be it the vagaries of the British weather or whatever location we could beg for the day.





"It was fun to find as many creative solutions as possible to get the footage, from integrated 3D for the ship to a nine-inch long toy truck suspended in the air. That to us is what Platform is about - using any technique, high end or handmade, to tell a story."



For Platform International Animation Festival Commissioning producer: Irene Kotlarz

For Nexus Productions

Directors: Smith & Foulkes EP: Chris O'Reilly, Charlotte Bavasso Producer: Isobel Conroy Stop frame camera: Ben Cowell Stop frame assistant: Sarah Conway AD: Julian Nix PA: Diane Chan

Toolkit

After Effects, Maya, Photoshop, Flame



"PUPPET DREAM" Short film

Director: CHRIS DELAPORTE Production: WIZZ www.wizz.fr

After producing a cover of American minimalist composer Steve Reich's "New York. New York", Israeli clarinet player Chen Halevi asked director Chris Delaporte to create a video for the piece promising complete creative freedom. Wizz producer Felicity Stanmore says a session of motion capture with contemporary dancer and choreographer Nadine Beaulieu was key to realizing the project. "The notion of being able to trace movement through space somehow provoked a certain viscosity in the dance which Chris then transposed into the movement of the puppets."

Producer: CIA Records Music: Chen Halevi

Toolkit 3Ds Max, Shake, RealFlow

stash 35 BONUS FILM

DAD'S DEAD Short film

Director: CHRIS SHEPHERD

Animation: SLINKY PICTURES www.slinkypics.com

Director Chris Shepherd and producer Maria Manton created Slinky Pictures in 2000. The London studio pays the bills and wins awards with a steady flow of work for ad agancies, broadcasters and record labels but also devotes sizable chunks of time and talent to innovative short films. Dad's Dead. directed by Shepherd, has won over 20 awards on the fest circuit since it's release. Powered by narration from British actor Ian Hart, the grim animation-enhanced narrative is as riveting now as it was when the film first stunned audiences in 2003.

Dad's Dead is distributed by onedotzero (onedotzero.com).

For Slinky Pictures

Director: Chris Shepherd Producer: Maria Manton Narrator: Ian Hart DOP: Peter Ellmore Music: John Moore Sound design: Andy Humphrey Editor: Seb Duthy Inferno editor: Giles Cheetham Video post coordinator: Matt Adams Film grade & transfer: Gary Brown

Cast

Johnno: Chris Freeney Johnno's mum: Dallas Messias Lady in childrens book: Charlotte McDougall Boy in childrens book: Joe Robson Rutherford Dog in childrens book: Goldie Old Man: Dave Kent Narrator's mum: Kay D'Arcy Hand artist: Thomas Sturges-Allard Newsreader: Julie Maisey

Toolkit

After Effects, Maya, Photoshop, Flame

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// ADAPT 2007 CONFERENCE

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// PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

// 2D MASTERS

Syd Mead • (Blade Runner, Allens, Tron, The Island...) Iain McCaig • (Sar Wars Episode I, II, III, Terminator 2: Judgment Day, Hook...) Mark Goerner • (Superman Returns, X-Men 2, The Terminal, Minority Report, Constantine....) Ryan Cook • (Double Negative) • (Hary Potter I - III, Sar Wars Episode I, II...)

// 3D MASTERS

Shawn Kelly & Carlos Baena - (AnimationMentor.com / - (Sar Wars / II, Huk, Cars. The incredibles...) Bill Kroyer - (Rhythm & Hues) - (The Chronicles of Narinia. Fron. A Niphimae on Em Street...) Dan Gregoire - (Halon Entertainment) - (Transformers, War of the Worlds, Star Wars II, III...) Andy Schmidt - (Pixarf) - (Ratatouile, Finding Merro, Morsters, Inc...) Aaron Holly - (Weet the Robinsons. The Marix Revolutions. Mark Reloaded, Shark Tale...)

// SPECIAL FEATURE PRESENTATIONS

Evolution of Shrek - OreamWorks Animation SKG / - Philippe Gluckman Ratatouille - (Pixar) - Michael Fong Transformers - Industrial Light & Magic / - Todd Vaziri Halo 3 - (Bungle / - Gi Cowan Making a 3D Moviel : (Pane) Carolyn Soper - (Walt Disney Animation Studios / - ((/P Production)) Tim Johnson - (PoreamWorks Animation SKG / - (Co-Director Over the Hedge) Lydia Bottegoni - (Sony Pictures Imageworks / - (Co-Producer Surfs Up) Mark S, Hammel - (Walt Disney Animation Studios / - (Corhora Surgs Up)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT // PHIL TIPPETT KEYNOTE SPEECH, SEPTEMBER 24, 7 PM

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