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Technique has a bad name. The word is most often delivered with a condescending sneer by creative types; the implication is they are above such crutch-like devices and are only interested in the underlying narrative problem of any project and finding a fresh solution.

And they should be. So I thought.

There are several reasons technique has fallen on hard times. First, the word itself is derived from the Greek technikos meaning technical. And the American Heritage Dictionary includes this definition: "The way in which the fundamentals, as of an artistic work, are handled." Unfortunately most people on the creative side (including myself) picture themselves perched high above the technical or fundamental.

Second, as the tools of creation become more and more accessible and easier to use, the only way self-respecting directors, artists and designers can separate themselves from the crowd is by going creatively where no one has gone before, conquering new conceptual frontiers.

And so they should. So I thought.

Then, I attended a preview screening of "The Tracey Fragments", Bruce McDonald's new feature starring Ellen Page. Virtually every foot of the 80-minute film is broken up into panels – often dozens of them moving, flashing, dissolving – turning the bleak story into a kind of running Cubist collage. On paper this sounds tiresome and unwatchable. Two minutes in I was hoping it would all end with the head credits. But the sliding, shifting mesmerizing frames kept coming and about half way through I began to think how boring a straight-cut film would seem in comparison.

The tiny film took only 14 days to shoot but kept three editors busy for six months. In their hands – and with McDonald's guidance – a mundane and often cheese-ball video technique was not only layered onto the film but kneaded directly into the story and ultimately enhanced it.

My snobbery about all things technical and fundamental has been hovering several notches lower ever since.

Stephen Price, Editor New York, June 2008 sp@stashmedia.tv AUDI "RS6 GYMNASTS" TVC and cinema:60

Agency: BARTLE BOGLE HEGARTY Director: PAUL HUNTER

Production: PRETTY BIRD

Post: THE MILL

www.the-mill.com

The stunning centerpiece of a £4 million multi-platform campaign for Audi UK designed to both launch the 10 cylinder RS 6 Avant and affirm Audi as a performance brand of vehicle. The troupe of gymnasts was shot in Budapest by LA-based director Paul Hunter and assembled into this mesmerizing minute by The Mill in London using Flame, Shake and Maya.

For Bartle Bogle Hegarty

CD: Nick Kidney, Kevin Stark Creative team: Toby Allen, Jim Hilson Planner: Rachel Hatton Producer: Olly Chapman

For Pretty Bird

Director: Paul Hunter Producer: Kertin Emhoff DOP: Alex Barber



For The Mill

Producers: Darren O'Kelly, Harry Jones Telecine: Mick Vincent Lead Flame/VFX super: Yourick Van Impe Flame assist: Gareth Parr, Andy Bate, Adam Lambert Shake: Han Ter Park Previz team: Rob Van Den Bragt, Fabrice Le Nezet, Jules Januad, Francois Roisin Toolkit Flame, Shake, Maya, Baselight



KOHLER "KARBON" Corporate video

Agency: META DESIGN

Production: LOGAN

Design/VFX: LOGAN

www.hellologan.com

The striking Karbon articulating faucet gets a sumptuous full-CG treatment from the Logan team in this brand video that, according to Logan CD Alexei Tylevich, steers wide of "the usual trappings of product presentation to visualize the inner beauty of the object." Schedule: six weeks.

For Kohler

CD: Tristan Butterfield

For Meta Design

CD/copy: Brett Wickens Design director: Jeremy Mattews PM: Kim Appelquist

Toolkit

Maya, Nuke, Flame

ABSOLUT "DISSECTION" TVC

Agency: TBWA\CHIAT\DAY

Directors: MARCO SPIER, CHRIS STAVES, MATE STEINFORTH

Production: PSYOP

VFX: MASSMARKET

www.massmarket.tv

"We knew that all of the glass pieces would be created in CG, but in order to achieve the suspended vodka, we wanted to photograph as much as we could with real liquid. To capture this, we used a water balloon, with roughly the same proportions as the main body of the Absolut bottle, and pierced it with a blow dart. We filmed this at 8,000 fps. This allowed us to capture the milliseconds between when the balloon peels away from the water and when the water starts collapsing. When the film is slowed down this much, the water maintains the shape of the balloon for several seconds before slowly collapsing on itself. Eighty percent of the liquid in the final spot is live





action. Coming back from the shoot, we started creating all of the glass elements in CG, which was very challenging because there were so many pieces, which all reflect and refract. Our bottle had three layers of pieces all interlocking in three dimensions. To be able to render those scenes, we ordered 10 new 64-bit, 16GB RAM render boxes."

Watch Behind the Scenes on the DVD.

For TBWA/Chiat/Day

Worldwide CD: Rob Smiley CD: Lew Willig Copy: Meghan Simons AD: Megan Williams Producer: Jamie Grady

For Psyop

Directors: Marco Spier,
Chris Staves, Mate Steinforth
Designer: Mate Steinforth
DOP: Martin Ahlgren
EP: Lucia Grillo
Producer: Nathan Jew
Assistant producer:
Tarun Charaipotra
Live action producer:
Paul Middlemiss

For MassMarket

VFX EP: Justin Lane
TD: Jacob Slutsky
Lead Flame: Nick Tanner
Flame: Chris Staves, Theo Maniatis
Pre-vis: Damon Ciarelli
Editor: Cass Vanini
XSI: Dave Barosin, Jan Bitzer,
Andrea Gebhardt, Jae Ham,
Bashir Hamid, Andy Hara, Florian
Witzel, Miguel Salek, Boris Ustaev,
Jason Vega, Lee Wolland
Roto: Leslie Chung, David Marte,
Joon Park

Toolkit

XSI, Flame

For The Mill NY

Director: Aron Hiartarson

CG producer: Camila De Biaggi Sr VFX producer: Victoria Kendall FP: Corina Dennison Producer: JoJo Scheerer Pre-vis/development: Aron Hiartarson, Peter Marin, Joshua Merck, Adam Robinson CG lead animator: Joshua Merck CG lead character modeler: Jona Jun Choi CG lead lighter & renderer: Andrew Proctor Lead compositor: Peter Marin CG enviros: Emily Meger, Keith Kim Compositors: Andrew Proctor. Ben Smith, Peter Marin CG: Kevin Ives. Vincent Baertsoen. Tomas Fontes, Salles, Yorie Kumalasari, Wyatt Savarese, Douglas Luka, Naotaka Minami

Lead Flame: Alex Lovejoy Support: Geoffrey Feinberg For Painting Practice Ltd

Production design: Joel Collins, Daniel May

For The Whitehouse

Editor: Adam Robinson Pre-vis: Painting Practices Music and sound design: Sound Lounge

Toolkit

XSI, mental ray, Shake, Flame







MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE "ROBOT FACTORY" TVC:30

Agency: BBDO TORONTO

Director: ARON HJARTARSON

Production: THE MILL NY

Animation: THE MILL NY

Aron Hjartarson, head of 3D at The Mill NY moves into the director's chair with this all-CG:30 for Mitsubishi out of BBDO Toronto. After shooting reference stills, assembly-line robot footage, and HDR panoramas in the Illinois factory where the Eclipse models are manufactured, Hjartarson built a 3D mock of the athletic CG robots that became part of the initial design brief shared with UK pre-vis specialists Painting Practice Ltd. Schedule: 10 weeks.

For BBDO Toronto

CD: Carlos Moreno, Peter Ignazi AD: Jaimes Zentil Writer: Craig McIntosh Producer: Terry Kavanagh

SONY "TUMBLE"

Agency: 180LA

Director: ANDREW DOUGLAS

Production company: ANONYMOUS CONTENT

VFX/post: THE MILL

www.the-mill.com

All three of The Mill offices (London, LA and New York) ganged up for two months to creatively demolish these nine different Sony products for Anonymous Content director Andrew Douglas and agency 180LA. The nine-day shoot included four days on the side of a mountain, complete with climbers, snowcats, snowmobiles, a helicopter and a techno crane hauled up the side of the mountain. All of which required trundling 20 tons of equipment and 60+ crew members up from Los Angeles.

For Sony

Sr VP: Stuart Redsun Brand MD: Alberto Escobedo Sr manager/marketing group: Kevin Berman









For 180LA

Managing partner: Peter Cline ECD: William Gelner CDs: Tyler Hampton, Gavin Milner AD: Lindsey Aqurno Copy: Jordan Chouteau Sr producer: Colleen Wellman

For Anonymous Content

Director: Andrew Douglas EP: Andy Traines HOP: Sue-Ellen Clair Producer: Paul Ure

For Rock Paper Scissors

Editor: Adam Pertofsky EP: Vicky Tripp

For The Mill, LA, NY, London Producer: Gabrielle Gourrier CG supervisor: Jaime O'Hara

Toolkit XSI. Flame

For Goodby, Silverstein & Partners

Co-Chairman/CD: Jeff Goodby Group CDs: Margaret Johnson, Jim Elliot Writer: Matt Rivitz AD: Tyler Magnusson

For Psyop

EP: Hilary Bradley

Directors: Cedric Nicolas-Troyan, Laurent Ledru EPs: Lucia Grillo, Neysa Horsburgh Producer: Michael Neithardt Live action producer: Michael Schlenker

Assistant producer: Kay Chen Project lead: Andreas Berner CG: Henning Koczy, Kitty Lin, Iggy Ayestaran Llovet, Anthony Patti, Jonah Friedman, Pete Hamilton, Jed Mitchell Flame: Nick Tanner, Sarah Eim

For Q Department Composer: Drazen Bosniak

EP: Zack Rice
Producer: Kelly Fulton

Toolkit

Flame, XSI







HÄAGEN-DAZS "OPERA" Viral

Agency: GOODBY, SILVERSTEIN & PARTNERS

Directors: CEDRIC NICOLAS-TROYAN, LAURENT LEDRU

Production: PSYOP

Animation: PSYOP

www.psyop.tv

The first spot out of the new Psyop LA studio is a call from Häagen-Dazs to help save honevbees which have been vanishing mysteriously across North America. Psyop co-directors Cedric Nicolas Troyan and Laurent Ledru: "'Opera' was filmed on a stage in Los Angeles to give the film a slightly theatrical and staged look. We wanted it to be stylized but still maintain a level of photorealism in the look and integration of the CG Bee and CG Flower. Because the spot was set to opera, we also wanted to give the hero characters details that served as a nod to the opulent and baroque qualities of opera."

NOKIA "GET OUT AND PLAY" Viral

Agency: FARFAR

Director: OSKAR BÅRD

Production: HOBBY FILM

Animation/VFX: HOBBY FILM

www.hobbyfilm.com

Ambitious stop-motion piece from Swedish digital masterminds Farfar and Hobby Film for Nokia's N-Gage System. One thousand and thirty-four extremely patient people (with apparently very little to do) took part in the creation of this epic-scaled game of Snake in downtown Lisbon, Inspired by homemade stop motion films on YouTube, director Oskar Bård of Hobby Film finished the shoot in six days. "Each scene took between one and three hours to shoot and some mornings were freezing cold so we had to run back and forth with blankets to keep the actors warm. Unlike classic films there was no time to make additional takes or re-do it. So we had to get it reasonably right from the beginning."







For Hobby Film Director: Oskar Bård

Toolkit

Flash, Photoshop, After Effects, Illustrator

Watch Behind the Scenes on the DVD.



For Virgin 17 AD: Antoine Nougaret

For View

CDs: Christophe Valdéjo, Sebastien Cannone Director: Sebastien Cannone PM: Sylvain Sauger

Toolkit

Maya, After Effects, Combustion





VIRGIN 17 Broadcast design

Commissioning company: LARGARDERE INTERACTIVE

Director: SEBASTIEN CANNONE

Animation/VFX: VIEW

www.view.fr

This centerpiece of a full network redesign for EUROPE 3 TV's urban-oriented Virgin 17 music channel won gold for best on-air ident at the Promax BDA 2008 awards in Barcelona, Parisian animation and VFX studio View say they knew they were incapable of delivering a regular broadcast package but had to reign in their concepts to make sure the campaign of 37 IDs actually held together thematically. The result is a surreal world where fibrous and mechanical elements spring forth from anything and everything in ever more erratic and spontaneous ways. Schedule: three months.

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NIKE/MTV: "PLUSIRUN"
Branded film

Agency: W+K NY, MTV

Director: ALEX WITTHOLZ

Production: HELIOS DESIGN LABS

Animation: HELIOS DESIGN LABS www.heliozilla.com

MTV Canada on-air personality Dan Levy trips through downtown Toronto in his Nikes Helios director Alex Wittholz: "We explored the concept of a 'runner's high' - the moment where your body releases large amounts of endorphins to counteract pain and exhaustion - it seemed like the perfect metaphor to explain the transition from live action to animation and allowed us to push the visuals into a hallucinogenic and surreal direction. The project was shot on a Canon HV20 with a steadycam rig in one day. It was edited in FCP overnight and each scene was printed out. The 1,200 images were traced onto plain office paper and scanned back in as a backup. We then used the cheapest materials available to



color the original tracings: kid's watercolor sets, crayons, chalk, grease pencil, nail polish, dollar store markers. Some scenes were distributed out of sequence to different animators with instructions to color them as they wished. We were constantly telling people to be rougher and more careless." Schedule: three weeks (cut from the original six).

For Helios Design Labs

Director/edit: Alex Wittholz DP: Eric Fenato Animators: Felix Wittholz, Matt Brushett, Setareh Shamdani, Marc Pannozzo, Josh Gorle Music: Grand PM

Toolkit

After Effects, Photoshop







For Strange Beast

Director: James Price EP: Nicola Finn Producer: Kayt Hall

For Transistor Studios

CD: James Price
AD: Jamie Rockaway
Producer: Gabriel Marquez
EP: Damon Meena
HOP: Andrea Sertz
Designers: Bryan Louie,
Steve Kelleher, Dave Cook
Animators: Adam Stockett, Lu Liu,
Aaron Baker, Greg Chen, Keng
Meng, Joey Park, Joe Vaccarino

Toolkit

After Effects, Photoshop



BBC4 "MEDIEVAL MIND TRIP"

Client: BBC NETWORKS Directors: JAMES PRICE

Production: TRANSISTOR STUDIOS STRANGE BEAST

www.transistorstudios.com www.strangebeast.tv

For his fifth appearance in Stash DVD Magazine, James Price, the New York based Transistor Studios director/designer (repped by Strange Beast in the UK) has conjured a magical showcase of masters and minions straight from the Middle Ages in this new promo for BBC4's medieval themed programming block. Influences taken from the niche demographic of people who reread Arthurian literature, admire old Terry Gilliam Monty Python animations and love to remix Jimi Hendrix favorites on their lute.

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MSN "MSNVA" Viral

Agency: ORB-IT

TANGE FILMS MASHCOMIX

Animation: TANGE FILMS MASHCOMIX

www.tangefilms.jp www.mashcomix.com

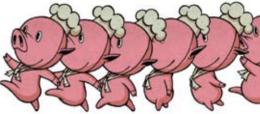
To get the word out online about the MSN Video Awards. Tokyo studios Tange Films and mashcomix rummage through Japanese culture then launch an all-out assault on your optic nerves. Producer Seiji Morishita: "Tange Films believes that in various elements of manga, music. fashion, street art, etc., a global mix of sublimated graphics will be born. Tange is a team which attempts to mix styles for this kind of visual impact. Our goal is to reach a global audience through visuals which convey emotion which reverberates within the viewer."

Toolkit

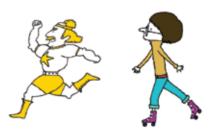
Photoshop, Illustrator, XSI, After Effects,













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MTV "TRANSISTOR Broadcast design

Client: MTV DENMARK Director:

TODD ANGELO

Production: THANK YOU

Animation: THANK YOU www.thankyou.dk

For MTV Denmark's new Transisto programming block for kids. Thank You Motion Graphics out of Copenhagen created a collection of stop-motion idents out of thousands of tiny plastic beads. The hand-animated production was originally to include CG elements which were scrapped in favor of keeping the lo-fi afterschool arts and crafts quality of stop-motion animation. Thank You director Todd Angelo, the one-man creative workhorse that filled the roles of animator and editor on the project, admits "It was a lot of fun and a lot of hard work. Because of the painstaking animation process, production took about two months."

Watch Behind the Scenes on the DVD.



For Thank You

Director/animator/editor: Todd Angelo Music: Kungen and Hertigen

Toolkit

After Effects, Aperture



For The NBC Agency

President/CMO: John Miller EVP on-air advertising: Jim Vescera SVP on-air advertising: J.D. Currey VP alternative promotion: Sampson Williams VP special projects: Dean McFlicker

For Moving Parts, Inc.

Director: Kendall Bowlin FP: Matt Van Buren DP: James Belkin Effects specialist: Mark Weingartner

For NBC Magic Room

VP: Brad Gensurowsky CD: Kendall Bowlin Editor: Gus Vouniozos Flame/supers: Clyde Beamer, Tim Norman Flame: Alan Latteri. Deane Boeka. Andy Dill 3D: Jake Vouniozos, Joe Laffey Designer: Charles Beckman Director of production:

Kari St. Clair Engineer: Mike Chizzo

Toolkit

Sound: Efren Herrera

Flame, Inferno, After Effects, Cinema 4D. Mava. Final Cut. Glue Tools, Tether



AMERICAN GLADIATORS "GIANTS" TVC -30

Agency: THE NBC AGENCY

Director: KENDALL BOWLIN

Production: MOVING PARTS

Post/VFX: NBC MAGIC ROOM

Director Kendall Bowlin says this spot heralding the return of NBC's "American Gladiators" was an epic battle in itself. The all-digital project was the first of its kind for NBC, and after two days of shooting gladiators and contestants at up to 1,000 fps with the Phantom HD camera, NBC Magic Room (the broadcaster's in-house post facility) were faced with 1.73 TB of raw, cine files and scrambled to build a pipeline to deal with converting them for Flame and Inferno. Stock motion plates and stills augmented with CG were used to create the environments. Total timeline: two days of shooting and 2.5 weeks of post.

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        THE BRAND NEW FEED
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NEWS, INSPIRATION, STUFF TO WATCH

feedhere.com

ESPNEWS HD Broadcast design (montage)

Client: ESPN

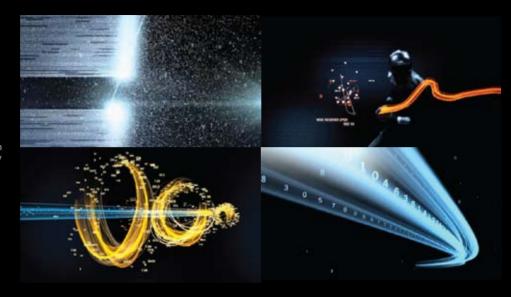
Director: TROLLBÄCK + COMPANY

Design/animation: TROLLBÄCK + COMPANY www.trollback.com

ESPNEWS HD launched on March 30, 2008, with this graphic identity created by NY studio Trollbäck + Company. The package presents the ESPNEWS logo as a futuristic mainframe in a constant state of flux, acquiring and emitting information, "Varied pacing of the motion highlights the athletic range within sports and brings an emotional connection to the design," explains Joe Wright. CD of Trollbäck + Company. "Explosive and powerful elements are balanced by moments of composure and focus - a quarterback choosing between plays, a batter at the plate visualizing the hit zones."

For ESPN

VP creative services: Rick Paiva CD: David Saphirstein Sr AD: Wayne Elliott



For Trollbäck + Company

CDs: Jakob Trollbäck, Joe Wright Assistant CD: Matthew Tragesser Designers: Tetsuro Mise, Tolga Yildiz, Paul Schlacter, Lloyd Alvarez, Dan Degloria Animators: Lloyd Alvarez, Dan Degloria, Lu Liu, Fu-Chun Chu Producer: Danielle Amaral EP: Marisa Fiechter

R.E.M. "HOLLOW MAN"

Record label: WARNER BROS.

Directors: GARY THOMAS, STEFAN WORONKO

Production:

Animation: CRUSH INC.

www.crushinc.com

Gary Thomas, MD/CD Crush, Toronto: "We first spoke to Michael (Stipe) at the end of February 2008 after he heard about us through the work we did last year for Doug Coupland's new book The Gum Thief. He wanted a video that was frantic and dense and not overly polished or fretted over. Michael has great instincts about what visuals are right for the song, but really allowed us to run with the clip.

"The meaning behind the lyrics really struck a chord with us. We all fear losing who we are or getting so far down a path, either in career or personally, that we can't get back. We wanted to build on that as our theme: the idea and universality of isolation; to see

how that moment of realization, the explosion of understanding, changes your path.

"From there we took a page from REM's approach to writing and recording the new record. We wanted to take the punk aesthetic and represent it for 2008. We wanted to see the Hollow Man as a person (or in our case three people), as a digital avatar. We wanted the lyrics to stand out front, plain and confronting without losing their lavers of meaning. We felt that the moment of understanding needed to feel like an explosion, and that dictated the rush of images, punctuated by moments of clarity (the falling man)

"The creative process was liquid and constantly changing – we were adding and subtracting until sometime around lunchtime on the day the video shipped. We started out feeling like typography was going to be the main device, then felt a hand-animated section would give it the humanity the words needed, then as we explored, thought a live action representation would connect all the elements.

"We used every toy in the building, shot footage in our producer's

apartment, in our grubby stairwell
– just generally got back to a place
where all creative people start and
then slowly get away from, to try to
make pictures work like music."

For Crush Inc.

Directors: Gary Thomas, Stefan Woronko

EP: Jo-ann Cook Producer: Stephanie Pennington

Watch Behind the Scenes on the DVD.



HOT CHIP
"ONE PURE THOUGHT"
Music video

Record label: EMI

Directors: BEVIS MARTIN, CHARLIE YOULE

Animation: TRUNK ANIMATION

www.trunk.me.uk

According to Richard Barnett. producer at London's Trunk Animation, UK electro-pop group Hot Chip wanted their latest video to have a "lo-fi and a handmade quality to it". With a production timeline of 12 straight days. design, experimentation and compositing were all happening at once. Barnett admits that although "the project was technically simple, the crunch really came down to people managing their own work loads," proving that "good compositors are literally worth their weight in saffron"!



For Trunk Animation

Producer: Richard Barnett
Directors: Bevis Martin,
Charlie Youle
Compositor: Alasdair Brotheston,
John Taylor, Rob Ward
Animators: Aaron Lampert,
Nick Brooks

Toolkit

After Effects, Flash, Photoshop



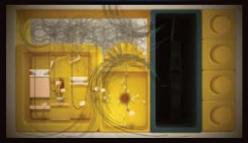


Toolkit

After Effects, Photoshop, Illustrator, Trapcode, Maya







"MAXHAUS" Cinema, TVC

Client: MAXHAUS Director: MARCELO GARCIA

Agency: W/BRASIL

Design/animation/compositing: MOLHO

www.molho.tv

The striking and enigmatic twominute centerpiece of a multimedia campaign running across Brazil and online developed by W/Brasil and Sao Paulo studio Molho for a company building modular custom lofts. Marcelo Altino Garcia, Molho CD: "Usually, in animation, a technique or a world is created: then within that realm, one develops the story/ script. In this case, the agency wanted different looks and feels throughout the piece so the main challenge was to invite the viewer into these ideas and aesthetics that are very contrasting from one another. The piece evokes a feeling of constantly introducing something new and wishing to know more about those places." Schedule: five weeks

"STORIES FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD" Self-promotion

Director: JON HUMPHREYS

Production: THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Animation:
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

www.the-neighbourhood.com

To help launch their new website. Manchester studio The Neighbourhood had some fun with the first of what they hope will become a series of chapters in their self-promo story book. Director Jon Humphreys: "As a relatively new studio, the film is designed to promote us as a company, put us on the map and allow us to develop ideas that fall outside of regular client work - hopefully firing people's imagination along the way. In creating a storybook world we had a million ideas about characters and scenarios that could have been developed further but the hard part is selecting the best ideas to resolve into the finished film." A stereoscopic 3D version of the film is now in development.

Watch Behind the Scenes on the DVD.







Director/designer: Jon Humphreys Animation: Tim Woods Rigger: Tim Woods Additional modeling/animation: Stuart Dearnaley

Toolkit

Illustrator, Photoshop, 3ds Max, After Effects, Premiere









For Pro Production

Director: Iwo Zaniewski DOP: Marek Sanak Set decoration: Jeremi Brodnicki

For Platige Image

CG Lead: Maciek Jackiewicz, Jarosław Sawko Producer: Agnieszka Furmaniak 3D: Marcin Stipien, Rafał Sadowy Michał Skrzypiec, Marcin Filipek, Arek Jurcan, Łukasz Sobisz, Kamil Pohl 2D: Michał Dziekan, Marek Okoj, Rafał Wojtunik, Krzysztof Kamrowski

Toolkit

After Effects, Final Cut, 3ds Max, Avid Nitris, Photoshop, RealFlow







KUJAWSK

Client: ZT KRUSZWICA S.A.

Agency: PZL

Director: IWO ZANIEWSKI

Production: PRO PRODUCTION

VFX: PLATIGE IMAGE

Warsaw's Platige Image carries us off into into CG vision of agrarian utopia complete with golden fields, gargantuan antique farm equipment and what producer Marcin Kobylecki calls, "charming country girls dressed in quasiethnic Polish clothes." Kobylecki says the creative challenge was, "finding the balance between unappetizing machines and the desired 'rustic' feeling. We wanted to avoid a dirty 'steam punk' look, and make the interiors and machines rich in detail and at the same time unsophisticated and funny."

MICROSOFT ZUNE
"PIECE OF ME, PIECE OF YOU"
Viral

Agency: 72ANDSUNNY Director:

THREE LEGGED LEGS

Production: GREEN DOT FILMS

Animation: THREE LEGGED LEGS

www.threeleggedlegs.com

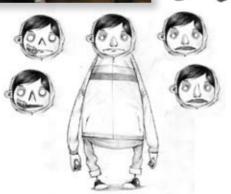
Three Legged Legs: "We've been trying to do something puppet-driven for a long time. When 72andSunny approached us to concept a film for Zune Arts we were all like "Oh snap! Shit son! So tight!" but we didn't want them to think we wanted it that bad, so on the phone we were like "... uh... yeah. Zune Arts, huh. Sounds cool." Then we got to work.

"The three of us sat down and brainstormed like little maniacs. We settled on a couple of ideas we fleshed out a bit more and shared with the agency. They really took to one idea in particular (the zombies bit). On our first call, they had a couple of great ideas that brought a little more depth to the story, which we loved. We incorporated

















those thoughts and produced the final script.

"We're always trying to expand our little circle of working buddies. so we hit up a couple of people whose work we really dug character designer Andrew Hem and puppet maker Adam Parker Smith. We referenced their work in our pitch, and figured who better to go to than the artists themselves."

Watch Behind the Scenes on the DVD.

For 72andSunny

CD: Brvan Rowles Copy: Charlie Stephenson Producer: Elisa Orsburn

For Green Dot Films

Rob Hummel

Director: Three Legged Legs MD: Rick Fishbein EPs: Darran Foldes, Rich Pring Line producer: Stephen Steiner DOP: Brengt Jonsson Character designer: Andrew Hem Puppet maker: Adam Parker Smith Puppet wardrobe: Caroline Salas Puppet choreographer: Kristin Zipfel Shoot puppeteers: Eli Presser, Jessie Kingsley, Catherine Strecker, Brandy Whiseant,



For Three Legged Legs CDs: Greg Gunn, Casey Hunt,

Reza Rasoli Post producer: Mary Ann Cabrera Editor: Jason Painter Compositor: Tyler Nathan

Post intern: Jason Han Additional rotoscoping: RotoFarm Digital transfer: Plaster City Digital

Sound Design: Stimmung Mix: Mark Meyuhas/Lime Studios

Toolkit After Effects

SPRINT (NEXTEL) "IREDELL", "KATRINA" Virals: 90 x 2

Agency: GOODBY, SILVERSTEIN & PARTNERS

Director: SUPERFAD

Animation: SUPERFAD

www.superfad.com

Two of four web films running on the sprint/Nextel site designed to demonstrate the benefits of the Sprint Nextel Direct Connect system. Superfad AD Kevin Lau reveals the challenge was to keep the mood and tone of the case studies balanced: "They had to have the right tech/info feel but also be story driven to maintain their personal feel and keep the viewer engaged enough to watch the whole thing. The spots needed to be entertaining but also maintain a level of seriousness so as to not undermine the weight of the topic, i.e. Katrina disaster relief." Schedule: six weeks.









For Goodby, Silverstein & Partners

Producer: Rob Sondik

Co-chairman/CD: Rich Silverstein
CDs: Christian Haas,
Franklin Tipton
Group/assoc. CD:
Paul Stechschulte
ADs: Rudi Anggono,
Shane Fleming
Copy: Will Elliott, Larry Corwin
EP: Josh Reynolds

For Superfad

EP: Kevin Batten
Producer: Danielle Hazan
CD: Justin Leibow
Sr AD: Kevin Lau
AD: Will Johnson
Designers/animators: Kevin Lau,
Will Johnson, Dylan Spears, Andy
Kim, Glen Suhy, lan Mankowski,
Ergin Kuke
Compositor: Claudia Yi Leon

For Human

Music producer: Dan Pritikin

For GSP Post

Sound designer: Amber Tisue

Toolkit

Maya, After Effects, Photoshop, Illustrator

CELLULAR SOUTH "TAYLORS WORLD" TVC :30

Agency: MARTIN WILLIAMS

Director: ROB FENG. LUDOVIC SCHORNO

Animation: BRAND NEW SCHOOL

www.brandnewschool.com

BNS directors Rob Feng, Ludovic Schorno: "The initial brief was extremely wide open but the main directive was to visualize a user's world within his cell phone. Exactly what that world was changed quite a bit throughout the process.

"The schedule was by far the biggest challenge. From start to finish, there was only five weeks, and the post end of it was less than two. Because of how open the brief was, the project was an exercise in restraint. I think the natural reaction is to cram as much as you can into a frame, but is that really the best solution? That approach runs the risk of technique and design overpowering the spot and it was our intention to try and find the best balance.



"One of our main goals was to keep the camera as active as possible. We knew we were going to add stuff around the talent. but because of the compressed schedule we were still designing well into the shoot. So we shot base plates that were as fun and exciting as the CG we were hoping to add after the fact. Tracking became the biggest hurdle. Working closely with our CG supervisor, we did everything we could to make that process as efficient as possible. Luckily, with the Spheron camera we were using for our light maps, we were also able to extract very accurate set measurements so everything pretty much snapped into place on the post end."

For Brand New School

Directors: Rob Feng. Ludovic Schorno DOP: Jeff Cronenweth Editor: Erik Barnes CG super: Stephen Sloan 3D: John Sadler, Robin Kim. Vinh Chung, Max Keane. Mike Fisher, Andrew Soria Flame: Philip Ineno Compositors: Mark Kim, Kvu Kim Rotoscoping: Stephanie Tucker, Tiffany Germann Designers: Brian Gossett. Eli Carrico, Rob Bisi, Mark Kim, Andy Bernet Live action producer: Annie Johnson Post producer: Darren Jaffe

Toolkit

After Effects, Photoshop, Illustrator, Maya, Flame



SEAT "DIESEL MOLECULES"
TVC :30

Agency: ATLETICO INTERNATIONAL, BARCELONA

Director: CHRIS DELAPORTE

Production: MARKENFILMS WIZZDESIGN

Animation: WIZZ

www.wizz.fr

After seeing Wizz director Chris Delaporte's experimental CG film "Puppet Dream" in Stash 35, the ATLETICO International creative team of Jason Bramley and Jonny Biggins chose the young Parisian to create this fluid world of diesel molecules for Iberian auto maker Seat. A former graffiti artist, Delaporte is also a painter and scriptwriter with one feature film ("Kaena: The Prophecy" released in 2004) under his belt and a second in the writing phase.

For ATLETICO International

CDs: Jason Bramley, Jonny Biggins Producer: Christian Santiago Metrailler









For Markenfilms

Producer: Nicolas Mirbach Director: Chris Delaporte

For WIZZ

Post-producer: Matthieu Poirier Flame: Misha Shoz Animation/VFX: Guillaume Marcel, Remi Kosira, Stéphane Soubiran Rendering: Laurent Guerin, Ronan Lefur

Modeling: Mickael Gantois Music: Raphaël Ibanez de Garayo

Toolkit

Maya, Flame, Combustion, After Effects

stash 45 24

DODGE "ROAD TRIP" TVC:30

Agency: BBDO, NEW YORK

Director: XYZ STUDIOS

Production: THE EBELING GROUP

Animation: XYZ STUDIOS CHARLEX

www.xyzstudios.com www.charlex.com

Originally designed as an in-house video to introduce the 2009 Dodge Crossover to dealers, this clip graduated to broadcast with a smooth integration of disparate elements and by subtly highlighting the vehicles selling points while avoiding the usual hard-sell list of features, XYZ Studios director. Tim Kentlev recalls. "Hands down the most challenging aspect was what the characters looked like and how to make them. We could shoot real talent and hand draw over top of them, but that is time prohibitive and would result in quite literal interpretation character designs." The solution to that and other production quandries came with Melbourne-based Kentlev



camped out at Charlex in NY working directly with the team of designers, animators, Flame, Smoke and CG artists. Most shots meld hand drawn illustration, full CG characters, the photo-real 3D vehicle and the live action interior of the car shot in HD with motion control.

For BBDO

CCOs: David Lubars, Bill Bruce CDs: James Clunie, Michael Folino Sr producer: Kevin Wilson

For The Ebeling Group

EPs: Mick Ebeling, Dex Deboree Sr producer: Sue Lee

For Charlex

CG super: Gona Myuna Lee VP sr producer: Steve Chiarello Co-producer: Jennifer Scelia Lead modeler: Alex Cheparev Lead character TD: Stephen K. Mann Lead animator: Anthony Tabtong Lead lighting TD: James Fisher Modeler: Hungkit Ma Modeler/textures: Han-Chin Lee Textures: Carlos Sandoval Character TD: Andre Stuppert Sr animator: John Wilson Sr lighting TD: Jeff Chavez Lighting TD: Quan Tran, Keith McMenamy. John Volny. Luis Cantillo, John Cook, Will Atkin, Cesar Kuriyama Sr Flame: Jesse Newman Sr Smoke editor: Rob Aiello

For XYZ Studios

Director: Tim Kentley Illustrations: Celeste Potter Character modeler: Jaime Fernandez

Toolkit

Maya, Digital Fusion, PF Track, Flame, Smoke, Photoshop

stash 45 25

LI-NING "NO EXCUSE SHAQ",
"NO EXCUSE HAYES",
"DETERMINATION POWER"
TVCs x 3
Agency:
LEO BURNETT BJ

Director: MOTION LOGIX

Animation/VFX: MOTION LOGIX

www.motionlogix.com

A series of three spots for the Chinese market from Beijingbased Motion Logix for the country's largest athletic footwear brand finds NBA stars and the Argentine national basketball team blended with Chinese culture. Todd Lu, senior producer at Motion Logix: "The main technical challenge was how to give the vines (in "Determination Power") a satanic life. We had tried to use the mail script on Maya, but it made the vines too random to control. So finally we chose to use a combination of modeling, deformers and skeletons, which offered more flexibility to us, but cost a bit more time."

For Motion Logix

Sr producer: Todd Lu Rough-cut editor: Todd Lu

Toolkit

Maya, Softimage, Flame, Flint













For BBH, London CD: Nick Gill Copy: Verity Fenner Producer: Michelle Kendrick

For The Ebeling Group

F--- I OBO

Director: Mateus de Paula Santos AD: Claudia Southgate EPs: Alex Webster, Dex Deboree

Toolki

Maya, Photoshop, After Effects, Color Finesse plug-in



VIGORSOL "GLOBAL FREEZING" TVC:40

Agency: BBH LONDON

Director: MATEUS DE PAULA SANTOS

Production: THE EBELING GROUP

Animation: LOBO

www.lobo.c>

stash 45 27

"MAGIC INK" Short film

Client: JOHN BURGERMAN/IDN Director:

WYLD STALLYONS

Animation: WYLD STALLYONS

www.wyldstallyons.com

Acclaimed UK artist and illustrator Jon Burgerman's singular doodles come to life at the hands and keyboards of London design and production studio Wyld Stallyons. The strange little short, based on a poem by Burgerman (with VO supplied by Wyld Stallyon Mark Walker), will be included on the DVD accompanying the artist's forthcoming book, Pens are my Friends, due to be published by idN in September 2008.

For Wyld Stallyons

Lead animator: Chris Sayer Animators: Jason Arber, Richard May Music/sound: Jason Arber Producer: Natalie Busuttil EP: Jon Burgerman Written/drawn: John Burgerman Voice: Mark Walker

Toolkit

After Effects, Cinema 4D







MTV "BURMA VIRAL"
TVC/viral

Clients: THE BURMA ARTS BOARD MTV NETWORKS

Agency: OGILVY & MATHER

Director: ANDRE STRINGER

Animation: SHILO

www.shilo.tv

Carl Le Blond, ECD at Ogilvy & Mather Amsterdam, had the script for this MTV sponsored PSA completed in 2007 but knew it "would have been prohibitively expensive to execute, just because of the scale implications involved." After screening Shilo's 2007 short film "The War" (Stash 40) he knew he'd found his answer.

For Shilo, this project for the Burma Arts Board (noneofusarefree.org) was a labor of immediate love. "We jumped at the chance," says Shilo's Andre Stringer. "We immediately realized this could help make a difference for a nation of more than 55 million people being denied the rights we take for granted - and that it would be the most important piece of

work we've ever created. I think our first cut was only a few days after we spoke with Carl. When we started getting calls telling us it had moved some people to tears, we knew we were right on track."

For The Burma Arts Board Founder: Suki Dusanj

For MTV Networks

Director of social responsibility: John Jackson

For Ogilvy & Mather ECD: Carl Le Blond Producer:

Brenda Bentz van den Berg

For Shilo

Director: Andre Stringer
EPs: Tracy Chandler,
Mark Hanrahan
CD: Andre Stringer
Lead artists: Tamir Sapir, David Hill
Matte painting: Mathieu Reynault,
Marco Giampaolo, Cassidy
Gearhart, Noah Conopask
3D animators: Henning Koczy,
Richard Cayton, Ohad Bracha,
Bren Wilson, Eugen Sasu,
Kiel Figgens
3D: Christina Ku, Richard Kim,
Warren Heimall, Craig Kohlemeyer,

Warren Heimall, Craig Kohlemeye Scott Denton Compositors: David Hill, Tamir Sapir, Cassidy Gearhart, Noah Conopask, Stieg Retlin Miniature designer: Willi Patton Editor: Nathan Caswell Sound designer: Dante Nou Producer Lindsay Bodanza

Coordinator: Danielle Smith Audio: Good Sounds

Toolkit

Maya, QUBE, mental ray, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe After Effects, Final Cut

ADOBE PHOTOSHOP "SEE WHAT'S POSSIBLE" CHALLENGE

Cut&Paste and Adobe dangled \$20,000 and copies of Adobe Creative Suite 3 Master Collection in front of the world's graphic designers, web pros, photographers, animators, and motion graphics designers and asked them to "Compose an engaging animation or motion graphic video incorporating the Photoshop brand logo that illustrates the theme of 'See What's Possible'." Here are the winner and 10 more: 15 gems.

Judges: Michael Cina (YouWorkForThem), Nando Costa (Nervo), Mick Ebeling (The Ebeling Group), José Gomez (Shilo), Kylie Matulick (Psyop), Victor M. Newman (Freestyle Collective), Jonathan Notaro (Brand New School), Adina Sales (Blacklist), Alexei Tylevich (Logan).

For Cut&Paste

www.cutandpaste.com
Executive director: John Fiorelli
US Events director: Kelly Nichols
Communications director:
Jenn Tsang
Creative manager:
Guillo Echevarria
TD: Noah Norman

WINNER

"EXPLORE" 3 WAGONS DEEP

www.3wagonsDeep.com

"It's human instinct to explore. Historically, human exploration sought to conquer the physical world around us, by challenging the edge of a perceived flat world, taking flight and, eventually, slicing through the atmosphere into space. However, now we have the ability, with the help of Photoshop, to create our own virtual worlds where exploration seems limitless, unbound by the laws of physics.

"The entire animation was done completely with Photoshop and After Effects (with a touch of Illustrator for logo preparation). No third party plug-ins, programs, animation, videos were used, just the tools that ship standard with Adobe software. All photos are original - taken with my Nikon D80 (organized in Adobe Photoshop Lightroom). The music is also original. Audio mix and sound design by Lewie Avramovich."



FINALIST

"SEE WHAT'S POSSIBLE"

www.hellolava.be



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http://nowhere-lab.net/



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"PHOTOSHOP NINJA"
FARAH SATTAR, POORNIMA
BALASUBRAMANIAN



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"BEING CREATOR" DUBU5 www.dubu5.com



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"HAPPY PLACE" NETWORK OSAKA

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HONORABLE MENTION

"WITHIN WHAT'S POSSIBLE" ASSOCIATES OF BEJEC

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