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2D ANIMATION | MOTION GRAPHICS | 3D GENERALIST | ILLUSTRATION | CHARACTER DESIGN

EDUCATION

School of Visual Arts - MFA Computer Art 2011
Cleveland Institute of Art - BFA - Digital Arts 2007

SOFTWARE

Toonboom Harmony	Unreal	Final Cut
Animate CC	Mudbox	Maya 2018
After Effects CC	Motionbuilder	3DS Max 2019
Photoshop CC	VRay Rendering	Premiere CC
Illustrator CC	Nuke	Z Brush

SKILLS

3D Animation	3D Fabrication
2D Animation	Sculpture
Motion Graphics	Illustration
Stop Motion	Game Design
Preproduction	Character Design

FREELANCE EXPERIENCE

Anchor Worldwide 2018 - Cross Stitch Pillow Creation - Crafted three cross stitch pillows for a One Main Financial's commercial campaign called "the Loandersons"; the pillows are props for a hip granny character who uses common Millennial slang;
Caposi Chari Malformation Release 2018 - Medical Animation - created a blended 3D Animation and Motion Graphics for a personal injury lawyer's court case; the video detailed a painful spinal surgery the accident victim had to undergo;
TBAC Productions, Inc. 2017 - 2018 - Motion Graphics Artist - animated the title sequence for "The Brits are Coming" starring Uma Thurman and Tim Roth
CBS Corporation 2017 - Motion Graphics Artist - animated a presentation for Avature software for a business-to-business convention
Kidclass 2017 - Motion Graphics Artist - created title/end bumpers + animated promotional videos for Carousel of Languages
Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen 2016 + 2017 - Motion Graphics + Video Editing - created promotional videos for charity events: Farm to Tray, Fastathon, and the Christmas Holiday
HBO 2016 - Illustrator - designed an alternative poster for "Mommy Dead and Dearest"
Hudson Media 2015 - 3D Animation + Motion Graphics Artist - designed / created TV filming location visualizations for a sizzle reel; created bumpers for Walgreens
Stranger 2015 - VFX Artist - created + composited VFX for a Red Bull project
Fidelio Films 2015 - 2D Animator - designed and animated whiteboard-style 2D character animation for Credit Suisse banking
BodeeO 2014 - 2015 - 2D Animator + Illustrator - created character designs, animations, promotional materials, and printables
Nurturing Press 2012 - 2015 - 2D Animator - animated preexisting book illustrations for eBook format for "I'm Going to be a Big Brother" and "I'm Going to be a Big Sister"
Messy the Cow 2014 - Illustrator - created illustrations for the children's book "Messy the Cow and the Elephant that Moos"
Party Animal, Inc. 2014 - 2D Animator - created a promotional animation for the Teeny Freaks toy franchise
Redwood Living 2014 - 2D Animator - created a promotional commercial that combined 2D animation and greenscreen footage
Keep Tree 2014 - 2D Animation + Motion Graphics Artist - conceptualized and animated a promotional animation describing Keep Tree's initiative and functionality
C2BSeen 2013-2014 - Illustrator + Motion Graphics Artist - designed brand identity for various start up clients, responsible for illustration, print media design, and animation
Rooster 2011 - 2012 - Motion Graphics Artist - animated titles, lower thirds and bumpers for Levis, Afrin, Nissan, Nivea, Fast Magazine, Behance, Buy.xxx, One Young World, and in house promotionals
Additional Freelance: iNomadics eBook animations + Peter Rabbit iPad game; Cleveland Museum of Natural History illustrations and sculpture; Lubrizol animations; ID Creative promotional animations; Monster Blocks 3D animations; Gift'Em 2D animation; Animorphus 3D modeling; Tea

PROFESSORIAL EXPERIENCE

William Paterson University 2015 - Present - Assistant Professor of Animation and Game Design - Professor of 3D modeling, 2D animation and advanced 2D animation; currently developing the Game Design curriculum;
Stevens Institute of Technology: Multimedia Immersions NSF Program 2017-Present - Animation Instructor and Curriculum Specialist - awarded an NSF grant NSF DRK-12 award to collaborate and create an animation and audio curriculum for New Jersey middle schools
New York Institute of Technology 2014 - Present - Assistant Adjunct Professor - professor of digital arts and animation; curated the 2016 NYIT Film Festival; Precollege animation instructor;
Rasmussen College 2011 - Present - Online Adjunct Instructor and Course Developer - created courses in 3D animation, 2D animation, 3D modeling, and print media design; instructor of animation, gaming, and digital media
Montclair State University 2011 -2018 - Adjunct Professor - professor of 3D modeling, 2D animation, and character design
Bloomfield College 2014 - 2018 - Adjunct Professor - professor of 3D modeling, character design, and 2D animation;
Cleveland Institute of Art - 2016 - Precollege Professor - co-taught a precollege course in 2D and stop motion animation;
Stevens Institute of Technology 2012 - 2016 - Adjunct Professor - professor of animation, 3D modeling, and motion graphics; Precollege Instructor in charge of the animation / audio immersive;
Additional Teaching Experience 2006-2012: Cleveland Institute of Art Precollege and Continuing Education; Cleveland Museum of Art stop motion animation courses; Progressive Arts Alliance stop motion courses;

FESTIVALS

MOCCA Festival 2013 - Grand Armory Plaza - New York, NY
Tucson Slow Food and Film Festival 2009 - Tucson, AZ
Dam Short Film Festival 2009 - Boulder City, CO
Crossroads Film Festival 2009 - Jackson, MS
New Filmmakers Film Festival 2008 - New York, NY
REEL 13 International Broadcast Film Festival 2008 - New York, NY
Ohio Independent Film Festival 2008 - Cleveland, OH

SHOWS

Faculty Show 2018 - William Paterson University - Wayne, NJ
"The Spirit Seam" Solo Show 2018 - Misbits Gallery - Oxford, MS
Faculty Show 2017 - Bloomfield College - Bloomfield, NJ
"Cat Worship" Exhibition 2014 - Morgan Avenue Underground - Brooklyn, NY
"Brooklyn Artists" Exhibition 2013 - Brooklyn Kolache Company - Brooklyn, NY
"House Broken" Comics Exhibition 2013 - Zygote Press - Cleveland, OH
MFA Computer Arts Thesis Exhibition 2011 - School of Visual Arts - New York, NY
MFA Computer Arts Thesis Presentations 2011 - School of Visual Arts - New York, NY

ARTICLES

"Exploring the World of Fine Art Animation" 2015 - Professional Artist Magazine Dec-Jan 18/17 Issue - features an interview and description of the film "The Spirit Seam"
"Fibers Arts Festival Fuses Traditional and Contemporary Art Techniques" - Daily Mississippian Jan. 2018 - featured the Misbits Gallery Solo Show and promoted my demonstration in the Fiber Arts Festival
"Oxford Art Community To Celebrate Local Talent at Day For Art Tonight" - Daily Mississippian Jan. 2018 - promoted Gerst's the Misbits Gallery Solo Show
"Gerst Exhibit: A Glimpse into the World of Meticulous Art of Animation" - Hot Toddy Jan. 2018 - featured an interview and the sets from the Spirit Seam animated film;
"9 Crazy, Creepy, and Creative Knit Projects" - Mental Floss January 2012 - featured my shrimp scampi knitted scarf and Etsy shop;
"DIY Shrimp Scampi Scarf: A Kosher Way to Stay Warm" -- LA Weekly December 2011 - An article on my food-based knit scarves and Etsy Shop;
"Film Night In Mississippi" - Jackson Free Press April 2009 - promoted the Crossroads Film Festival and the screening of "The Cupcake Prince";
"Heaven For Film Lovers" - Tucson.com January 2009 - promoted the Tucson Slow Food and Film Festival and the screening of "The Cupcake Prince";

PUBLICATIONS

"I'm Going to Be a Big Brother" 2015 - Independent Publishing Group - animator
"I'm Going to Be a Big Sister" 2015 - Independent Publishing Group - animator
"WTF Knits" 2014 - Random House Press - knitted art featured
"Messy the Cow and the Elephant that Moos" 2014 - Author House - Illustrator

RESIDENCIES

Arts, Letters, and Numbers 2015 - Averill Park, NY

AWARDS

NSF DRK-12 Award - 2017 - National Science Foundation
Paula Rhodes Memorial Award - 2015 - School of Visual Arts
Presidential Scholarship Award - 2012 - Cleveland Institute of Art