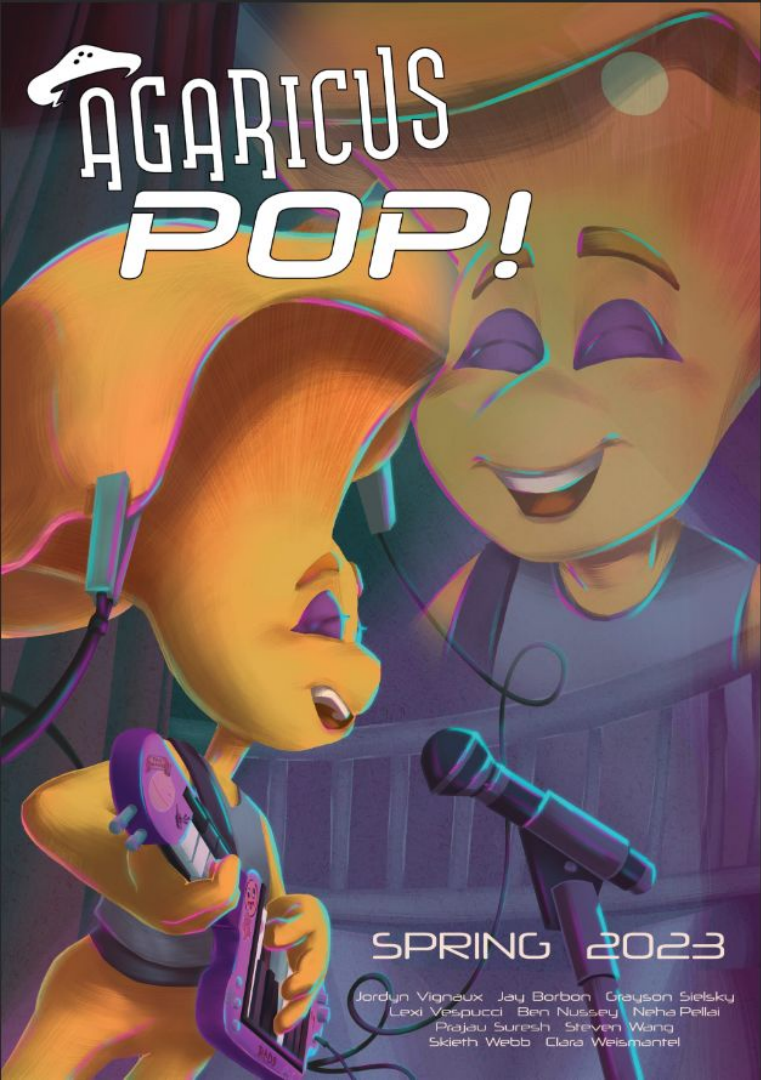




AGARICUS POP!



SPRING 2023

Jordyn Vignaux Jay Borbon Grayson Sielsky
Lexi Vespucci Ben Nussey Neha Pillai
Prajay Suresh Steven Wang
Skeith Webb Clara Weismantel



AGARICUS POP!

DIRECTED BY JORDYN VIGNAUX

GRAYSON SIELSKY JAY BORBON

BEN NUSSEY CLARA WEISMANEL LEXI VESPUCCI

NEHA PILLAI PRAJAY SURESH SKEITH WEBB YINGFAN WANG

AGARICUS POP!



SPRING 2023

JORDYN VIGNAUX, GRAYSON SIELSKY, JAY BORBON,
LEHI VESPUCCI, CLARA WEISMANTZEL, YINERFAN WANG,
TOM NUSSEY, SRIKESH WEBB, PRAJAY SURESH, NEHA PILLAI

TECHNICAL SPECS

WRITTEN BY:

JORDYN VIGNAUX

PRODUCED BY:

JAY BORBON

GRAYSON SIELSKY

LENGTH:

3 minutes 45 secs

ASPECT RATIO:

16:9

ANIMATION:

3D ANIMATION

SOUND MIX:

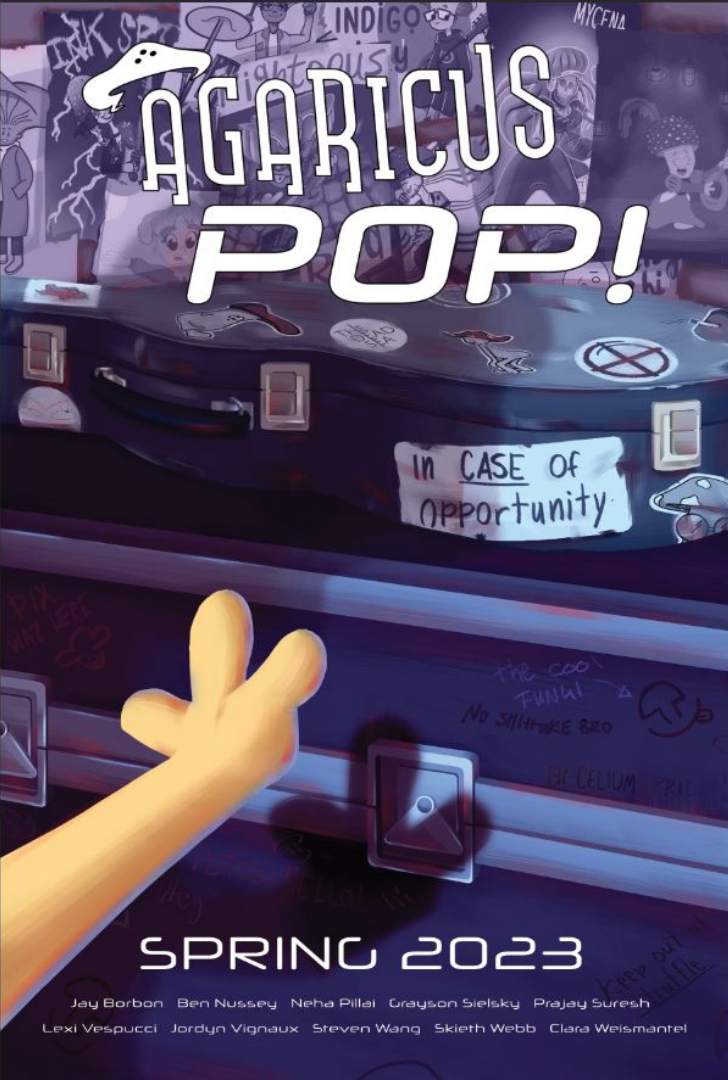
STEREO

AVAILABLE FORMATS:

DCP

LANGUAGES:

UNIVERSAL



LOGLINE

WHEN A BAND QUILTS BEFORE THEY ARE SET TO PERFORM, PIX SEIZES THE OPPORTUNITY TO PUT THEMSELVES OUT THERE IN THEIR OWN UNCONVENTIONAL WAY.

SYNOPSIS

PIX, THE HIDDEN GEM'S JANITOR, DISCOVERS THAT THE BAND HIRED TO BE PERFORMING QUILTS MERE SECONDS BEFORE THEY ARE SET TO GO ON. PIX SEES THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT DOWN THE MOP AND ENTER THE SPOTLIGHT. HOWEVER, THEIR RELUCTANT MANAGER, OZ, PUSHES THEM OUT ON STAGE WITH AN UNFAMILIAR INSTRUMENT. PIX PANICS AND IS BOOED OFF STAGE. DESPITE HUMILIATION, THEY GATHER THE COURAGE TO SHOW THE WORLD AN UNFORGETTABLE PERFORMANCE. THE CROWD CHEERS, OZ'S BUSINESS IS SAVED, AND PIX LEARNS THAT IT'S WORTH IT TO RISK IT ALL FOR WHAT YOU LOVE.

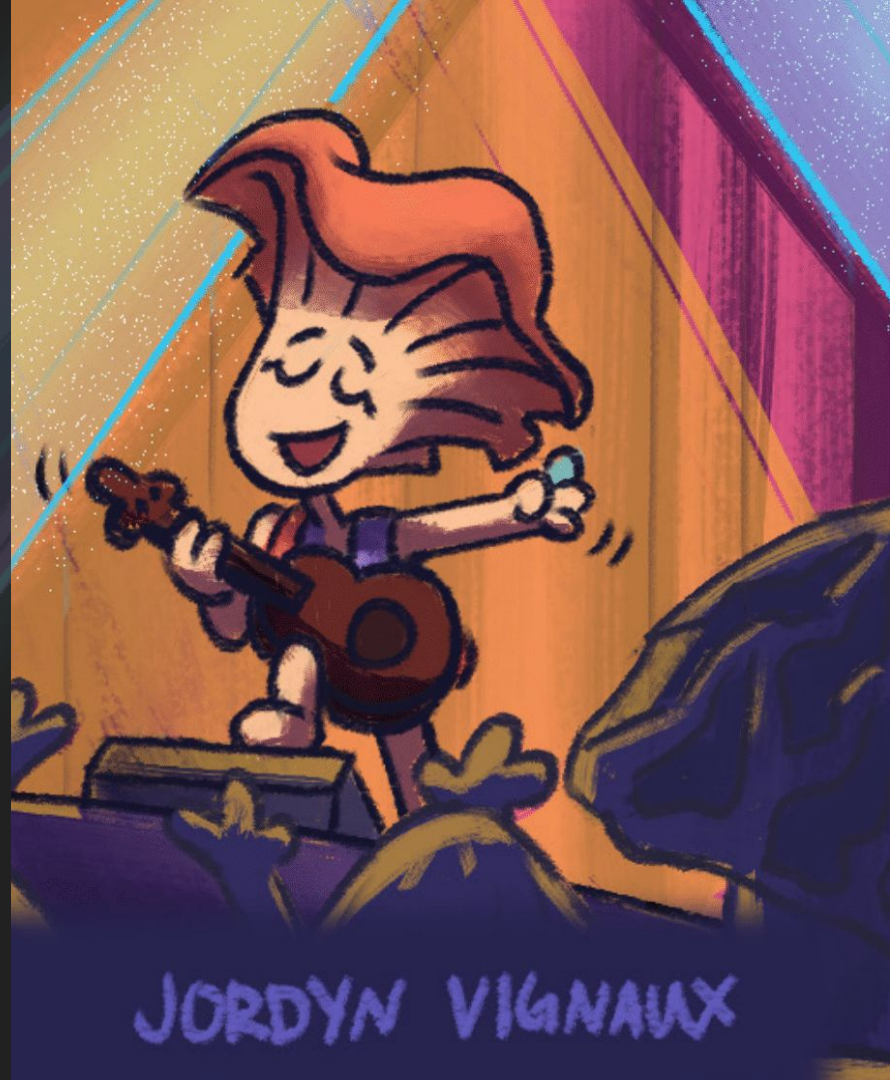
SPRING 2023

Jay Borbon Ben Nussey Neha Pillai Grayson Sielsky Prajay Suresh

Lexi Vespucci Jordyn Vignaux Steven Wang Skieth Webb Clara Weismantel

OUR STORY

THE CONCEPT OF THE FILM IS INSPIRED BY A VIDEO ON SOCIAL MEDIA SHOWING HOW A MUSHROOM CAN CREATE MUSIC. THE MUSHROOM IS PLUGGED INTO A SYNTHESIZER, AND THE ENERGY TRAVELING FROM ITS SKIN PRODUCES BIORHYTHMS THAT ARE TRANPOSED INTO SOUND. FROM THIS IDEA, OUR DIRECTOR DEVELOPED THE WORLD AND CHARACTERS OF THE HIDDEN GEM AND PITCHED THE CONCEPT.



DIRECTOR STATEMENT

THE STORY OF "AGARICUS POP!" IS MORE THAN SILLY MUSHROOM MUSIC-- OUR FILM IS ABOUT NOT LETTING ANYTHING GET IN THE WAY OF YOUR DREAMS AND TAKING THE SCARY RISKS TO DO WHAT YOU LOVE. AT ITS CORE, "AGARICUS POP!" IS ABOUT EXPRESSING YOUR TRUE SELF. SOMETHING I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE CAN RELATE TO IS HAVING ASPIRATIONS AND HOW QUICKLY LIFE CAN SWEEP YOU UP AND GET IN THE WAY OF THINGS. AS SOMEONE WHO REPRESENTS MULTIPLE LETTERS OF THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY, I AM A FIRM BELIEVER OF DOING WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPIEST, EVEN IF THOSE AROUND YOU MAY NOT APPROVE. WE ONLY GET TO LIVE ONE LIFE AT A TIME AND IT'S JUST NOT WORTH IT TO PRETEND TO BE SOMEONE ELSE.

THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY I LOVE STORIES, BUT A BIG PART OF WHY I'M A STORYTELLER IS BECAUSE OF THE DOUBLE SIDED COIN OF COMMUNITY AND ISOLATION. WE AS HUMANS HAVE BEEN TELLING STORIES SINCE THE DAWN OF TIME AND I WANT NOTHING MORE THAN TO BE THERE FOR PEOPLE-- TO MAKE THEM FEEL SOMETHING WHEN NOTHING ELSE CAN. STORYTELLING IS SO UNIQUELY HUMAN AND I LOVE IT.

I AM ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO PAULA WALLACE AND THE SCAD FACULTY/COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS THE OTHER NINE MEMBERS BEHIND APOP! THAT HAVE HELPED ME BRING THIS STORY TO YOU!



PIX

MEEP, MOW MOHH,
MEE - MOH

DIRECTOR

JORDYN VIGNAUX

My name is Jordyn vignaux [they/them]. As a story artist I love working with drama and action sequences-- but don't shy away from comedy. As the director of "AGARICUS POP!" I was given the opportunity, not only to lead our talented group, but to explore different skills outside of my usual wheelhouse! This film has been my greatest challenge during my career thus far and has given me a newfound appreciation for each and every job in the animation pipeline; especially in 3D.

Outside of animation, I enjoy cooking and eating different foods with friends, building space themed legos, and playing video games. In my spare time I like to work on my passion project, draw fanart from my favorite shows, and have serious discussions with my cat Diego!

JordynVignaux.com

  @orangevigor





PRODUCER: Grayson Sielsky [@THEWAFFLEGH0ST](https://twitter.com/thewaffleghost)

HELLO! MY NAME IS GRAYSON SIELSKY, AND I'M A PRODUCER AS WELL AS AN ANIMATOR ON "AGARICUS POP!". I'VE WORKED WITH VISUAL DEVELOPMENT (SPECIFICALLY PROP DESIGN), MODELING, AND RENDERING IN HOUDINI. THIS PROJECT HAS ALLOWED ME TO EXPLORE AND DEVELOP NEW SKILLS OUTSIDE OF 3D ANIMATION, SUCH AS BEING A PRODUCER/PROJECT MANAGEMENT, USING HOUDINI, MODELING, AND LIGHTING. "AGARICUS POP!" IS EASILY THE BIGGEST CHALLENGING I'VE TAKEN PART IN WITHIN SCAD, BUT I WOULDN'T CHANGE IT FOR THE WORLD. FURTHERMORE, I FEEL EXTREMELY FORTUNATE TO HAVE BEEN PART OF THIS FILM AND WORK ALONGSIDE SUCH LOVELY PEOPLE, ALL OF WHOM I KNOW ARE GOING TO GO FORWARD AND DO GREAT THINGS! OUTSIDE OF ANIMATION, I LOVE DRAWING, PLAYING D&D, WATCHING HORROR MOVIES, COOKING, AND ANNOYING MY DOG! graysielsky.com



PRODUCER: Jay Borbon [@JELLY_HUES](https://twitter.com/JellyHues)

I AM WELL KNOWN FOR MY CONCEPT AND DEVELOPMENT WORK. I'VE WORKED AS A PRODUCER BEFORE AND HAVE DONE CONCEPT WORK FOR PROPS AND CHARACTERS. IT WAS AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE BEING A PRODUCER FOR APOP AND LEARNING HOW TO HELP MANAGE A TEAM. COMING UP WITH THE LAYOUT OF THE HIDDEN GEM AND PROPS SUCH AS PIX'S GUITAR AND KEYTAR, WAS AN HONOR! OUTSIDE OF CONCEPT AND DEVELOPMENT, I LOVE DRAWING AND CREATING COSPLAY BUILDS AS WELL AS PLAYING DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS! jay-borbon.com



Lead Animator: Lexi Vespucci [@av_artaccount](https://twitter.com/av_artaccount)

HI! MY NAME IS LEXI VESPUCCI, AND I AM THE ANIMATION LEAD ON "AGARICUS POP!!" ASIDE FROM OVERSEEING ANIMATION, I ALSO HELPED WITH VISUAL DEVELOPMENT, MODELING, AND POST-PRODUCTION WORK. THIS FILM ALLOWED ME TO LEARN AND DEVELOP NEW SKILLS OUTSIDE OF ANIMATING, AND I REALLY ENJOYED HAVING A PART IN EVERY STAGE OF THE PIPELINE! THOUGH HAVING SUCH A SMALL TEAM MADE THINGS HECTIC EVERY NOW AND THEN, I'M SO HAPPY I HAD SUCH WONDERFUL TEAMMATES TO RELY ON. I HAD THE BEST TIME WORKING ALONGSIDE THIS INCREDIBLE GROUP, AND I'M GRATEFUL TO BE PART OF THIS FUNG-TASTIC FILM! lexivespucci.com



TECHNICAL DIRECTOR, Ben Nussey [@nussey_cg](#)

Hi, I'm Ben Nussey, and I am the 3D Lead and co-Technical Director of "AGARICUS POP!". My responsibilities throughout this project consisted of modeling, rendering, animating, surfacing, simulating and compositing. Moreover, I was in charge of creating our Houdini master file and set layout. This allowed our team to seamlessly transfer our shots between programs. The time spent with this fantastic team has let me learn a variety of new softwares and skills while being around some of the best team members anyone can ask for! I truly cannot thank the team enough for all the support and passion they brought to our film. I can't wait for everyone to see it! [nussey.art](#) [LinkedIn.com/in/ben-nussey](#)



SIMULATION LEAD, YINGFANG WANG

Hi there! My name is Yingfang Wang, and I am the co-TD, VFX Lead, and animator on "AGARICUS POP!". My responsibilities in the team include modeling and rigging the main characters and props, handling most of the cloth simulation, and animating for the film. The production phase of the film presented us with numerous challenges, but these obstacles provided me with valuable experience in collaborating with different departments of a film. Working with my teammates to overcome these challenges was an enjoyable and rewarding experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this project. [ucbaseyingfangwang.wixsite.com/my-website](#)



TECH ARTIST, NEHA PILLAI

Hi, my name is Neha, and I'm a Tech Artist for "AGARICUS POP!". Alongside my many other talented friends, I've played a part in the modeling, surfacing, lighting, rigging, simulating, and rendering of the film. Making a film like this has felt unreal, and it has been a real privilege to be a part of A-POP. Thank you for watching! [vimeo.com/814010463](#)



Animator, clara weismantel [@cw.createart](https://www.instagram.com/cw.createart)

Hi! My name's Clara, and I'm one of the 3D animators working on "Agaricus Pop!". Working on this film has been so much fun, and it's brought me so many amazing opportunities to get out of my comfort zone. From character modeling and rigging to using Houdini, it's been a ride. I've loved working on these incredible characters and working with this remarkable group of people to bring "Agaricus Pop!" to life. I can't wait for people to see it

clareweismantel.com



Animator, Skeith Webb [@skeithwebb](https://www.instagram.com/skeithwebb)

Hi, I'm Skeith Webb. I worked as a 3D character animator and storyboard artist on "Agaricus Pop!". During my time helping on this film, I have been excited to get to use a variety of programs to add to my tool belt as a storyteller. I have made connections with a great small team on this film, and I am very proud of the results we have managed to achieve together. When I'm not animating for a film or games, you will likely find me at home working on a personal film, tailoring my own clothes, leather crafting, playing D&D, gaming, or just relaxing with my husband and our pets. I'm always working on something new or creating a new story. I'm excited to see what new stories I will learn and work on in the future. [skeithwebb](https://www.instagram.com/skeithwebb)



Animator, Prajay Suresh

Hello, I'm Prajay, one of the ten fun-guys working on this mushroom world! Although I'm primarily a 3D animator, this film allowed me to dip into the realm of 3D modeling, visual development, and much more. Not only did I learn and enhance many skill sets going through the pipeline, but I got the opportunity to collaborate with such talented individuals to produce such an exciting film!

prajaysuresh.com



ROBIN SLOAN as **PIX**

IT WAS SUCH A BLAST RECORDING FOR THE APOP CREW! WE HAD TWO RECORDING SESSIONS - ONE FOR SINGING AND ONE FOR VOICE ACTING - AND BOTH WERE SUCH A FUN AND UNIQUE EXPERIENCE. IT WAS SO LOVELY SEEING THE CHARACTERS BROUGHT TO LIFE AND EVEN CRAZIER TO HEAR MY VOICE COMING OUT OF PIX! I CAN'T THANK THE APOP CREW ENOUGH FOR THEIR PROFESSIONALISM AND KINDNESS DURING THE PROCESS THAT ALLOWED IT TO BE SUCH AN ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE.



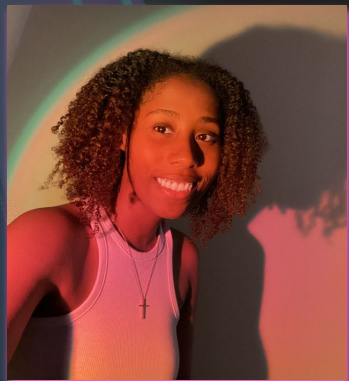
BENJAMIN WEBB as **OZ**

GETTING TO GIVE VOICE TO THE GRUFF CHARACTER OZ AND WORKING WITH THE SOUND TEAM WAS GREAT. HE IS A FUN CHARACTER TO ACT FOR AND SEE COME TO LIFE THROUGH ANIMATION.



APOP TEAM as **THE AUDIENCE**

DURING THE PRODUCTION PROCESS OUR DIRECTOR DECIDED THAT THE APOP TEAM WOULD BE THE CROWD FOLEY AS A LITTLE HIDDEN EASTER EGG, AND IT REALLY HELPED TO MAKE THE FILM OURS. WE HAD SUCH AN AMAZING TIME AND IT WAS AN INCREDIBLE BONDING EXPERIENCE!



COMPOSER/SOUND DESIGNER

TRINITY JACKSON @XXEPICTRIX

HOLA! My name is Trinity Jackson and I am the composer and sound designer for Agaricus Pop. Some of my interests include watching anime and playing video games. Agaricus Pop is one of the few projects I will be taking on for my senior year and I am most excited about joining the team and helping tell the story through sound design and music!



GRAPHIC DESIGNER

VIVIAN TRUJILLO

HELLO, I'm Vivian Trujillo, a Junior Graphic Designer, helping out Agaricus Pop! I love typography and it's been amazing to help Agaricus find its identity through a combination mark, unique to their story. When I'm not doing graphic design, I like to practice kendo and learning about stop motion.

FAQ

DURING YOUR STORY DEVELOPMENT, DID YOU HAVE TO MAKE ANY CHANGES?

ABSOLUTELY, THE BIGGEST CHANGES WE HAD WAS THE MUSIC GENRES. AT FIRST, THE HIDDEN GEM WAS A TECH SYNTH POP BAR AND PIX WAS AN UNPLUGGED ACOUSTIC TYPE. BUT AS WE DEVELOPED THE STORY, WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MORE CLEAR AND IMPACTFUL IF WE SWITCHED THE GENRES.

WHAT PROGRAM DID YOU USE FOR ANIMATION AND FOR RENDERING?

FOR THE ANIMATION PORTION, WE USED AUTODESK MAYA, THEN TRANSFERRED ALL OF OUR ASSETS TO HOUDINI IN REDSHIFT FOR RENDERING; ALL TO FINALLY BE COMPOSITED WITHIN NUKE.



FILM STILLS





PRODUCTION STILLS



AGARICUS POP!

DIRECTED BY JORDYN VIGNAUX

GRAYSON SIELSKY JAY BORBON

BEN NUSSEY CLARA WEISMANEL LEXI VESPUCCI

NEHA PILLAI PRAJAY SURESH SKEITH WEBB YINGFAN WANG

THE SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN®

SENIOR ANIMATION SHOWCASE 2023

MAY 31 - JUNE 1



@AGARICUSPOPFILM