

Catnap

Press Kit



A cat. A dog. What can go wrong?

Catnap



ANIMATION BY CARRIE RUNYAN AND ANNA HOUSER
MUSIC BY NICK SCHEIBER VOICED BY DAVID TROYER

DIRECTED BY CARRIE RUNYAN

catnapfilm.weebly.com

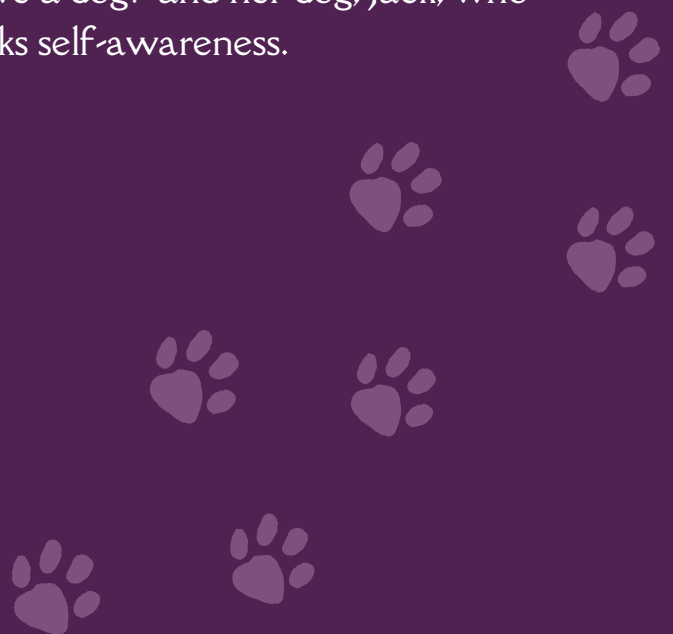


Synopsis

Catnap is a two-dimensional animated short film inspired by classic cartoons from the 1940s and uses some of the visual comic jokes from that era. It features a cat named Benny who wants to return to his kitty dreamland, but a dog named Jack obviously disturbs Benny through silly antics.

The story was inspired by Carrie Runyan's cat, Benny, who has a sweet face but makes expressions like 'Why do we have a dog?' and her dog, Jack, who accidentally steps on Benny because he lacks self-awareness.

Duration: 3 minutes



CAT MAQUETTE



A maquette is a sculpture of a character, and it is used as a visual reference by animators. Carrie Runyan sculpted the cat maquette in the IOS app Nomad Sculpt.

Each crew member received a miniature golden-painted version of the cat. The cat models are three-dimensional prints from a resin printer.



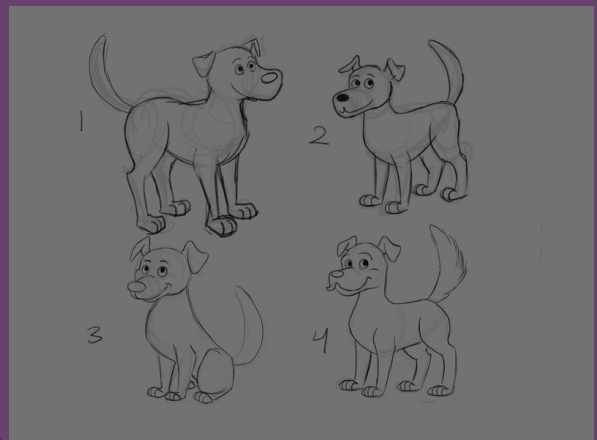
Character Designs

The cat and dog went through several rounds of exploration. On the right are the style explorations for the cat and dog designs. The styles were influenced by cartoons like Tom and Jerry, Aristocats, Bolt, and 101 Dalmatians.

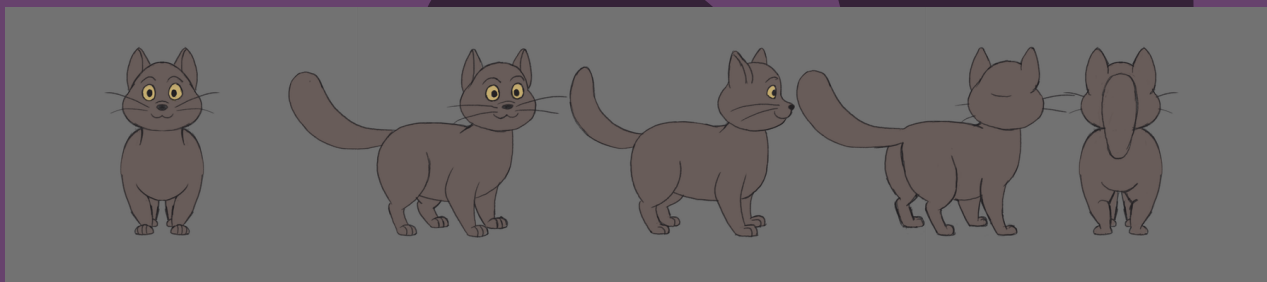


Style explorations by Carrie Runyan

The images below are the final character sheets for the cat and the dog. When animator animates they reference character sheets to keep the characters on model.



Character Sheets by Carrie Runyan



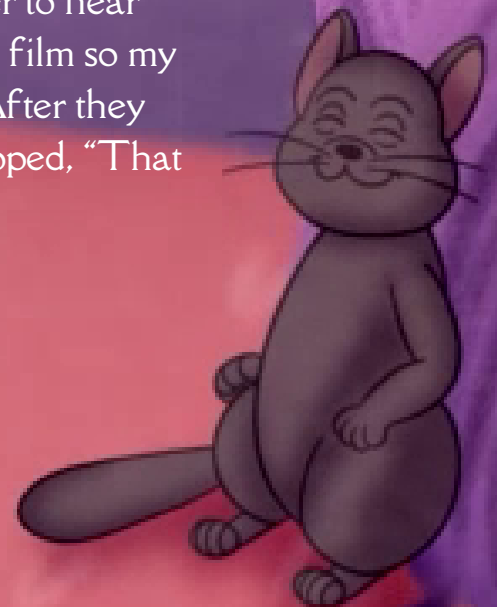
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Catnap is a film for younger audiences, pet owners, and aesthetes. The story was inspired by how my sassy cat, Benny, interacts with my dorky dog, Jack, who is highly food-motivated. Despite their size difference, Benny will retaliate against Jack when Jack wags his tail in Benny's direction. The cartoon version of Benny is a nicer version because the real Benny is not afraid to use his claws.



Catnap's art direction is an homage to 1940s animated cartoons like Tom and Jerry and sincerity from Frank Capra's films. As a kid, I grew up watching vintage cartoons. I wanted to recreate the look from that era with digital technology. To capture a bygone era, I referenced vintage paint swatches and antique furniture from a historic bed and breakfast.

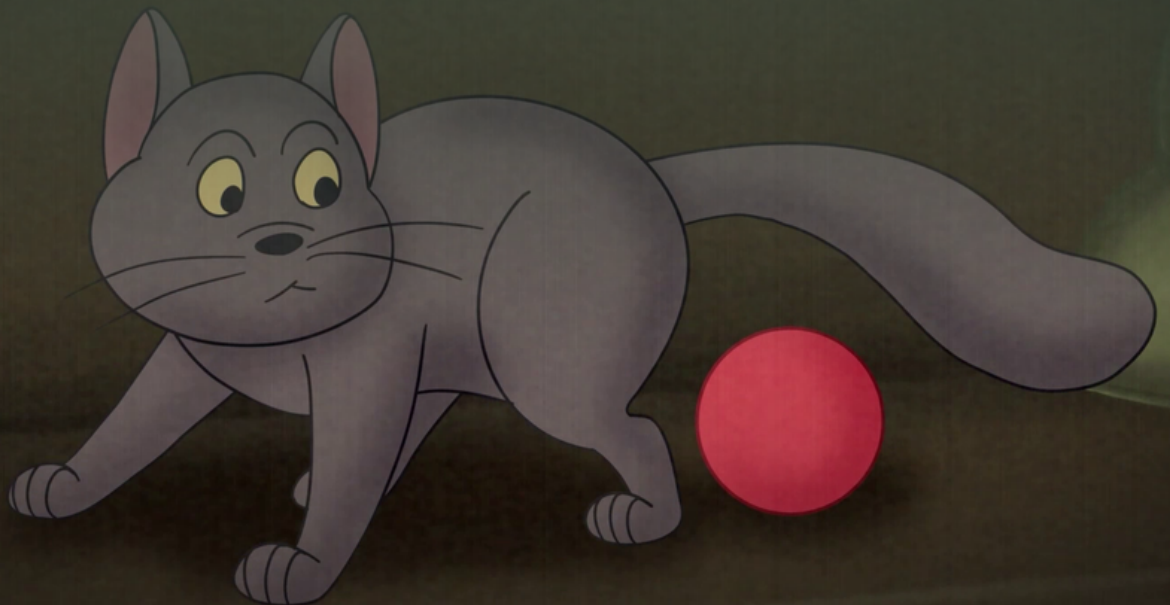
Catnap's storyboard was tested in my mom's second-grade class. The class was humored by the storyboard, and they watched the storyboard seven times. My mom's class was always eager to hear about Catnap's progress. I was motivated to complete this film so my mom's second-grade class could see the film completed. After they saw the final version of the film, one of her students quipped, "That was a thousand percent better than the storyboard."





Carrie Runyan is a writer, animator, and story artist. She recently graduated from Huntington University with a Bachelor of Science in Animation. As an animator, Carrie created short animations for a stage play version of "The Little Prince." Carrie worked as a visual development artist and clean-up artist on various senior animated thesis films, *The Lenape Story*, *Space Ducks*, *Base Galactic*, and *Bella*. Carrie worked as a producer, story artist, character animator, and compositor on three different animated advertisements for Conner Prairie.

In April 2023, she presented "How Does an Animation Student Experience the Animation Pipeline?" at the Alpha Chi National Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. During her senior year at Huntington University, she coordinated numerous campus events as the Alpha Chi Vice President. Recently, she worked as a production associate for PBS Fort Wayne.



FILM LINKS

<https://catnapfilm.weebly.com>

PROFESSIONAL LINKS

<https://carrierunyan.weebly.com/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/carrie-runyan-3a5966228/>

<https://www.instagram.com/aceoftoodles/>

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Animated in Toonboom Harmony, Adobe Aftereffects,

Illustrated in Adobe Photoshop and Procreate

Sound Effects: freesound.org

VOICE OVER CAST

Cat David Troyer

Dog David Troyer and Jack the Dog





CREW

Directed and Producer
Visual Development
Head of Story
Composer
Lead Animator
Additional Animators
Background Artist
Lining Department
Coloring Department

Compositors
Sound Designers
Executive Producers

Carrie Runyan
Carrie Runyan, Anna Houser, Rachel Scobey
Carrie Runyan
Nick Scheiber
Carrie Runyan
Colin Ballinger, Anna Houser
Anna Houser
Carrie Runyan, Anna Houser
Alexandra Parker, Misty Hernandez-Perez,
Amanda Moseng, Jordan Lyden, Eleanor Bareford,
Anna Houser, Carrie Runyan
Carrie Runyan, Anna Houser
Carrie Runyan, Anna Houser
Curtis Wood, Tyler Welker



Special Thanks

Curtis Wood
Lauren Krieger
John Gernand
Sydni Wolpert

Tyler Welker
Bryan Ballinger
Barb Feters
Benny the Cat