THADDEUS VARNESS

CHARACTER ANIMATOR

PROFILE

Stop Motion Animator dedicated to delivering quality character animation to help realize the unique story effectively. Capable of animating with complex rigging and in a collaborative environment on a tight schedule to produce a naturalistic and believable performance through animation.

EDUCATION

Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD)

BFA in 3D Animation May | 2024 Minoring in Film and Video

Relevent Courses:

- Stop-Motion 1
- Stop-Motion 2
- 3D Character Performance

SKILLS

- Stop-Motion Character Animation
- 3D Character Animation
- Prop/Puppet Fabrication
- Direction
- Editing

SOFTWARE

- Dragonframe
- Autodesk Maya
- Adobe Premier Pro
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe After Effects
- Adobe Illustrator
- Solidworks
- Simplify 3D

EXPERIENCE

Stop-Motion Studio Technician - SCAD | Jan 2023 - Present

- Responsible for maintaining studio machinery and camera gear.
- Guiding newer students on basics of fabrication and animation.
- Assisting on smaller scale studio projects.

"Le Charade" | Stop-Motion Lead Animator - SCAD | July 2023 - Present

- Responsible for developing and testing overall animation style.
- Blocking and animating complex hero shots.
- Designing gags and problem-solving rigging.

"Symbiotic" | Stop-Motion Animator - SCAD | September – May 2023

- Responsible for using video reference to block and plan out shots.
- Executing final animation at a quality consistent with the established tone and style of the film.

"Wash Cycle" | Stop-Motion Animator - SCAD | March – May 2023

- Responsible for using video reference to block and plan out shots.
- Navigating animation with limited space and complex sets.
- Executing high quality animation on a limited schedule.

"Omni-Cosmic" | Stop-Motion Animator - SCAD | March – May 2023

- Fabricated a custom rig designed specifically for the animation requirements of a shot.
- Blocking a complicated and lengthy shot of character floating in space.

Officer - Stop-Motion Club | SCAD | Jan - May 2023

Developing and managing animation activities for students interested in getting into stop motion animation.

"Alien En-Cow-Nters" | Stop-Motion Lead Animator - SCAD | March – May 2022

- Managing shoot schedule in communication with fabricators and director.
- Animating quadrupedal and bipedal characters.

AWARDS/ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2020 "Best Animation" EDU Film Fest | "Combat Dojo" | Stop-Motion Short
- 2020 "Best Cinematography" EDU Film Fest | "Combat Dojo" | Stop-Motion Short
- 2020 "Dakota Laden Award for Comedy" EDU Film fest | "Rungo's Space Odyssey" | Music Video
- 2019 "Best Animation" EDU Film Fest | "Frost Fight" | Stop-Motion Short
- 2019 Nominated for "Best Comedy" | "The (Low Budget) Student Film"