

Marc Spess' Old Films and Experiments

Written by Marc Spess

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This was my first clay on glass film using a very crude setup at the time. Digital equipment just wasn't all that great, and there were no free voice exposure programs like there are now. I had done this kind of work at John Lemmon Films for commercials before this with better equipment with much better results. It was still fun to work on, I only wish I had a better camera back then. Watch Evil Toad as he does his evil deeds in his secret lab.

{youtube}ejh_86G7464{/youtube}

{youtube}RtsgJciAr28{/youtube}

Karl Williamson and I made this film a few years back. My first replacement animation using just a mustache as a way for a puppet to talk. It definitely saved a lot of time and had a good stylized look. Puppet designed by Gogue, created by Marc Spess. Karl came up with the idea, did the voices and owned the animation equipment. His daughter did the editing and compositing.

{youtube}2yS_AlzZsE{/youtube}

I created the puppet and finished the animation in a marathon 5 hour stint. It was made to go on a Synj message board page as part of the little weekly animations they held there. The idea was to not get too into being perfect or judgmental about my own work, but to see what happened when I just went for the expression itself.

{youtube}rnMyodBmbRk{/youtube}

My very first animated film back in 1995. In ten years I've come a very long way. This was shot on a 16mm Kodak Cine Special II and utilized the double exposure back-winding system the camera has to film the sparks on a second pass. The sparks were bottle rocket firecracker fuses lit in front of black felt. A train transformer was used to change the degree of light from the little box on the ground.

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{youtube}VqaytNbugO0{/youtube}

Three walk tests using Tetsu's extremely awesome hand built ball and socket armature. This was the first version of the kit we sold until he ended up re-designing them as [ArmaBenders in our store](#)

{youtube}3T90XTdgSEU{/youtube}

I've worked for both John Lemmon Films in Charlotte North Carolina and also Webster Colcord when he was in Portland Oregon. You can see one of the spots we did below.

{youtube}SUtUq3sURM4{/youtube}

My current project is Zombie Pirates. You can watch some of what I've completed in the video below. I will be working on this again starting in the fall of 2011 once our new How to Animate in Stop Motion DVD is completed.

{youtube}JyZcsHXGubs{/youtube}