Around seven weeks ago a stop motion feature was released from Germany. The Sandman and the Lost Sand of Dreams.

Before I go into it, Der Sandmann was a series of short films by Erfinder Gerhard Behrendt in Germany. The feature which was made after his death in 2006 has some people up in arms. Mainly the staff who worked on the originals, and some employees of the production according to rumor. After Erfinders death in 2006,
Visual Distractions Ltd
. and Scopas studio decided it would make a good feature film. Now the comment I found is from someone very angry the feature was created, but to me it looks like a very well made production. In fact it's super exciting! It's still interesting to hear that some people are so passionate about the original films.

First, here is a video on YouTube of the original short productions. You will notice a very stylized 1960s look from which the new feature is based upon.:

{youtube}G3P_4AIGZRQ{/youtube}

Now in 2010 you can see the same characters which are updated to have a more clean and polished look in the first four minutes of the film here. You can also see the official trailer here .

{vimeo}16701552{/vimeo}

One of the more exciting parts we've found on YouTube is the behind the scenes footage. You can see more in the Visual Distractions page link we posted above. There are some nice photos there, but the video is much more exciting. It appears the replacement faces were created in the same way as Mrs Spider for James and the Giant Peach. Although the replacements are cleanly made, no computers or 3-D printers seem to have been involved. You can watch it all below.

{youtube}ThjyeldFyNI{/youtube}