STOP MOTION ANIMATION WORKSHOP

What is Stop Motion? Stop motion is an animation technique to make a physically manipulated object appear to move on its own. The object is moved in small increments between individually photographed frames, creating the illusion of movement when played as a continuous sequence. A lot of companies opt for CGI nowadays, but stop motion is cheaper and better at displaying textures, which is why directors such as Tim Burton like to use this method.

Examples of Stop Motion films
"Joyful Skeleton" (1897) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNReoA8BV_Y
"Funny Faces" (1906) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jjn4T5LlZpI
"The Cameraman's Revenge" (1912)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCQCxk8M0Ls&list=PL9CDBFD1E3BB5750D
"The Lost World" (1925) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ubdH7FQpZ9A
"Jason and the Argonauts" (1963) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pF_Fi7x93PY
"Star Wars" (1977) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZE_gN4hB44
"California Raisins" commercials (1980s) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkbA3E363So
"Sledgehammer" music video (1986) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJWJE0x7T4Q
"Nightmare Before Christmas" (1993) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpvdAJYvofI
"Fantastic Mr. Fox" (2009) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n2igjYFojUo
"In Your Arms" music video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOu0DuxFAT0
Making of "In Your Arms" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cIH4MJAC2Tg

Stop Motion App

- Keep your concept simple! Every second of a stop motion film requires 24 individual photos. Therefore, a 10-second film requires 240 photos.
- My movie: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R7Zw1KVjras
- Smaller movements are best, but if you're going to use big movements like I did, you'll have to do more editing after you finish
- I had to slow down the film to about half speed
- You might want to take 2 or 3 pictures of a particular pose, to stretch it out or give attention to a particular detail
- You can copy/paste frames into your movie, but don't do this too much or the film will be jerky
- Pay attention to the light, and make sure you don't get your shadow in the picture
- Make sure you hold the camera steady and compare each shot to the one before it so they are lined up

Creating your Concept

        i. What is your main prop going to be?

       ii. What is in the background?

   b. Storyboarding & Shot Lists

        i. Use the attached worksheet to create a storyboard that lays out the general story you are going to tell.

       ii. Construct a list of 50 main shots you need to tell your story.

2. Split up into groups
   a. Determine roles for each person
   b. Decide on a story and create a storyboard – Simple is better!
   c. Decide on props, music, and background

Rules

- Respect other people's space! Don't film people in the library, just film your movie subject.
- Don't get in each other's way – try to film in different areas, apart from each other.
- If you're filming outside, don't go further than the sidewalk around the building or the grassy area right next to the building.
- Don't be too noisy – you'll need to talk to each other in order to make your film, but be aware I might ask you to quiet down.
- Listen to each other! Make sure everyone in the group has a voice.
- Be organized! You will have to work quickly, because you are filming so many individual frames, so make sure you have a good plan.
- Have fun!! This is the most important rule.

STORYBOARD FOR STOP MOTION FILM

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Stop Motion Shot List

Use this sheet to make a list of the main 50 shots you need to tell your story

Stop Motion Animation Workshop – Group Information

Group Number _____

Group Name _____

Movie Roles

      Writer _____

      Camera Operator _____

      Actor #1 _____

      Actor #2 _____

Name of Movie _____

iPad # _____