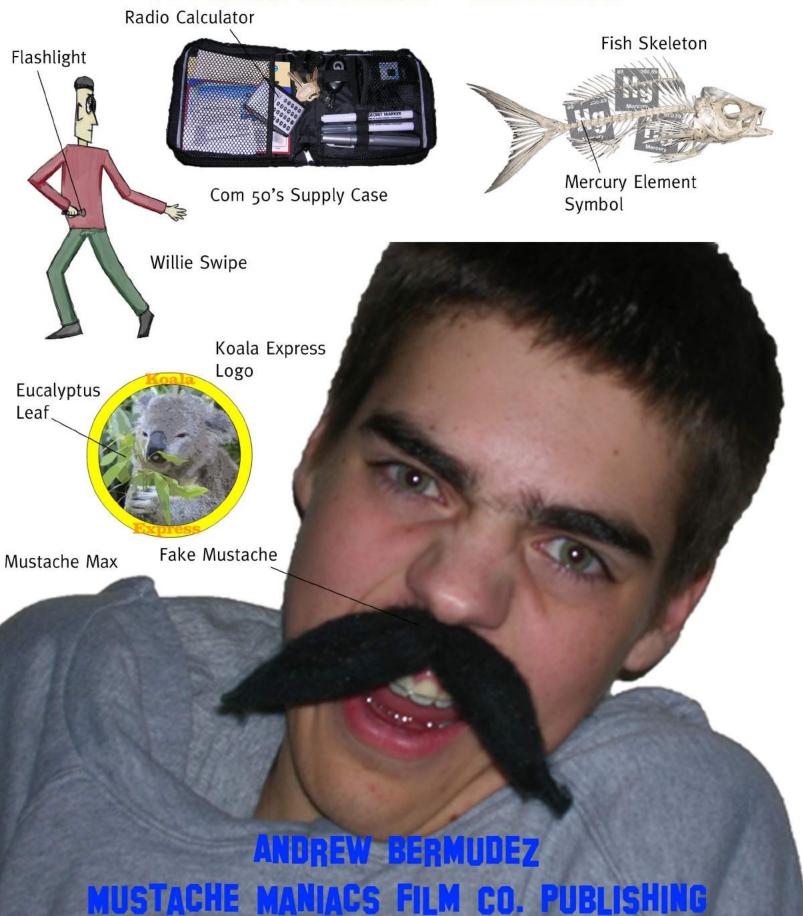
MUSTACHE MANIACS FILM CO.

THE VISUAL DICTIONARY - 2ND EDITION



Copyright ©2016 Andrew Bermudez and Mustache Maniacs Film Co. No part of this publication can be reproduced without the written consent of the author, Mustache Maniacs Film Co., or its affiliates.

LEGO, the LEGO logo, DUPLO, BIONICLE, MINDSTORMS, the BELVILLE, KNIGHTS' KINGDOM and EXO-FORCE logos, the Brick and Knob configurations and the Minifigure are trademarks of the LEGO Group, whom does not authorize, sponsor, or endorse this book. Johnny Thunder, Lord Sam Sinister, Professor Samantha Rhodes, Chase McCain, Dash Justice, Jake Raines, Ninjago, and related characters are the property of the LEGO Group.

Mystery at Shady Acres, Kilroy Was Here!, and Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen are Copyright ©Pioneer Drama Service, Inc.

Indiana Jones is Copyright ©Lucasfilm Ltd. All Rights Reserved.

News article from The Signal is Copyright ©2006 and is reproduced here for archival and educational purposes only.



MUSTACHE MANIACS FILM CO.

THE VISUAL DICTIONARY - 2ND EDITION

Written by: Andrew Bermudez Published by Mustache Maniacs Film Co.

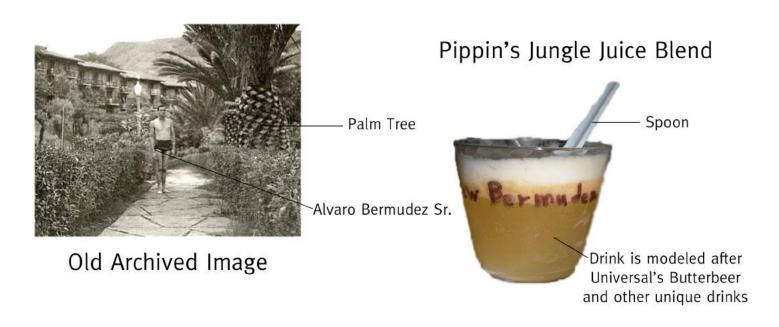


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part 1: Introduction

- 1 The Films You Will Go 'Crazy' Over!
- 2 Live Action
- 3 Animation
- 4 Poster Palooza!
- 5 More Than Just Movies

Part 2: The Early Years (2003 - 2004)

- 7 Everything has to Begin Somewhere...
- 8 A Trip to Legoland California
- 9 The Indy Fan Film Heyday
- 10 Com 50: Superspy
- 11 Indy and Treasure in China
- 12 Remember the Alamo

Part 3: The Thespians Era (2005 - 2007)

- 13 The Cornerstone Thespian Society
- 14 Thespians Management
- 15 Getting the Act Together
- 16 "Don't Say No to the U.S.O.!"
- 17 Hunting for Treasure
- 18 News Article from The Signal
- 19 Making Movies Again
- 20 Com 50's Comeback
- 21 Making Movie Mockeries
- 22 The Necklace Theft!

Part 4: Animation Beginnings (2008 - 2010)

- 23 Adventure in the Orient
- 24 The Lego Caped Crusader
- 25 6 Weeks, 23 States, 1 Dead Gibbon
- 26 Merry Christmas, Patrick
- 27 More Vacations
- 28 Honoring the Fire Service
- 29 Johnny Heads to Egypt
- 30 Advent of Short Animation

Part 5: Going into High Gear (2011 - 2012)

- 31 Through Rides, Shows, and More
 - 32 You Chose the Winners!

Shady Acres Hotel

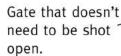


Com 50's Backpack



Infiltrating Cal Pada's Central Island Base

Com 50 (Andrew Bermudez)





X (Tyler Shefton)

(Luke Stabe)

Character concept art for Zac Fernstein and Jessica Thompson

Pg.

- 33 Time to go Traditional
- 34 Attacked by Aliens and Rudeness
- 35 The Spooky Forest
- 36 Building New Stories
- 37 Vacation: Unlimited
- 39 Catching Fish and Crooks
- 40 Sport of the Contest

Part 5: Ten Years of Going Crazy! (2013 - 2014)

- 41 Building a Portfolio
- 42 A Game Show-Contest-School
- 43 Legoman Returns!
- 44 Dodos in Deep Doo-Doo
- 45 The Online Network
- 46 Dracula's Internship
- 47 You Chose the Winners Again!
- 48 Wacky Birthday Cards
- 49 Johnny's World Tour
- 50 Delectable Edible Premiere Delights
- 51 A Celebration of Ten Years
- 52 Building Movie Moments

Part 6: The World of Project U (2015 - 2020)

- 53 Establishing the World
- 54 The Canon of Fan Fiction
- 55 The Story of Martha Parker
- 56 Alpha Team Returns
- 57 Amset-Ra's Curse
- 58 Chase Through Time
- 59 The Future of Project U
- 61 Writing the Final Chapter

Part 7: That Mustache is Fake (Behind the Scenes)

- 63 Generating Ideas
- 64 Storyboards
- 65 The Art of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.
- 67 Lights, Camera, Action!
- 68 Bringing It All Home
- 69 The Best Films Never Made
- 71 Making a Comic
- 72 Random Acts of Fun
- 73 Conclusion
- 74 Advertisements

Stonehenge

Monolith

Billy Lugosi's Laboratory Igor (Bryce Bolick)

Arm-mounted

computer



The film "B.I.O. Corps" was

originally named "Team G.A.C.T.T.C.G.A."

Monsterization

Abraham (Glen Darlington)

Abraham Gone Drunk

Drunkard's Grin

Exact to-scale replica of the real Stonehenge







THE FILMS YOU WILL GO "CRAZY" OVER!

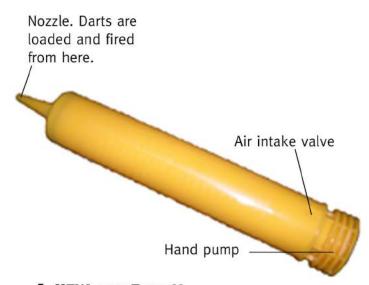
Back in 2004, a new film company was born: Daniel and Andrew Film Co. During the first year of the company's existence, five movies were released, and a craze for us to make movies was born. Twelve years, and a new company name later, we've made over 50 films and we're still continuing. Now, for the second time, is a chronology of the company in pictures and words.





Club. Hurts when you get hit by it.

-Pvt. Joe Kilroy (Steve Marlowe)



A NEW SUPERSPY

In May 2004, Daniel and Andrew Film Co. unveiled its first original character: Com 50, a counter-terrorism superspy. He used a whole arsenal of crazy gadgets, like this dart gun disguised as a balloon pump.

FROM STAGE TO CINEMA

In January 2005, the company began releasing some plays performed by the Cornerstone Thespian Society. One of these was *Kilroy Was Here!*, a World War 2 musical featuring soldiers, riveters, and a group of spies!

Anti-aircraft gun



LEGO IN THE FAR EAST

In 2008, the company released its first brickfilm, *Johnny Thunder and the Secret of Marco Polo*. It was also the company's first film to be featured online, and it soon became an international hit.

LIVE ACTION

When Mustache Maniacs Film Co. was founded in 2004, our core product was not animation like it is today. Instead, we focused on Live Action, with live actors. While it was our starting point, we had abandoned this medium by the end of 2008.

Roger Goodman (Daniel O'Kelly)

Long John Sliver (Michael Monroe)

Patient (Daniel Bermudez)

- Tire

CAST OF CHARACTERS

For many of the live action films, large casts were required to be present to play the multitude of characters. Above is a scene from "Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen."

A PAST TRADITION?

Above is a still from the never-released "TBC News Report," showing how far back this tradition goes. But is it truly dead? Yes, we may focus on animation now, but the release of films like "The Collection of Past Vacations" and "Station 9" show that we have not fully abandoned it.



Trash Can

Omar

(Isaac Shefton)

Bucket

WHEN AN ERA ENDED

-Folding Table

Early on in 2007, our last two major live action films were created: "Com 50-3: Raid on Central Island" and "Mystery at Shady Acres." At this time, the logistics that live action required were no longer sustainable, and our live action era came to an end.

2

Ų.

ANIMATION

For almost as long as Mustache Maniacs Film Co. has existed, we have created a wide variety of animated films, a specialty that we have embraced in our latest films. For our animated films, we have tackled not only traditional, hand-drawn animation, but also stop-motion animation and even CGI animation.

Fish



Bomber Plane Polar Bear Ice Fisherman

DIFFERENT METHODS

Different narratives call for different forms of animation, as can be seen here. Above is a still from "Air Strike" and below is a still from "A Very Patrick Christmas."

MIXING TECHNIQUES

Papa Dodo

Sometimes, to get the best results, mixing different animation techniques together can achieve the desired effect. In "Gone Ice Fishin'," hand-drawn animation was mixed Camera into a stop-motion brickfilm environment. This particular instance is believed to be the first time in brickfilm history where traditional animation was integrated into a brickfilm.



ONE FORM LIKE ANOTHER

Can you believe that stop-motion animation can look traditional? It's true! Although it may look hand-drawn, "New Friends ~ An Environmental Fable" is actually stop-motion cut-out puppets! Both characters shown here have separate parts to animate them.

POSTER PALOOZA!

Many Mustache Maniacs Film Co. movies have their own theatrical posters, mainly for advertising purposes. When the first poster was made in 2007 for "Mystery at Shady Acres" by Nic Iacovetti, a longstanding tradition was set into motion, continuing to this day.



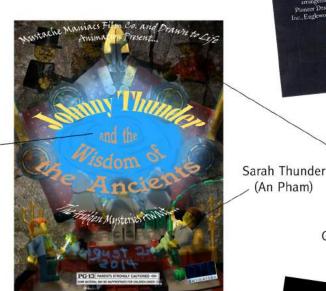
Career Advisor (Teresa Bermudez)

Portal of the Hidden Mysteries



ARTISTIC ADVERTISING

Each of the posters featured here are about as unique from each other as the films they're advertising. All of them draw inspiration from each film's narrative.



(An Pham)

Patrick Hooligans (Garrett Schelske)

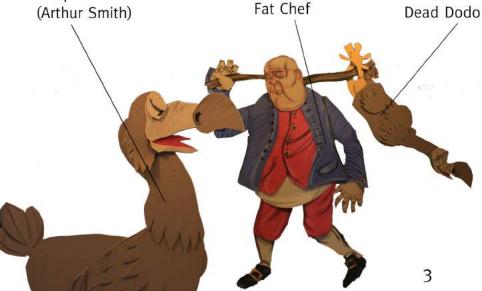
Gangster Phil "Folio" Byrd (Al Bermudez)

MPAA Rating



You may notice that some poster sizes on this page differ. That is because, before May 2015, there was no set format for poster size. Since May 2015, all posters are now 11x17, or tabloid size.





Mathias the

MORE THAN JUST MOVIES



Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s main product has and always will be movies. But that hasn't stopped us from venturing into other forms of entertainment. Featured on both of these pages are many of the ways that we have supplemented our movies, and in many cases, expanded on the world in which our films exist.

(Arthur Smith)

DODO DRESS-UP

While it has been blasted as irreverence for "New Friends ~ An Environmental Fable," the film's dodos usually find themselves dressing up for different occasions, though none of it is canon.

Over-Polished

Table

NAME OF THE GAME IS FUN!

With the introduction of "Mustache Maniacs-opoly" in 2009, both board games and video games became a major part of our product. While some are quiz games, others build up the existing universe, allowing the players to partake in the events unfolding in the plot.

Newspaper

Frederick the Frog



Johnny Thunder (Daniel Bermudez)

Menu for Johnny Thunder 3 Premiere



Over-Polished We can't forget food! In 2014, for the world premiere of "Johnny Thunder and the Wisdom of the Ancients," an entire line-up of international cuisines was cooked up to send the taste-buds on a world tour! Also present was the drink "Pippin's Jungle Juice Blend."



Patrick, shut up!

COMICS. COMICS. COMICS!

In 2010, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. introduced comics that tell stories from the official canon. These stories ranged from an all-new adventure for Johnny Thunder to comics about the misadventures of Ulysses S. Powell and a comedy story with Lord Sinister and Patrick!

Window, but you probably knew that.

Lord Sam Sinister

Set #30002 Chase in Abu Simbel

Horatio Schmidt



RELIVE THE MOMENTS

In 2014, as part of "Ten Years of Going Crazy!," download-able instructions were released that taught fans how to build scenes from our different films with LEGO bricks they might have at home. It gave fans the chance to recreate

loved scenes, or make new ART SHOPPING adventures of their own!

Character Listing

In 2015, the brand Andrew Bermudez Art was introduced to the online network, not only to showcase a variety of art pieces, but also to sell them to fans!

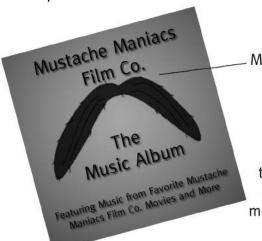
Coati





ORIGINAL MUSIC

Due to copyright strikes that Mustache Maniacs Film Co. movies were receiving online, a move was made to begin producing original scores for our films. Most of this music has been compiled into exclusive music albums.



Mustache Maniacs Film Co. - The Music Album Cover

This piece is titled "Friendship" and inspired the movie "Alms Pouch."

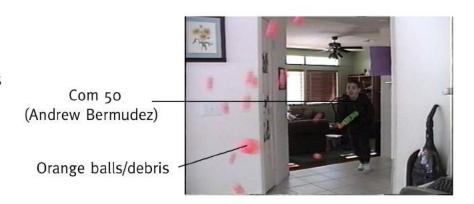
EVERYTHING HAS TO BEGIN SOMEWHERE...

Mt. Lego

In December of 2003, we received our very first camcorder, which allowed us to make our very first films, Indiana Jones and the Forbidden Mayan Temple, Indiana Jones and the Egyptian Tomb, and Com 50. Even though they're not the highest quality films, they are still revered as the place where we started. In February 2004, the camcorder broke, and we were on the hunt for a replacement.

OTHER SHORT FILMS

Between December 2003 and February 2004, we made several short films, including a faux news report about a volcano eruption. Other short films included a documentary about Islam and a never-released news cast.





STRANGE TRADITIONS

reason, Andrew always

played the hero while

For some unknown

Daniel played the

villain. This

tradition was

finally broken

and the Pirate

with 2006's

Jolly Roger

Queen.

SUPERSPY'S DEBUT

Though it is not considered his official debut, the very first Com 50 movie, Com 50, was filmed in January 2004! Regardless, it would have to wait five years before it got released.

Cheesy-but-funny evil laugh

NEMESIS TO INDIANA JONES

In January 2004, Indiana Jones was introduced to a new villain: Baron Von Stuka. Although he was easily defeated in Indiana Jones and the Forbidden Mayan Temple, Indy still had to contend with his relatives in Indiana Jones and the Egyptian Tomb. In April 2004, Von Stuka returned for Indiana Jones and the Secret of the Leopard's Treasure.

A TRIP TO LEGOLAND CAILFORNIA

After replacing our camera, we decided to take a trip to Legoland California. Accompanied by the Maddux family and our own grandfather, we filmed many of the day's events and the park's attractions. The footage became our very first official movie, Trip to Legoland.



LEGO SCULPTURES

As many know, Legoland California is known for its Lego brick scultures dotted throughout the park, including this hodgepodge of people waiting for the phone and a man carrying a toilet.

Curt Freeman

Maddux

U.S.A., LEGO STYLE

Probably the most famous attraction in Legoland California is its Miniland, a miniature, Lego version of iconic U.S. cities. Here, Grandpa poses in front of Miniland San Francisco.



Daniel Bermudez Brandon Maddux

A HOST OF RIDES

Legoland California also features several rides, including the Sky Cycle (pictured below).





Pedals

Seat Belt



THE WHIP!

On any of his adventures, you can be sure that Indy brought along his trusty whip! It can help him cross chasms and disarm enemies.

THE INDY FAN FILM HEYDAY

In April 2004, it was decided that the company's next film would be an Indiana Jones fan film titled Indiana Jones and the Secret of the Leopard's Treasure. This film soon became the groundwork for an entire trilogy of Indiana Jones fan films, the third of which was released February 2005 (more on that film later).

NOT ON MY FEDORA!

Indy is probably best known for his signature hat: the Fedora. It has come to symbolize both Indiana Jones and adventure. Hiram Aziz even wears a similar hat in Johnny Thunder and the Gift of the Nile.

"WE'VE GOT YOU NOW DR. JONES!"

Hat Brim

In this scene from Indiana Jones and the Treasure of Tikal, Indiana Jones and his companions are attacked by the evil natives who want the treasure for themselves. Like always, Indy manages to escape the villains.





Indiana Jones (Andrew Bermudez) Whenever Indy's on an adventure, you know there will always be a snake to frighten him up a bit! Fortunately, for the safety of our actors, this snake isn't real.

DISPOSING OF A HENCHMAN

In Indiana Jones and the Secret of the Leopard's Treasure, Baron Von Stuka sent a whole horde of henchmen to stop Indy. Here, Indy is using his whip to disarm one of those henchmen.

Henchman (Daniel Bermudez)

Our Backvard, Many of our movies have been shot here.

COM 50: SUPERSPY

Guest (Curt Freeman)

SABOTAGE!

testing site. Here,

henchman with a

we see Com 50

blowing up a

hand grenade.

In April 2004, Daniel and Andrew Bermudez decided to revive a classic character from their pre-formation years: Com 50. In June 2004, his first two official movies, Com 50: Peril in Iran and Com 50 and 007 were released together in a collection. A trilogy had already been confirmed, but the third film was shelved when pre-

production for Kilroy Was Here! started. Com 50-3 would have to wait three years to be released.



Singer (Teresa Bermudez)

THE NEWLAND HOTEL

In Com 50 and 007, Com 50 heads to the Newland Hotel to get some rest before contacting 007. Here he sees a singer performing while an elderly guest reads the newspaper.



Trash Can. Protects from bullets, but not from hand grenades.

COM 50'S ENEMIES

During his missions, Com 50 has run into many adversaries, including the evil Shriff Aha, leader of the terrorist organization Cal Pada. He escaped in Com 50: Peril in Iran, but he didn't get away in Com



Shriff Aha (Daniel Bermudez)

Over-the-top

evil laugh

Com 50

(Andrew Bermudez)

Foam Sword

athan Stabe)

Ninja

10

Another Plastic Snake

INDY AND TREASURE IN CHINA

In February 2005, Daniel and Andrew Film Co. released its last Indiana Jones film: Indiana Jones and the Heart of the Dragon. The film featured a car chase, villains galore and Henry Jones Sr.! In March 2005, all studio production was put on hold because of the pre-production for Kilroy Was Here! Also, a name change for the company was being considered.



DASTARDLY VILLAINS

In Indiana Jones and the Heart of the Dragon, Indy is up against the wicked Baron Von Stuka Jr. and his henchmen! Fortunately, Indy and his father manage to get away with the treasure.

NO BOULDER WAY TO GO!

While trying to escape the temple, Baron Von Stuka Jr. gets crushed by a boulder.



Henry Jones Sr. (Joshua Maddux)

Boulder

Baron Von Stuka Jr. (Daniel Bermudez)

11



Baron Von Stuka Jr.'s trusted henchman #2 carried this bolt-action rifle.

"DON'T CALL ME JUNIOR."

In this scene, Indy meets his dad at the Purple Turtle Cafe during a riot to protest the bad food. This soon escalades into a pursuit across the city.



REMEMBER THE ALAMO

Sometime in early 2005, a animated brickfilm based on the events of the Battle of the Alamo was filmed, but never released. Records from this production are sparse, but the animation was found in 2013 and re-released as part of the nostalgic "From the Vaults" series.



THE MEXICAN ARMY

The troops being led by general Santa Ana as depicted in the film feature both minifigures and army figures from an Alamo playset. This allowed for a multitude of soldiers.

Iron Gate - Not accurate to the real Alamo, but what is accurate

on this version?

Mexican Soldier

Mounted Cannon

Mexican Army



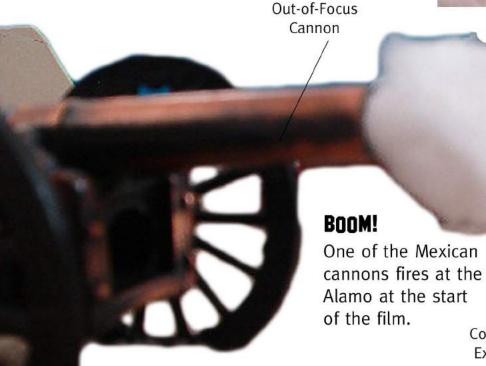
ATTENTION TO ACCURACY

While little information exists on this film's production, one detail that is confirmed is that the events were portrayed as accurately as possible.



A MOTLEY ALAMO

As studio resources were not as widely available as they were ten years later, the Alamo depicted in the film was a multi-colored mash-up of whatever parts were available. This resulted in a amateurish. almost laughable, look. It's no wonder, then, that this film remained unreleased for eight years!



12

Cotton-ball

Explosion

THE CORNERSTONE THESPIAN SOCIETY

In the Fall of 2004, Daniel and Andrew joined the Cornerstone Thespian Society, which began a new era for the young company. In May 2005, they performed in their first play, Kilroy Was Here! As time went on, more plays were added to the collection of movies from the company with a new name: Mustache Maniacs Film Co.

> The Stage has been dressed for The Prince

and the Pauper.

Seating

Holster

The newsstand. Not

to be mistaken for

Lucy's psychiatric stand.



SETTING THE STAGE

All of the Thespian performances were done in the then-named New Wine Christian Church. In the Spring of 2006, the church underwent a refurbishment that christened it with a new name: Bouquet Canyon Church.

"BAH HUMBUG!"

In December 2005, a Spotlight Night, which is a series of skits and monologues. themed around Christmas was performed. The skit pictured is an excerpt from "A Christmas Carol."

Hermione (Brianna Davis)~

Gladys Brooks (Karina Marlowe)

Ebeneezer Scrooge (John Stabe)

In May 2005, the play Kilroy Was Here! debuted. Here we see pictures of the M.P.'s pistol and Hermione's newsstand. Interestingly enough, the DVD didn't debut until August 2006.

THE COMPANY'S FIRST PLAY

EWSSTEND

Colt .45 Handgun

used by M.P.

THESPIANS MANAGEMENT

How can you put on a play without a crew of directors, stage managers, set designers, and more? The plays distributed by Mustache Maniacs Film Co. featured an alternating assembly of crew members, especially in the case of the director: each of the three plays featured a different director and assistant

DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW

It is not uncommon for two directors two have two different approaches at directing. While Teresa Bermudez likes plays to be simple, yet appealing, Cameron Smith prefers a faux-Shakspearian style.

Valoris Peterson Teresa Bermudez



In the Fall of 2005, Valoris Peterson became director after Judy Barringer retired. She then directed Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen, A Rented Christmas, and The Prince and the Pauper.

Adam Kirk

OTHER POSITIONS

Along the way, the directors got assistance from advisors and assistants. Here, you can see two assistant directors: Cameron Smith and Alex Shefton. While Cameron Smith helped

Judy Barringer, Alex Shefton aided Teresa Bermudez.

Flowers

Cameron Smith

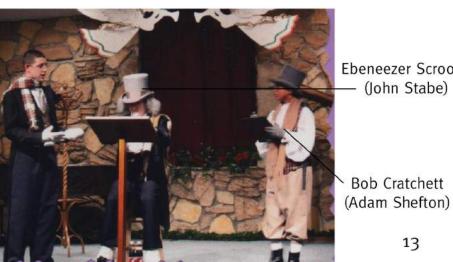
acting like himself.



When Thespians was founded, Judy Barringer was in charge. The only play that we were in that she directed was Kilroy Was Here! In September 2005, Judy Barringer retired.







13



STEP I: THE GAMES

To help develop the acting skills of new students, a series of acting games were developed. Each game focused on a particular aspect of acting, like interaction for example.



Connor Loveall auditioning

STEP 4: PRACTICE

Once everything else is finished, it is time for the actors to begin practicing with the new props and sets. During the week before the play, known as Tech Week, audio and visual effects are tested.



GETTING THE ACT TOGETHER

In preparation for any of the plays, a series of tasks had to be accomplished to make sure that each production came out well in the end. Thorough completion of every step could have been the difference of making or breaking a play.

Daniel Ellis in the game "Bus Stop."

Luke Stabe

Cave wall under construction

THE MISCHIEF MAKERS

The actors' siblings strike again!!!

STEP 2: AUDITIONS

To see who is good for what part, auditions are carried out. The best performer gets picked for that particular part.

Seth Axen auditioning

Student's Sibling

STEP 3: SET CONSTRUCTION

Any play that has a location will need set pieces to represent that location. Here, Andrew is building a cave wall for Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen.



Isaac Shefton

"DON'T SAY NO TO THE U.S.O.!" In May 2005, the first of the three plays, Kilroy Was Here!, was performed and filmed. The first film by the company to be truly based in a historical time period, Kilroy Was Here! featured many breakthroughs

inferior compared to the final play. Producer Milton Sullivan (Alex Shefton)

THE SPIES GET CAPTURED

Soon after the truth is revealed

the spies try to escape. Fortunately, government agents June, Rona, and Gretchen arrive just in time to arrest them.

Mr. Wilcox

(Andrew Bermudez)

Rona Hastings (Shannon O'Kelley)

Recreated

WWII Poster

MAKING HIM TALK

Uh, oh! Pvt. Joe Kilrov has been captured by the evil Nazi spies so he can reveal the location of the

troop ships!

MUST STAND."

Being a musical, the film features many songs, including 'Together We Must Stand,' a patriotic salute to America. This song ends the first act.

> Pvt. Joe Kilroy (Steve Marlowe)

> > M.P.

Angie Wilberforce (Jessie Peterson)



"TOGETHER WE

(Daniel Bermudez)





AIR RAID!

During a lively night at the U.S.O. Club, an air raid goes off, forcing many of the club guests and employees into the air raid shelter. It soon turns out that the air raid is a cover-up so government agents can talk to the club owner, Ruth Taylor, in private. Ruth Taylor (Timmon Johnson)

Gladys Brooks (Sabrina Lewis)

HUNTING FOR TREASURE

In June 2006, after Thespians founder Judy Barringer retired, Valoris Peterson took over. Afterwards, the next play was performed. This play was none other than Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen, a swash-buckling high seas adventure. Set in the 1790's, the play was a mix of romance, comedy and action. The play was soon a hit; it even got mentioned in the newspaper, The Signal.



Sarah Huffington (Jessie Peterson)

Pirate Hat. Every

pirate worth his

salt has one,

DOUBLE-CASTING

Although it hasn't been mentioned yet, all three plays had two casts! This was done to insure that every student got a part. However, Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen is the only Mustache Maniacs Film Co. film to feature Roger Goodman both casts.

> The Old Pirate (Andrew Bermudez)

(Steve Marlowe)

Added to the script during a revision, the Old Pirate glares into the audience as he opens and closes the play. Perhaps it is even old Roger Goodman himself who is telling us this tale; that vest looks a lot like his!

THE OLD STORYTELLER

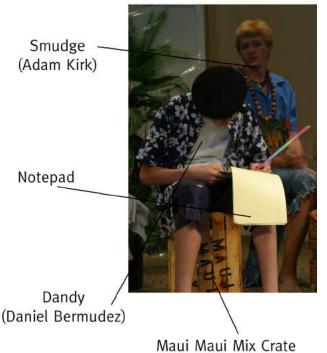
Roger Goodman (Daniel O' Kelley)

> Long John Sliver (Michael Monroe)



STRETCHING THE TRUTH

With the retired Captain Bluebeard, Dandy writes poems that give Bluebeard's boring pirate days some suspence and romance.



LEARNING THE ROPES

On the deck of the S.S. Petunia, Long John Sliver gives Roger Goodman some advice on how to be a pirate.



NEWS ARTICLE FROM THE SIGNAL

Long John Sliver (Connor Loveall)

It's a Pirate's Life for Home-schoolers

Students take to the stage in a play about swashbuckling adventurers.

> By Bette Keva SIGNAL STAFF WRITER

Pirates on the high seas and a menacing Captain Blood who tries for the hand of a lovely maiden were center stage at the New Wine Christian Center this weekend.

A cast of 26 home-schooled youth ranging from seventh grade through senior year of high school are the actors in this fast-paced, humorous adventure that was performed before full houses Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

In the play, gentleman Roger Goodman (Steve Mar-See PIRATES, page A5



Home-schoolers, ranging from seventh to 12th grade, perform the play "Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen" Friday at the New Wine Christian Center.

In the play "Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen," performed this weekend at the New Wine Christian Center, gentleman Roger Goodman vows to become a pirate, hoping to win the affection of Sarah Huffington.

Pirates

Continued from page A1

lowe) speaks with his friend George (Justin DeSeve) about his love for Sarah-Huffington (Jessie Peterson): but alas, he overhears her say she would rather marry a dar- sure Island

Goodman vows he will become one, and he enlists

the services of crusty Long played the old pirate in Fri-John Silver. Goodman buys a day's performance and Long ship, finds a crew and John Silver on Saturday. renames himself Captain

They set sail to find the buried gold coins, and the action gets frantic as more pirates and the Huffingtons themselves converge on Trea-

Michael Monroe, 16,

Fifty home-schooled students have been meeting two hours every week since the start of school to be in director Valoris Peterson's acting class. In January they performed "A Night of Monologues."

"Pirates" was the culminating play of the school year.

Cameron Smith was assistant director and appeared on stage as well.

"I have been homeschooled all my life, like most of these kids," said the 20year-old Smith.

Judy Barringer, a homeschooling mother, started the Cornerstone Thespian Society in 2000, which is when Smith joined.

Not true. It was called 'Spotlight Night' and it was perfomend in December 2005. 18 Factual error. Cameron Smith was not the assistant director for Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen.

MAKING MOVIES AGAIN

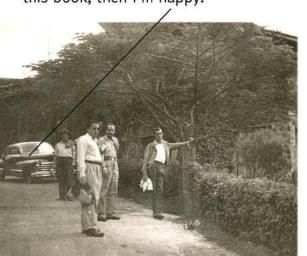
In the Summer of 2006, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. was making movies again. In addition to the DVD releases of Kilroy Was Here! and Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen, the studio also released two new movies: Kilroy Was Here! The Lost Footage and Old Home Movies. Also, other projects put on hold, like Com 50-3 and a Johnny Thunder brickfilm, were finalized and ready to shoot.



THE QUEST FOR THE LOST **FOOTAGE**

In August 2006, Teresa Bermudez started directing and writing with her first film, Kilroy Was Here! The Lost Footage. The film is the story of a soldier who discovers the then missing practice and backstage footage form Kilroy Was Here!

Old car. If this gets hot rod fans to read this book, then I'm happy.





Set Under Construction Fred O'Dwyer (Luke Stabe)

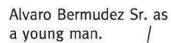
> Pvt. Carl Ryder (Brian Thompson)

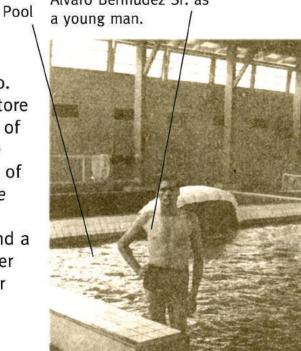
Pvt. Joe Kilroy (Michael O'Kelley)

Isaac Shefton's Head

DISCOVERING MORE FOOTAGE

In September 2006, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. was given the task to restore the original home movies of the Bermudez Family. The company agreed, and out of it came the film Old Home Movies and four sore retinas (After all, if you and a friend stared at a computer screen for 60+ hours, your retinas would hurt too).









A DIFFERENT LOOK

The footage that appears in Kilroy Was Here! The Lost Footage was from the European cast practice. The Original DVD was from the Pacific cast practice.



Letter Newspaper Clipping

HELPFUL DOCUMENTS

During his briefing from the Commander, Com 50 is given some documents to help him along, including maps, a coded message and a newspaper clipping.

COM 50'S COMEBACK

In March 2007, the long-awaited, and longdelayed, Com 50-3: Raid on Central Island debuted, marking the end of the trilogy. It soon reaped critical acclaim, and another installment was asked for. However, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. kept to its word and let the movie series end.

UNDER ATTACK!

During a meeting at a Reef Town Cafe, Com 50, 007 and X get ambushed by the villainous Cal Pada henchmen. Fortunately, 007 charges forward and brings them down.



Pump

A MACHINE GUN

This weapon is X's choice of arms.

Broom



➤ W (Al Bermudez)

After the briefing, Com 50 gets his new gadgets from W, the gadgets expert. These gadgets include an I-pod listening device and some lucky keys!

> Com 50 (Andrew Bermudez)

Cuban Smuggler (David Hoxie)



Ranger 22 (Lauren Hoxie)

ANOTHER MISSION

Before the Central Island mission, Com 50 is in Cuba with Ranger 22 to put a stop to a smuggling ring and to retrieve some important information.

MAKING MOVIE MOCKERIES

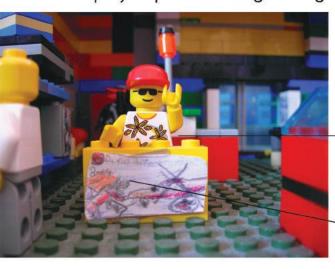
In the summer of 2007, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. began venturing into the realm of shows with "Mystery Lego Theater 3000." Inspired by "Mystery Science Theater 3000," the show mocked bad movies, much like the show that inspired this one. Only two episodes were ever produced, and by the end of the year, the show had come to an end.

"Mystery Lego Theater

3000" Title Logo

FAKE ADS

Just like a real TV show, this one had commercial breaks filled with hilarous advertisements for fake stores and products, such as retailer LEGO-Mart and hairspray Super Ultra Mega Straight.



A UNIQUE COMMENTARY

As each film played, captives Peter,

Chair. Why am I

pointing this out?

Martha, and Moe, would sit at

the bottom of the screen and

make comments throughout

the film and any extra shorts.

The Brickster (Daniel Bermudez)

Dickster (Andrew Bermudez)_

Control Panel

Cash Register

T-1 Typhoon vs. T-Rex Set

Peter

A VILLAIN MOST ICONIC

Unlike "Mystery Science Theater 3000," which had its own cast of villains and henchmen, this show's captives were tormented by The Brickster, the main villain from the classic PC game "LEGO Island."



THE NECKLACE THEFT!

In May 2007, the last of the three plays, *Mystery* At Shady Acres, was performed. The play, centered in a rural New England hotel, featured suspense, twists and a sense of humor to boot! Soon after the play wrapped, the Cornerstone Thespian Society collapsed due to mismanagement. In March 2008, the play was released on DVD.

CHECKING IN

Welcome to Shady Acres Hotel! Check in with Basil at the reception desk to get a room. But you'll have to carry the bags yourself. Good exercise.

> Chief Della Wickfield (Sabrina Lewis)



Mr. X (Adam Shefton)

> Basil (Andrew Bermudez)

"I THINK SHE DEAD!"

During the night, the necklace thief slipped a sedative into Blanche Fairfax's tea, putting her to sleep. The thief then took the necklace and escaped.

Reception Desk



LOSING YOUR APPETITE

Soon after chef Stew Laroache quits, Basil becomes the hotel's cook. Unfortunately, Basil is not the greatest chef: he even burnt the grapes!



Blanche Fairfax (Felicia Nau)

Edward Fairfax (Daniel Bermudez)

Detective Philip Thorton (Daniel Ellis)



Sgt. Farley O'Doyle (Brandon Maddux)

Lt. Thelma Dorrit (Breanna Whitley)

Curtains

INTERFERING

The police could very easily carry out their investigation... if it wasn't for the bungling Detective Thorton and his 'little contest.'

> Emma Reid (Iordan Nelson)

AN UNUSUAL WITNESS

With no other option in sight, Chief Wickfield sets out to question the audience to try to get some answers. Was it Edward's ex-girlfriend Audrey, or was it the compulsive Brighthams?

ADVENTURE IN THE ORIENT

In August 2008, the longest brickfilm at release, Johnny Thunder and the Secret of Marco Polo, made its debut. The 99 minute film featured Johnny Thunder and his friends in search of the lost Golden Dragon. But Lord Sinister and his henchmen Billy the Kid, Patrick and Nevada Smith pursue them. This film was also the first film by the company to be featured online, and it soon became an international hit.

Nevada Smith

(John Stabe)

Dragon.

Plank Bridge



"IT'S TYGURAH!"

While trying to escape the Scorpion Palace with the Golden Shield, Nevada Smith gets caught by Tygurah! However, the plank bridge they are standing on is weak, and they both plummit. Patrick (Garrett Schelske)

Lord Samuel Rudolph Sinister (Andrew Bermudez)



Front-facing Machine guns

AIR CHASE

In their search for the Golden Sword in Mt. Everest, Johnny and his friends get chased through the skies by Lord Sinister! Dan Brown (Antonio Pagan)



Dr. Charles Kilroy (Andrew Bermudez)

Dock

Helmet

General Mao Zedong III (Al Bermudez)

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

In Venice, Johnny is called by

Dr. Kilroy to investigate the murder of Block Sauniere. He soon discovers an ancient book

that tells about the Golden

TROUBLE IN CHINA

It's going to be harder to get the Golden Dragon than Johnny thought! The evil tyrant Chang Wu has led a revolution, and General Mao Zedong III has been sent to stop it. Also, Lord Sinister is still close behind.

23

Handgun

Johnny Thunder

(Daniel Bermudez)



THE LEGO CAPED CRUSADER

To commemorate the 5th anniversary of Mustache Maniacs Film Co., the classic Legoman stories were turned into the brickfilm *The Adventures of* Legoman. The film was released in April 2009 and received critical acclaim... for a while. Then, the film lost popularity and viewing came to a standstill.

CRACKING THE CASE

The police officers are baffled in this scene. They can't seem to figure out who stole the gold. Legoman is the one who identifies the Tounge-Twisting Trick Tulip.



Zany Ziploc Bag

CALLING HIM UP

The police call Theodore Parkington. He responds and heads to the Legocave to become Legoman. He then speeds away in the Legomobile.

Officer Max

(John Stabe)



Pogo (Nathan Stabe)

Glistening, grand Golden Dragon from Johnny Thunder and the Secret of Marco Polo.

Captain Bill (Antonio Pagan)

> Brickzo the Clown (Wes Rudnick)

Gas Station

Police Van

Legoman (Luke Stabe)

Lego Super-Duper Analyzer



THIEVES AT THE MUSEUM!

At the beginning of the film, the villainous Brickzo the Clown robs the museum and steals the gold of Wu-Wa-Pu! This looks like a job for Legoman!



Hobo (Daniel Bermudez)

THE CHASE IS ON!

After escaping the villains' hideout, Legoman alerts the police and pursues Brickzo the Clown. They must stop Brickzo before he destroys city hall!



6 WEEKS, 23 STATES, I DEAD GIBBON

As the Mustache Maniacs Film Co. 5th Anniversary carried on, we went on a 6-week tour of the country, visiting popular tourist attractions and historic sites. Less than one month after we returned home, the vacation pictures and footage were compiled into the film From Sea to Shining Sea.

Texas White House

THE RANCH OF LYNDON JOHNSON

visited the Lyndon B. Johnson Ranch

where President Johnson was born,

lived, died and is buried.

Crowds. We saw a lot of these on

the vacation too.

Near the beginning of the vacation, we

Cannon. We saw a lot of these on the vacation.



During our visit to the east coast, we visited many of the battlefields from the American Civil War. The one pictured here is Gettysburg, quite possibly the most famous.

White House

Hedge

SEEING THE CAPITOL

For the course of four days, we explored Washington D.C., seeing many of the museums and monuments.

Oscar the Grouch Puppet

Daniel Bermudez

Andrew Bermudez

The Twilight Zone

Tower of Terror

EXPLORING WALT DISNEY WORLD

For four days, we visited the four theme parks in Walt Disney World and Downtown Disney. The picture to the left is from Disney's Hollywood Studios.



MERRY CHRISTMAS, PATRICK Santa Claus

There was no denying that Patrick Hooligans was the breackout star of Lord Sinister's henchmen. So, when the time came to create a Christmas film to promote "Johnny Thunder and the Gift of the Nile," Patrick was chosen as the film's star. Along with his parents, Lord Sam Sinister joined in on the fun. Even Santa Claus makes a cameo!

Facade

Patrick (Garrett Schelske) Cameraman

A GIFT FOR LORD SINISTER

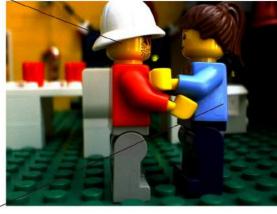
When the film was being written, there were different possiblies for the gift that Patrick gives Lord Sinister. Ultimately, the gift was a funny photo of Patrick and Lord Sinister in front of a Christmas tree.

Patricia (Eunice Rudnick)



"HO, HO HO!"

Originally, the film ended with Lord Sinister's gift, but for more holiday fun, a visit from Santa Claus was written into the story.



MEET THE PARENTS

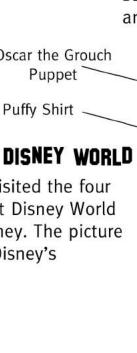
One of the stand-out elements of this film is the introduction of Patricks parents, Patricia and Porkins Hooligans. Also introduced were the holiday treats, Patricia's Christmas Delights.

CANON PLACE?

This film has had a troublesome place in the official canon, as it not only has making-of scenes, it also cannot take place the year it was released in regard to the other films.







25

MORE VACATIONS

To follow up on the success of "From Sea to Shining Sea," all of the past back-logged vacation videos were compiled together into one film: "The Collection of Past Vacations." While not as well-received, this film set the potential for updating old video for the modern day, paving the way for "From the Vaults."

ROUTE 66



During the 2008 segment of the film, many of the locations featured are along the Arizona and New Mexico stretch of Route 66. Many of the stops featured include Winslow, Arizona and Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Inside the California Capital Building

GOING BATTY!

segment of the film.

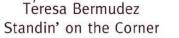
This bat is one of many animals

found at the Oregon Zoo. This

location is featured in the 2007

Light

Another Statue



Train Tracks

Statue



BRICKFEST

Featured in the 2007 segment of the film, the now-defunct Brickfest was featured and highly photographed, such as this train station. Other models included a space colony and a castle village.



EVERYTHING MUST GO

HONORING THE FIRE SERVICE

In the spring of 2010, Daniel Bermudez created two documentaries highlighting the fire service. Titled "Station 9" and "Worcester Col Storage Warehouse Fire," these two films were given high regard upon release. The films' more serious tone took the company in a new direction.



As part of "Station 9," host

Daniel Bermudez is given

a hands-on experience

with the department's

equipment, including

on the department's

scaling the ladder

hook and ladder

Dennis Marinello

truck!

EVOLUTIONS

GARAGES

Pictured here are the garages from Station 9, where one of "Station 9"'s scenes takes place.

Ladder

Fire Truck



STATION 9

This film details the functions of Santa Ana's fire department Station 9 and gives a crash course in fire training and hands-on.

Neighboring Building



Daniel Bermudez

WORCESTER WAREHOUSE FIRE

Probably the company's most dignified film to date, "Worcester Cold Storage Warehouse Fire" is a documentary about the real-life event that took the lives of six firefighters. It is so dignified, it is rarely, if ever, seen alongside the rest of our library of films.

Worcester Cold Storage Warehouse

Freeway

Both of the films shown here are intended to be educational and teach both about the fire service and fire safety.





JOHNNY HEADS TO EGYPT Patrick (Garrett Schelske)

Even before "Secret of Marco Polo" became a smash hit, "Johnny Thunder 2" was already in development. It was only natural to send Johnny to the land of the Pharaohs, and with lots of brand-new characters along for the ride, this big sequel also went on to become an instant hit.

Egyptian Museum

Window Lord Sam Sinister (Andrew Bermudez)



Fedora

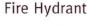
Hiram Aziz

(Steve Hoxie)

VISITING REAL PLACES

For "Johnny Thunder and the Gift of the Nile," all of the locations that the characters visit are real locations from Egypt. This ranges from the Egyptian Museum to Abu Simbel.

> Sally Schmidt (Cathy Hoxie)



NEW ALLIES

Introduced in this film are Johnny and Pippin's daughter Sarah and famed Egyptologist Hiram Aziz. Since Dan Brown and the Adventurer's Orient **Expedition** companions were not in this film, these characters were added to balance the cast.



HEART OF OSIRIS

This film has an all-new treasure, the Heart of Osiris, which has the power to revive the dead!



PROMOTION MANIA

When the film was announced in 2009, a teaser and a whole slew of promotional images were released to advertise the film long before it was released. Dynamite



NEW ENEMIES AND INSPIRATION

The film introduces us to both thief Slyboots and Horatio's sister Sally Schmidt. She's named after ride manufacturer Sally Corporation, which developed LEGOLAND's Lost Kingdom Adventure ride, the basis for the film's final action scene.



ADVENT OF SHORT ANIMATION

Mustache Maniacs Film Co. had a string of major animated successes, but all of these films were at least twenty minutes each, making each film's development a burden. In late 2010, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. began exploring shorter animated films, which were both easy to make and quick As part of Twenty Four Animation to produce. Contest 8, the short film "When

NEW SPECIAL EFFECTS

For "Wonders of Buoyancy," Andrew Bermudez wanted to create a practical effect that would allow underwater scenes to be animated. The solution reached was to use a piece of glass that characters could then be mounted on, making the desired effect.



Treasure Chest

Monkey with

Mon-Key. Get

it? Never mind.

Seaweed

Royal Soldier

(Daniel Bermudez)

Lance Spears

(Andrew Bermudez)

T-Rex

Ulysses S. Powell (Andrew Bermudez)

Underwater Scooter

Powell, has become a major character for the company.

Mod Element. This verifies that the film was made in 24 hours.

Prof. Samantha Rhodes (Teresa Bermudez)

"WONDERS OF BUOYANCY"

This film, created for a physical science project, follows Prof. Samantha Rhodes as she teaches her students all about buoyancy. Real-world examples are used and a short live action segment featured a reallife science experiment. It was so thorough in its lecture, SPM Physics used the film in their science curriculum!



"WHEN BARRELS FLY" Dynamite

Barrels Fly" was developed in one

day. Its main character, Ulysses S.





THROUGH RIDES, SHOWS, AND MORE

Early in 2011, the Bermudez Travels trilogy was wrapped up with the film "Theme Park Visits." The headline for this film is that it featured the return to LEGOLAND, but it was also a collection of old videos that had been back-logged since 2004. Because of this, the film features theme park video from a variety of time periods.



Stage Coach

Lost Kingdom Adventure Show Building

Brick-Built Camel

Facade

KNOTT'S BERRY FARM

When scouring the archives, footage from a 2004 trip to Knott's Berry Farm was uncovered and included in this film.

VIDEO NEW AND OLD

Because the purpose of this film was to release theme park video that had been back-logged over the years, it is not surprising that most of the film jumps between 2004 and 2008, as is the case with the above and below photos.



One thing that was found in the archives when preparing for "Theme Park Visits" was video of Universal Studios Hollywood from both 2005 and 2009! Because of this, it was made possible to create a retrospective that showcased the changes made to the ever-changing park,

including the backlot, which

burned down in 2008 and

had since been rebuilt.



Construction Crane

Clapperboard

Camera

YOU CHOSE THE WINNERS!

In early 2011, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. decided that it was time to host a first-ever fan choice awards. Fans voted for their favorites the previous year, and the winners were revealed during the event which also featured a song and several announcements! Limousine



HOLLYWOOD GLAMOR

In the true spirit of a classic Hollywood awards show, the event featured celebrities at the red carpet, an elegant host, a bevy of news and announcements, and montages. This first awards show was also the first and only to be hosted at the LEGO Town Plan Cinema. For the next show, the venue was moved to the Palace Cinema.



LOTS OF AWARDS

Throughout the ceremony, several of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s characters handed out the awards for several different categories, including best sound, best acting, and more. "Johnny Thunder and the Secret of Marco Polo" was the fan favorite that night, as it took home five awards, including best picture.

Jing Lee

(Jim Freeman)

Wendy Simmons (Teresa Bermudez)

Karate Master

(Steve Hoxie)

SING US A SONG

The fan choice awards was more than just the awards. It also featured our first-ever original song, "Lego Man." A re-writing of Billy Joel's "Piano Man," the song featured Johnny Thunder singing about the different characters in a retrospective manner. However, the song was not well-received, as many said that it lasted too long.





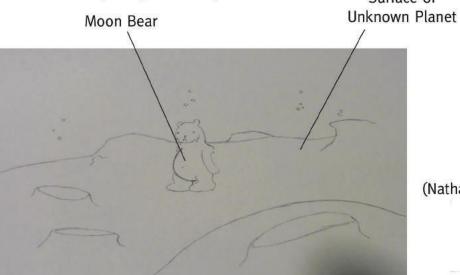
Fountain

Megaphone

TIME TO GO TRADITIONAL

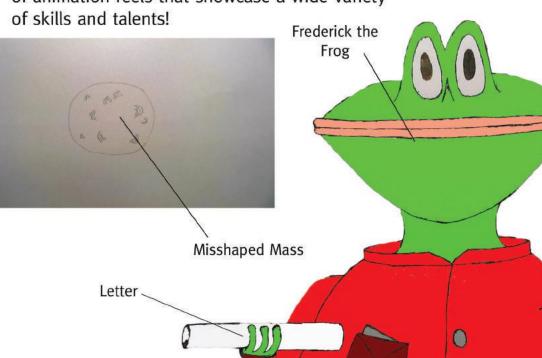
As 2011 began, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. was no longer just making stop-motion animation films! As part of animation classes at College of the Canyons, hand-drawn animation became a new medium for the company to explore.

Surface of



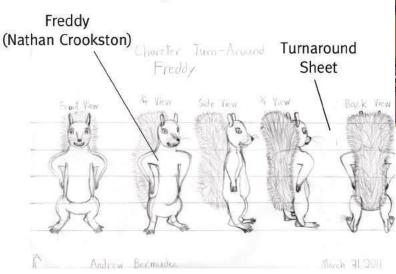
EXPERIMENTAL ANIMATION

To help fine-tune some traditional animation skills, some assignments that explored movement and the 12 principles of animation were handed out. On their own, they are very short pieces, but they eventually became a part of a larger body of animation reels that showcase a wide variety



FREDDY AND JOEY

For several years, Al Bermudez had told bedtime stories recounting the adventures of Freddy and Joey, two mischievous squirrels that live next to the farm of hostile Farmer John. Right at the beginning of 2011, Andrew Bermudez knew that the stories would be perfect for animation, and pitched the show that spring. Unfortunately, the show only brought about a teaser and one animatic before being canceled.



SPECIAL TEASER

Frederick the Frog, pictured left, is one of two characters that appear in the short animated teaser for the series "Freddy and Joey." The teaser is the only truly animated component of this proposed series, and by the end of 2011, had been canceled.

Postman's
Outfit

ATTACKED BY ALIENS AND RUDENESS.

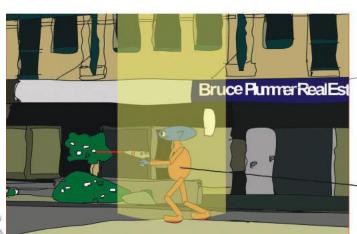
Chimp Dad

Bruce Plummer Real Estate

Space Alien

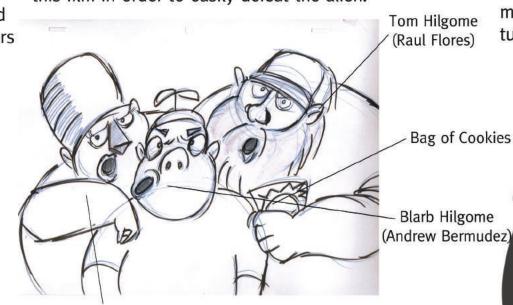
Zoo Cage

In the Spring of 2011, as part of courses at College of the Canyons about animation, several animated film projects were assigned. For the finals for these two classes, the films "Space Attack" and "An Afternoon at the Zoo" were born. Both were released that June, and received much acclaim in-class and Online.



ALIEN INVASION!

The film "Space Attack" is all about the alien invasion trope. The film's star, Nana, actually originated in another student's film, but through a license agreement, Nana is now part of the Mustache Maniacs Film. Co. cinematic universe. She was added to this film in order to easily defeat the alien.



Ruth-Belle Hilgome (Raul Flores)

THE FAMOUS BUDGET ZOO

Notorious for its bad upkeep and mistreatment of its animals, the budget zoo has become a landmark all on its own!



LITERAL ANIMAL PRISON

For the look of the World-Famous Budget Zoo, Raul Flores said that he wanted to exemplify the jail look of the cheap cages. Because of this, the zoo's look is inspired more from prisons and holding cells than actual zoos.

Stroller

"HEY. MONKEY!"

The Hilgomes, a fat and rude family, torture the poor chimps in "An Afternoon at the Zoo." But through the power of magic and imagination, the tables are



THE SPOOKY FOREST Monster (Andrew Bermudez)

In 2009, wanting to diversify, it was proposed that Mustache Maniacs Film Co. tackle a horror story. Many ideas were put forth, but ended up being ditched. Finally, in the fall of 2009, "Forest of Fear" was announced for release the next year. While it was plagued with multiple set-backs, it was finally released in 2011, and it continues to be our most watched and popular film.

Count Werdna

(Daniel Bermudez)

Shield

Leo Rawlins

(Raul Flores)

Beaker

Billy Lugosi

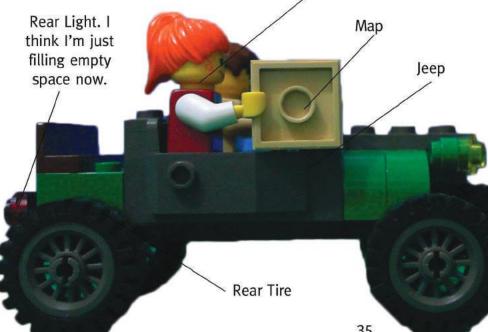
(Andrew Bermudez)

Mary Rawlins

(Teresa Bermudez)



By going the wrong way at a closed freeway entrance, Mary and Leo soon encounter several monsters, including vampire Count Werdna, satyr Torgo, a hitchhiker werewolf, and Billy Lugosi's monster. Also present are members of an angry mob.





MONSTER MASH

As with any horror movie, the climax needed to be the burning of the local windmill. But this film puts a fight between the monster and the werewolf into that trope, allowing it to blend into the film. Also to help this, the windmill was turned into a hotel room to trap Mary and Leo!



A TRULY MAD SCIENTIST

Every horror-comedy movie needs a mad scientist, and ours has Billy Lugosi, named in honor of the legendary actor Bela Lugosi. He has become so popular, he's been featured in his own spin-off origin story movie!

NOT THAT WAY, THIS WAY!

Unlike most monster movies, which take place in eastern Europe, this film sets its monster forest in central Georgia. As most of our audience is from the United States, this helps make the film relevant for our largest set of viewers. It also went towards making the town of Howling Hollow.

BUILDING NEW STORIES

Not slowing down on the number of projects in 2011, that year's Holiday season saw the release on not one, but two short films. Both released on the same day, "A Battle to Remember" and "Seeing Eye Robber" were both class projects with very different tones. While different, both were seen as a great way to end the year. Ralph Vagabond

(Nathan Crookston)

Jail Cell

Correct

Glasses

German Troops

REMEMBERING A REENACTMENT

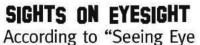
The general premise of the photo story "A Battle to Remember" is that we are seeing the memories of a hiker who is remembering the reenactment that had happened there in the past. While seemingly unrelated, the caution tape was used as a unifying element that connects the hiker to his memories.



THE WORLD'S WORST CRIMINAL

For the final in storyboarding class, this tale of Ralph Vagabond, the World's worst criminal, was told in a very funny manner. The film itself has proved to be very influential on the canon, as Dan K. Donuts from the film has appeared again and again.





Robber," Ralph Vagabond is inept at being a criminal because of his bad eyesight. To enhance this, he wears bad glasses throughout the film, only to have him find correct glasses in jail!





Spare Tire

VACATION: UNLIMITED

With production for "Johnny Thunder and the Wisdom of the Ancients" well underway, there was an idea for how to keep Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s fans occupied: give them our firstever themed promotion. This one, titled "Vacation: Unlimited," explored vacationing with a travel journal, contests, and more.



THE SCRAPBOOK CONTEST

One of the last components of the promotion, the Vacation: Unlimited Scrapbook Contest challenged fans to create a video that talks all about their summer vacation. Only one entry, "Northern Illinois," was submitted.

> Is anything going right on this vacation?

Brown Bear

World's Largest

Sock Monkey

Protective Glass.

Seriously. I'm just

filling empty space

by now.

Old Portrait

Heron Miles

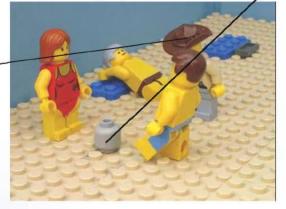
(Andrew Walsh)



BOREDOM ON THE BEACH

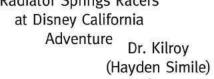
Cadillac Range

In the animation contest entry titled "Heron Miles and the Vacation of Boredom," the title character has no expeditions to go on, so he is left at the beach with nothing to do. He just can't let go of that Ball adventuring spirit!



Police Officer

Radiator Springs Racers at Disney California Adventure





TRAVEL JOURNAL

To go along with the contests, a travel journal was run for the duration of the promotion. In the journal, several new theme park attractions were reviewed and throwback vacation images were added, including this image of Sarah Thunder at the Kennedy Space Center.

Space Simulator. Did you actually think she was out in space?

GREATLY SERVING YOU!

"The Holiday," an animated film by Marcus Hutchinson, features a couple going for a cruise that leads them to an island filled with cannibals! Skull



Sarah Thunder

Fire Pit

Johnson (Eli Hutchinson)



THE BEST VACATION EVER

The winning entry for the Vacation: Unlimited animation contest, "Johnny Thunder's Big Vacation," sends Johnny and his friends into the real world for the vacation of their lives! The film's creator, Hayden Simile, was so grateful for his prize, he created a thank you video showing off the contest prize. However, Lord Sinister and Patrick want it, too!



CATCHING FISH AND CROOKS

Just like the previous year, the summer of 2012 saw the release of not one, but two short animated films! Titled "Gone Ice Fishin" and "Night Guard," the two films were both school projects and, while they tell two very different stories, they are both beloved by those who have seen these two films. Col. Bow Wow Polar Bear

(Andrew Bermudez)

Snow.

Snow kidding!

Willie Swipe

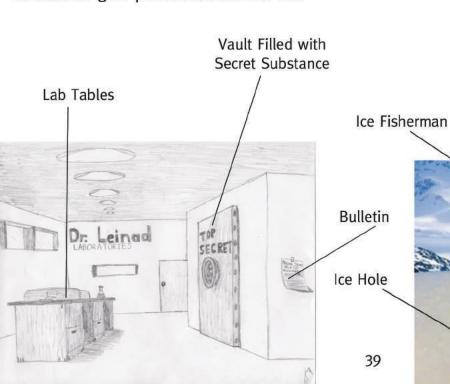
Bean Hat -

Fish



FOOD FIGHT

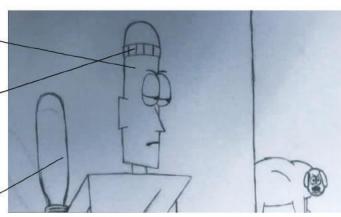
The film "Gone Ice Fishin" is all about an ice fisherman who confronts a polar bear that has stolen his fish. The real fun begins when the fish runs away, and the two main characters give pursuit across the ice!





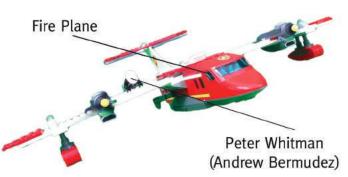
MEET COL. BOW WOW

"Night Guard" takes place at Dr. Leinad Laboratories, where the guard dog Col. Bow Wow must confront his arch-nemesis: the clumsy burglar Willie Swipe. Since Col. Bow Wow is too fat to fight, he must muster up everything he has to stop the criminal! But what he doesn't expect is that Willie's biggest enemy is himself!



FILMS OF GREAT CHARACTER

While very different in their locales and resolutions, both of these films have one thing in common: they feature distinct characters with their own personalities, physical traits, and relationships. It comes as no surprise then that all four of these characters return later on!



HOW WILL YOU GET THERE?

When this film was first conceived, it was decided from the start that there would be no "good" or "bad" routes that the viewers could take. Because of this, more emphasis was put on the getting there than the destination. Possible scenarios include using a pump car, flying through the air with dynamite, and traveling back in time.



SELECTION SCENES

Throughout the film, the movie will stop to allow the viewer to decide how to advance the plot. Below is one of these points, along with three options: take skis, take the police 4x4, and go to Bluebell Mine. Each was composed so that the viewer could easily be able to tell what the selections are Bank Robber without the need for on-screen text.



THE SPORT OF THE CONTEST

As part of bricksinmotion.com's "Kitchen Sink" contest, the interactive film "Late for the Soccer Match" was created, which tells the story of soccer team captain Peter Whitman, and his urgency to get to a soccer game that he might miss. How he gets to the game is entirely up to the audience, with a total of eight different possible combinations. The film went on to win second place in the 13+ category.



Pump Car

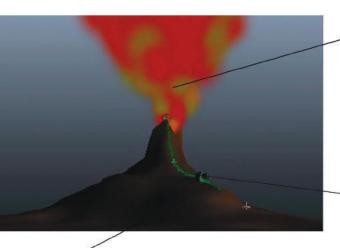
LET'S PLAY SHARK HOOPS! To promote the then-upcoming "Late for the Soccer Match," Mustache Maniacs Film Co. entered another contest. This one, called "Olympics Schmolympics," challenged the contestants to make a film about a fake sport. "Seth Masterson vs. Shark Hoops" was all about the filming for the movie it was promoting, and a robber who tries to stop production with his own sport: Shark Hoops! Naturally, it doesn't go well.



Mining

BUILDING A PORTFOLIO

In addition to the short films that had been made for various classes, these classes also assigned practice animations and tests to fine-tune various skills. These were eventually collected together into a single film simply titled "Animation Reel." Online, this film was released as three videos.



Exploding Lava

Green Flowing Lava. I couldn't change the color, alright!?!

Volcano

THE FIRST TESTS

Dating from the same time as "Morphing Hand" and "Moon Bear Makes a Friend." a short film titled "Farmer John Hard at Work" was created when Freddy and Joey was still being pursued as a potential animated series. Originally, this film was going to be much longer, but had to be tremendously cut down due to the time constraints that were imposed. Farmer John



Rectangle —

MOTION GRAPHICS

CGI ANIMATION

Strike."

It is not a form of animation that

Mustache Maniacs Film Co. has really

tackled, but CGI has been featured in

came to fruition, we first tackled CGI

some of our films. However, before this

in an experimental capacity. The results

baseball bat featured on this page. This

Star

later resulted in the short CGI film "Air

were short tests, like the volcano and

A majority of this animation reel's film comes from a motion design class, which taught how to use Adobe After Effects. The final for this class, a kinetic dialogue assignment, was used as a promotional opportunity for "A Friend of the Police," as the dialogue came from the video game "LEGO City: Undercover."

Bat. Hurts when

you get hit by it.



After the success of the Vacation: Unlimited contest, an idea came to mind: what if an animation contest was run like a game show? With that, "The Film School Challenge" was born. Contestants animated through three rounds and, through process of elimination, only one was left standing. Palace Cinema

ROUND ONE

The first round was all about telling a joke with animation, with as much interpretation of the theme as allowed. Below and to the right are two entries: "The Lightning Fast Pun!" by LegoHubTV and "The Parasite Slip-Up" by Pushover Productions.



ROUND THREE

Seth Masterson, the fictional director behind "Late for the Soccer Match" hosted the videos that were uploaded at the beginning of each round. There, he would announce the challenge, any eliminations, and other news.

A "Shocking"

End! Get it?

Alien Terrain

Lightning Man

ROUND TWO

Contest creator Andrew Bermudez loves animals. so it came as no surprise when round two involved animal interaction and animation. the animals that the contestants chose to replicate were varied, including this lion from Marcus Hutchinson's entry "Alex and the Lion." It is a tale of ancient Rome and gladiators.

Space Marine Johnson

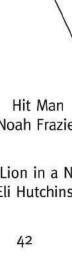
While controversial with some, round three had the contestants create a fight-based film, along with a behind the scenes short that explains how the film was made. Shown below is the very unconventional entry "The Deadly Mission" by Pushover Productions. Cabinet

Hit Man

Lion in a Net (Eli Hutchinson)

(Noah Frazier)

Books





Ocean -

Fire Station



MEET CHASE MCCAIN

Cape

This film did more than just reboot Legoman.

As the praised video game "LEGO City:
Undercover" had just been released, the game's star, Chase McCain became this film's star. On top of that, this was the film that officially confirmed the official cinematic universe, as many of the references in the film foreshadow future events.

[Jim Freeman]



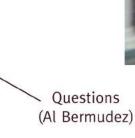
OUESTIONS!

Instead of featuring
Brickzo the Clown
again, a new villain,
Questions, was
adapted from the
stories and
featured.

Reinforced

Bumper

43



LEGOMAN RETURNS!

In the spring of 2013, Drawn to Life Animation, the company's in-house animation studio, announced that its first film would be a reboot of the much maligned character Legoman. It was released just in time for Memorial Day, to high acclaim.

UNLIKELY ALLIES

Most of this film's plot gauges around the relationship between Chase and Legoman. In this film, Chase at first doesn't trust Legoman, but Chase soon discovers that there are certain situations that even he can't handle on his own. This film was also submitted into the Police Show Contest, where it won the grand prize.



Jeep

DODOS IN DEEP DOO-DOO

The partnership that lasted between Mustache Maniacs Film Co. and CarTOON Shack didn't end with "An Afternoon at the Zoo." In 2012, a new film, "New Friends ~ A Environmental Fable," was set into production by the two companies. The film is all about the extinction of the dodo bird and warns against blindly exploiting natural resources.



Scary Rat

Beach

Father Juniper

(Raul Flores)

Mama Dodo (Christine Kurt)

NATIVES OF MAURITIUS ISLAND

The film begins before humans arrived on the island of Mauritius, when the island's animals lived in harmony. In the original version of the film, animals besides the dodos would appear, but were later cut out.



Fat Head

HUMAN CONTACT

When the crew of the S.S. Comis arrives on the island, they immediately begin cutting down trees and eating the dodo birds, unknowingly causing irreversible damage to the island. Originally, the man vs. nature conflict was going to be more black and white, but the producers ordered that the humans be unknowing in their actions, rather than be malevolent.



AH, RATS!

Just like in real life, the film depicts the introduction of species that would contribute to the extinction of the dodo birds.



44

THE ONLINE NETWORK

Chimp Family

Facebook

Plugin

Ever since 2008, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. has established itself with an online presence. Starting out with a YouTube channel as a platform to release "Johnny Thunder and the Secret of Marco Polo," the online network now encompasses several sites, blogs, and an entire wiki! Rift Generating Device



THE CENTRAL HUB

Founded in 2011, the official site for Mustache Maniacs Film Co. acts as the center of the online network. It features pages for every single film that has been released online, as well as comics, a merchandise market, games, and a page that allows fans to audition for parts in upcoming Computer film projects. Toolbar

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

YouTube has changed quite a bit since the official Mustache Maniacs Film Co. channel was established in 2008. To the left is a screenshot of the site from when the channel was first founded. To the right is how the channel looks today.



Administrative Toolbar

Login Field

Listing

Popular Video

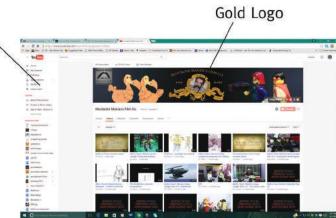
THE CANON ENCYCLOPEDIA

Regarded as the go-to source for all things related to the Mustache Maniacs Film Co. Cinematic Universe, the official wiki contains information on all of the canon characters, locations, vehicles, and more, along with an in-depth look at the making of several different movies, and any content that was part of a film that went unreleased. Classic Logo



NEWS CENTRAL

As the second component of the online network to be founded, the official press room opened for business in 2009 and features press releases that talk about the latest news from around Mustache Maniacs Film Co., including teasers, announcements, and more.



DRACULA'S INTERNSHIP

In 2013, as part of Animation Production class at College of the Canyons, the task of creating an animation for the school's CWEE department was assigned to Mustache Maniacs Film Co. Since this is animation, anything is possible, so why not have Dracula get an internship? The resulting film, "A Bite of MyJobs," is now used on-campus to educate students about the CWEE program.

Official College of the Canyons Internship Logo



THIS LESSON WON'T BITE

The main intent behind "A Bite of MyJobs" is to educate students on how to use College of the Canyons' CWEE program to get an internship.

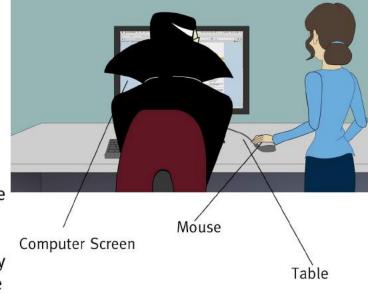
College of the Canyons Connecting College to Careers

CAREFULLY-CRAFTED CAREER ADVISOR

When Gina Bogna, a representative from the CWEE Department, assigned the creation of this film, she only had one major request: one of the characters must be an informative advisor that explains the CWEE database and what it does. While she cited Honda's defunct Mr. Opportunity as a source of inspiration, the film's artists were able to take some creative liberties, as Mr. Opportunity is a widely-hated character.

Dracula (Andrew Bermudez)





NOT PLAYING AROUND

When Dracula arrives at the CWEE Office, he has no intention of getting an internship. Rather, he wants to suck the Career Advisor's blood! However, as she isn't familiar with vampires, she aptly and hastily signs him up for an internship in culinary arts. Looks like he'll be doing a different type of bloodsucking!

> Career Advisor (Teresa Bermudez)

YOU CHOSE THE WINNERS AGAIN!

Following the 2011 fan choice awards, "Ten Years of Going Crazy!" was kicked off with "The Second Mustache Maniacs Film Co. Fan Choice Awards." Celebrating the past while looking towards the future, the awards show featured a variety of characters, tributes, sneak peeks, and of course awards to hand out! lazz Musician

who is not happy.

Papa Dodo (Andrew Bermudez)

Photographer

Giant Cake -

Curtain



Wendy Simmons (Teresa Bermudez)

In true classic Hollywood fashion, this award show re-located to the Palace Cinema and featured a variety of Mustache Maniacs Film Co. characters dressed to the nines. Wendy Simmons once again reported the event, which featured ten years tributes, trailer releases, and the on-screen debut for Dash Justice, who officially announced Project U!





AWARDS AND HONORS

Just like the first time around, the awards were chosen by the fan base based on panel-selected nominees. A majority of the awards went to the much-praised "New Friends," but other films walked away with smaller honors, like best special effects.



DODO RAP!

Inspired by a comedic sketch drawn during the production of "New Friends," the rap song "Happy Crazy Birthday" features Papa Dodo singing about Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s past films.

"SAM N' BOB BRAWL"

Late in 2013, to promote the voting for the awards, a short film called "Sam n' Bob Brawl" was released as a voting reminder. It features two men fighting over who will win the award for best picture.



Birthday Cake

WACKY BIRTHDAY CARDS

Mustache Max

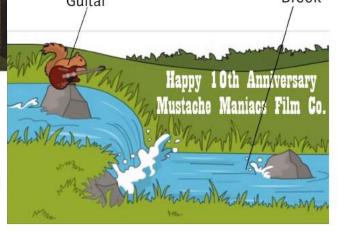
As part of "Ten Years of Going Crazy!", the online fan base was challenged to create animated birthday cards that wished the company a happy ten years. Only three entries were submitted, but they all proved to be fun and festive e-cards. Chimpanzee from "An

Afternoon at the Zoo"

THE LOST BIRTHDAY CAKE

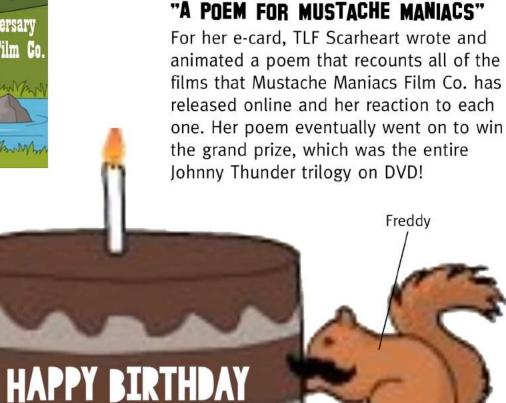
This entry by Marcus Hutchinson features Johnny Thunder scouring a lost temple, looking for an ancient artifact. The plot twist comes at the end of the e-card when Johnny reveals that the ancient Elizabeth Scarheart treasure is actually a birthday cake for Mustache Max!

(Herself) Joey with Brook Guitar



FREDDY AND JOEY'S BALLAD

For Claire Voyance Productions' entry, he went an unusual route and featured two of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s more obscure characters: Freddy and Joey. They performed a ballad along with a hand drawn minifigure.



MUSTACHE MANIA



JOHNNY'S WORLD TOUR

The highlight of "Ten Years of Going Crazy!" was undoubtedly the highly-anticipated "Johnny Thunder and the Wisdom of the Ancients." The film tells a story not from the sets, sending Johnny Thunder and his cohorts around the world, looking for the fabled Hidden Mysteries. The film, in effect, acted as the culmination of the pre-Project U canon, sending off stand-alone films with this massive adventure.

HEROES AND VILLAINS

Just like the first two Johnny Thunder films, this adventure featured a race between the Adventurers and Lord Sinister's gang to get the treasure. However, this film threw other characters

Dr. Charles Kilroy into the mix, including Lance Spears, Thomas Skint, and Gabarro.

Johnny Thunder (Daniel Bermudez)

Ear Spool

(Andrew Bermudez)



Fireplace Mantle

Patrick Hooligans (Garrett Schelske)

PUZZLE SOLVING

While many of the film's sequences involved major fights between the heroes and villains, just as many scenes featured the adventurers solving puzzles, such as this statue in Machu Picchu. While this puzzle is inspired by the activity book "The Lost Temple," the statue itself is modeled after Inca sculpture.

THE GUARDIANS' STORY

Unlike the first two films, this one starts out with the story of six guardians of the Hidden Mysteries, including Dr. Kilroy, Sam Sinister, and Johnny's father. This prologue shows the night that Sam betrays the guardians and Johnny's father dies, both of which come into play later in the film.



Newspaper

Block Sauniere (Al Bermudez)

Lance Spears (Michael Whalen)

CHARACTER INTERPLAY

Just like all of the Johnny Thunder films, this one features lots of character interaction that not only allows the audience to relate to these characters, but also advances the plot. In this screenshot, Dr. Kilroy is solving a riddle that Johnny Thunder has mis-read.



DELECTABLE EDIBLE PREMIERE DELIGHTS

Jim Freeman

Johnny Thunder

To commemorate the release of "Johnny Thunder and the Wisdom of the Ancients," a private world premiere was held at the director's home, where many of the film's cast and crew members convened for a screening of the film. Served at the party were a selection of exotic foods that represent the locales featured in the film. Shown here are just some of the food items created for this exclusive party Amy Guo -

SWEET STONEHENGE

In the film, one of the places that the Adventurers visit is Stonehenge, so an edible replica was made as the centerpiece of the food offerings. Except for the cardboard base and the minifigures, the entire replica was edible, from the monoliths to the grass!

DINNER IS SERVED

For the main courses, several exotic entrées were served in a buffetstyle set-up, including this Peruvian salad. Other items included shepherd's pie, African stew, and chips and salsa.

JUNGLE JUICE BLEND

Inspired by the Butterbeer drink served in Universal's Harry Potter lands, Pippin's creamy flavor.

PRIVATE GATHERING

As this was a private event, many of the attendees were members of the film's cast and crew. A special invitation was sent out to those on the guest list that was inspired by the events in

> the film, but was not ever publicly released, as it contains the address of the studio.

> > Pippin Reed Thunder



Plastic Cup, not unlike

those snakes, though



Jungle Juice Blend turned out to be the hit of the night. It combines soft drinks with ice cream and marashimo cherries for a





Metal Spoon

A CELEBRATION OF TEN YEARS

2014 proved to be a pivotal year in terms of the year's promotion "Ten Years of Going Crazy!" and the new content that it introduced. Listed here were some of the components of the promotion.

Nexus Force Logo

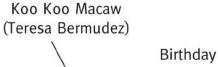
A BEVY OF RE-RELEASES

Many of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s older films, such as "Trip to LEGOLAND" and "Indiana Jones and the Egyptian Tomb" were re-edited and re-released for the anniversary. This culminated in the release of the first video we ever filmed. "Where it All Began."

Microsoft LifeCam 1080p



Technically a part of Project U, the Nexus Force Character Creation Sweepstakes lasted throughout most of 2014, challenging online fans to create their own character for the upcoming film "Legends of the Universe." Sadly, only one entry was submitted.



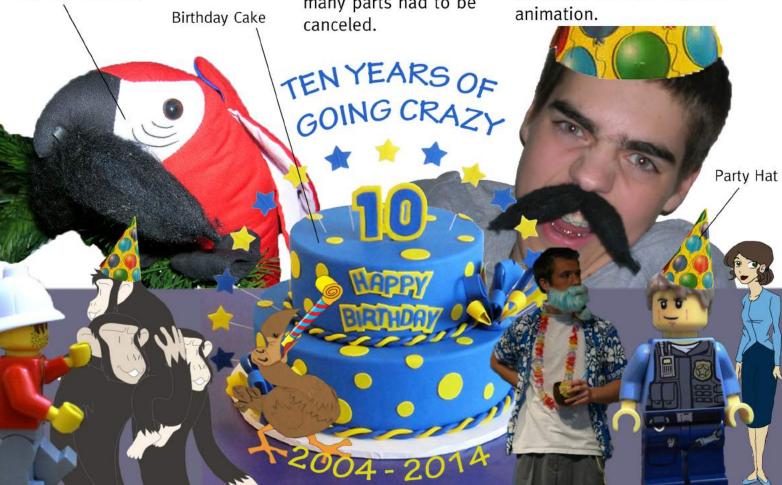
A CRAZY CELEBRATION

Unlike the laid-back Fifth Anniversary Celebration, all of the stops were pulled to make this party one that no one would soon forget, including exclusive graphics, decorative cupcakes, a specialty drink, and more. There was more planned, but many parts had to be



ARCHIVE COLLECTIONS

Throughout the year, artifacts and artwork from Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s past was highlighted in the press room, including this Microsoft LifeCam used for



BUILDING MOVIE MOMENTS

Most of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s fans are also fans of LEGO, so it was only natural that building sets based on some of our most treasured films would be released, at least the plans; fans have to supply their own pieces.



Ruined Building



BATTLE PACKS

Cameraman

Since "Johnny Thunder and the Secret of Marco Polo" featured the Chinese revolution sub-plot that was never shown in the official Orient Expedition LEGO sets, two battle packs were created to allow fans who don't have a lot of pieces at home to stage their own version of the film's climax.

STARTING OFF THE PLAY SETS

While the main intent of the Project U-Build Play Set Adventures was to promote the Project U films, the series was started off with eight sets based on the first two Johnny Thunder films. In addition to featuring iconic characters, the sets also feature functions that replicate their respective scenes. Late in 2014, six sets based on Johnny's third adventure were



Russian Jeep

Super Hero Student (Jenna Gray)

TRUE IDENTITY

Around the time the Project U-Build Play Set Adventures were released, a new short film, "True Identity," was released. In the same vein as "A Battle to Remember," this film is a picture story. This time, a thief steals a backpack from a Cal State Fullerton student who turns out to be endowed with superhuman abilities! In a unique twist, the film also takes place entirely in and around an elevator!



ESTABLISHING THE WORLD

In early 2013, it was made official that every single Mustache Maniacs Film Co. movie takes place in the same universe, regardless of how it was made. While Project U itself wouldn't be announced for another year, the structure was already laid out in place with films that would introduce key components of future films and establish future characters.

Church

Sentinel

SOLARUM

Released in July 2014 for BRAWL 2014, "Solarum" is all about the energy company of the same name. It started Project U, but was generally disliked, both by fans and internally.



\ Clyde Uswik
Executive (Daniel Bermudez)

ATTACK OF THE FIFTY FOOT HAMSTER

This was the first scheduled Project U film, which was surprisingly loosely (VERY loosely) based on a true story. It introduces the audience to the Bradford Rant Institute of Cosmic Kinesis for the first time and tells the story of Billy Lugosi. The highlight of the film was the big battle between giant hamster Black Bear and "Space Attack" star Nana!

Black Bear

Nana (Teresa Bermudez)



THE KINGFISHER

If "Solarum" left a bad first impression for Project U, then "The Kingfisher," the story of an ordinary man who becomes a mob boss, redeemed the project, as this film was a hit.



Gun. Hurts if you get shot by it.

Phil "Folio" Byrd (Al Bermudez)

This film is technically not part of Project U, but it does deeply cover the story of a major future character, Dr. Wallace Bishop. Just like "The Kingfisher," "Rift" was made for a THAC animation contest, except this film took a more surreal turn. This is the first film to explicitly show the existence of two parallel dimensions, and the danger that lies between them!

Funerary Memorial



THE CANON OF FAN FICTION

While many contests had been hosted in the past, "The Quest for Canonization," ran in 2015, asked the fans to expand the existing Mustache Maniacs Film Co. Cinematic Universe. There were only two entries, but the contest was seen as a success. In 2016, another canon contest was run.



"MYSTERY IN THE KAROO" It's always the butler!

This film was originally presented as a radio drama that takes place in 1890 South Africa.

A conspiracy is a-foot to start a war between the British and the Dutch, and the only person who can solve the mystery in time is Detective Pemberton. In 2016, this film was remade as a full animation with the title "Murder in the Karoo." The pictures here are from that version Detective of the film.

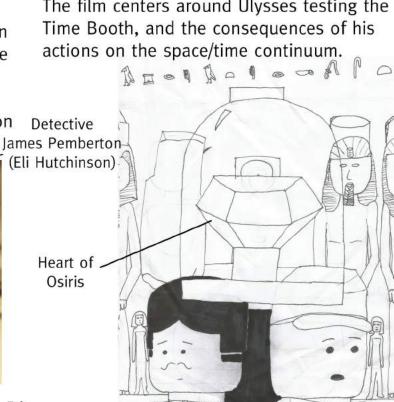
Desert Bush

Thunde Ulysses The film actions

The film actions

Detective Desert Bush

Desert Bush



COMPETING WITH EVENT-BUILDING

Henry MacArthur

(Eli Hutchinson)

This contest was very simple in its rules: create a story that takes place in the world of Mustache Maniacs Film Co. using any format that the film makers wished. The option of creating new characters or using pre-existing ones was left as a choice for the contestants to decide. The results were two very distinct entries being submitted. Both are now considered canon.

"A GREATER COST"

The winner of the contest, "A Greater Cost" was intended to rectify a plot hole in "Johnny Thunder and the Gift of the Nile" by using Ulysses S. Powell from "When Barrels Fly." The film centers around Ulysses testing the Time Booth, and the consequences of his actions on the space/time continuum.

51

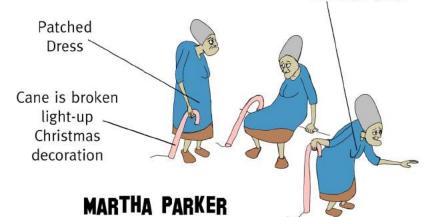
Knife

THE STORY OF MARTHA PARKER

Class assignments had become less commonplace after "A Bite of MyJobs," but in late 2014, development began on a new short film titled "Alms Pouch." Introducing Martha Parker, the widow of officer Walter Parker from "Attack of the Fifty Foot Hamster," the heart-warming tale was released in the summer of 2015, with a screening at Cal State Fullerton's Pencil Mileage Club Film Festival a year later.

CREATING THE SETTING

The entire film takes place in Crescent Park, one of the locales in the canon version of LEGO City. Featured here is just one of the many backgrounds created just for the film, which shows that the park also has a lake, a bridge, and several trees.





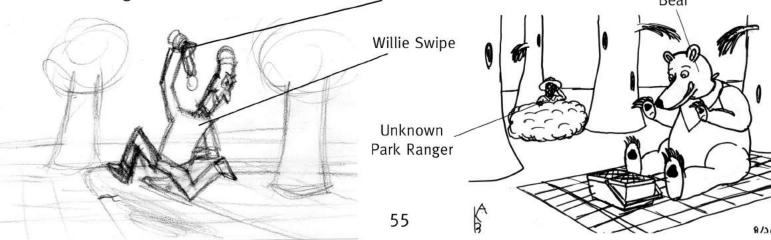
WILLIE SWIPE RETURNS!

Once Martha Parker was created, the only question was who to par the main character against. The answer came not from a new characters but from a past class production. With only minor re-designs, Willie Swipe returned from "Night Guard" and became Money this film's antagonist.

Modeled after an illustration that Andrew Bermudez had made for an illustration class, Martha Parker is a homeless old widow who spends her days in the park. Originally, her dress would have a mismatched bottom seam and she would have a cane, but both of these were cut from the finished film.

WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN

"Alms Pouch" wasn't the first idea that was pursued for this assignment. Other ideas that were proposed, but were ultimately dropped, included a picnic bear, a jury cat, a shoe shiner, and a wrestler who can't fight.



ALPHA TEAM RETURNS

Since the company's beginning, there was always talk of adapting LEGO's Alpha Team sets for a film. This vision was achieved in 2015 with the release of "Alpha Team: Mission Deep Jungle," which was an instant hit with the fan community.



NEW ALLIES AND ENEMIES

Just like the Johnny Thunder Saga, this film brings Alpha Team to the modern day, so a new rookie agent, Steve Kenlow, is introduced. However, this film also introduces Adventurers villain Mr. Cunningham in a cross-over that only Project U could make possible!



CLASSIC AGENTS

While the theme ended in 2005 with a radiaclly changed style, this film returns to and updates the look of the original six agents, while integrating in a modern style. Many of these changes were made to reflect Project U's "darker" atmosphere.



MIND CONTROL ORBS

In this film, everyone thinks that Ogel died after the events of Mission Deep Freeze, but Alpha Team discovers otherwise! Pictured here is the orb factory inside Ogel's new jungle headquarters, which features design homages to the Alpha Team video game and more.

Mr. Cunningham (Al Bermudez)

Shotgun. Hurts if you...oh, never mind.

Charge (Steve Hoxie)

Bandit's

Head

HOLIDAY ADVENT CALENDAR

Because "Alpha Team: Mission Deep Jungle" was released on Christmas Day, Mustache Maniacs Film Co. commemorated their first Christmas release with a wacky advent calendar that counted down to the big day. Some of the days featured Christmas dodos, a Dr. Kilroy lecture, humbug Ogel, and even an entire storybook that told an Alpha Team-centric Christmas story!



AMSET-RA'S CURSE

In a 2012 survey about favorite LEGO themes, Pharaoh's Quest was the clear winner. Therefore, in 2016, a fairly faithful adaptation of the theme was released as a film in the same spirit as the Johnny Thunder films. Australian

Mac McCloud (Alan Hom)



EXPANDING THE SOURCE MATERIAL

While this film is highly faithful to its source material, some liberties were taken to expand the story beyond the sets. For example, the beginning takes place at the Battle of Beersheba during WWI, which is why the above screenshot features Jake Raines and Mac McCloud dressed as authentic soldiers.

Destroyed Jeep

HUNT FOR THE SIX TREASURES

Just like in the sets, a bulk of the film's running time is spent with the hunt for Amset-Ra's six treasures. Many of the events that take place in the official story are also a part of the film. The only real exception to this is the scene pictured here of the Cursed Cobra Statue. This scene is mostly inspired by the theme's web game, where the snake is defeated by bashing its head into the shrine.

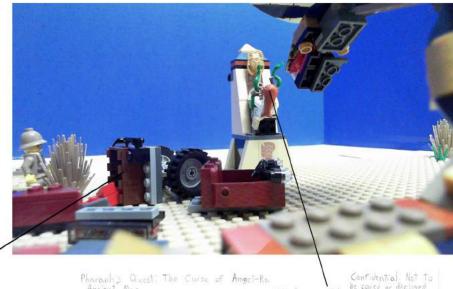


LONG TIME COMING

Infantry

Uniform

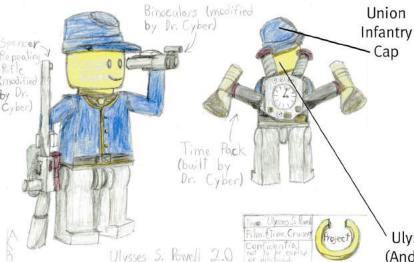
The film as it appears today was not always intended to be a film. When the theme was released in 2011, the original idea was to make an interactive adventure based on the theme. However, these plans were quickly scrapped, and the postcard ad seen here was changed when the project turned the game into a feature film.



Helena Skvalling Ancient Map Concept (Teresa Bermudez)

CHASE THROUGH TIME

To follow up the secret agent action of "Alpha Team: Mission Deep Jungle" and the excitement of "Pharaoh's Quest: The Curse of Amset-Ra," the often-maligned LEGO Time Cruisers theme is going to be adapted into an animated film that stars Ulysses S. Powell! The film will feature sights and characters from past Mustache Maniacs Film Co. movies and is expected to be out in 2017.



RE-IMAGINING ULYSSES S. POWELL

Like many of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s characters, Ulysses S. Powell from "When Barrels Fly" was given an entire Project U makeover and redesign!

NINJAGO: VISIONS OF MEMORIES

Before this film will be released, another film themed to LEGO's popular Ninjago line will be released on August 5. This film celebrates the line's villains while remaining in the story's canon. It features some of Ninjago's most popular heroes and villains fighting in the coastal city of Stiix.

Visions of Memories

Typeface Century

(Alex Hoxie) BUILDING UP TO THE RELEASE

In order to introduce the other characters from the movie, such as Dr. Cyber, a comic series titled "Out of His Time" was run during the year 2015. While more comics were planned for 2016, these were cancelled. The comics themselves recount Ulysses S. Powell's adventures in the present day.

Ulysses S. Powell (Andrew Bermudez)

YEAR OF THE CLOCK

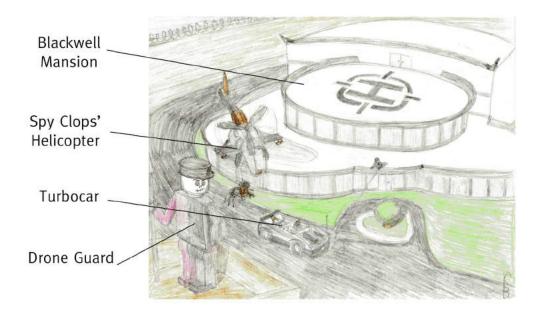
To promote this film, a new, currently ongoing, promotion "Year of the Clock" was started, which celebrates the past, the future, and everything else in between. The promotion included the online re-release of "Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen," a contest that lets the fans create character back stories, and new wiki pages.

Time Pack



THE FUTURE OF PROJECT U

The films that you just saw are only the start of what will be our biggest investment in terms of time, money, and artistic decision. Showcased here is the future of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.

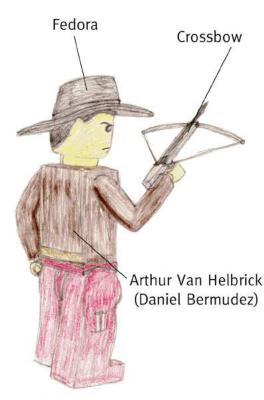


ALPHA TEAM MEETS LEGO CITY: UNDERCOVER

In the upcoming film "Alpha Team: Mission Deep City," the team of secret agents is on a mission deep into LEGO City, where they team up with the LCPD and visit locations and meet characters from the popular video game "LEGO City Undercover." Above is a concept illustration for an action scene and below is a screen shot from the movie, which will be out late in 2017. Charge Cam Attaway







VAN HELBRICK: MONSTER FIGHTER

Arthur Van Helbrick, simply reduced to a cameo in "Forest of Fear," finally gets the role he deserves in this Monster Fighters-based tale of growing up and fighting monsters. The film is expected to have a 2017 release, hopefully in time for Halloween.

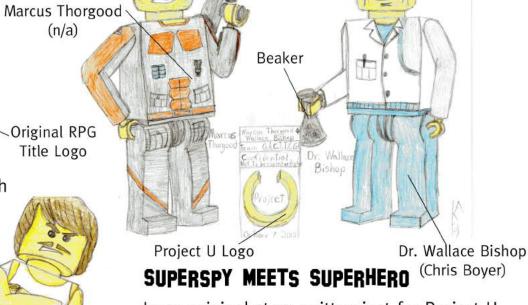
NOT JUST MOVIES

in 2016.

DIVE! DIVE! DIVE!

Johnny Thunder couldn't be left out of the fun! He's going on another adventure in 2018, and he's going to meet new people, including dive shop owner Valscone. It's all in this underwater adventure, also filled with tides of characters you know and love.

Working in collaboration with its authors, BZPower's RPG "Dino Attack: At War's End" is going to be brought to life with comics, starting



In an original story written just for Project U, a brand-new host of characters are selected to be part of a CIA experiment to create true super spies! The film, "B.I.O. Corps," will not only introduce new heroes and villains, they will also meet some familiar supporting characters, like vacationing couple Mary and

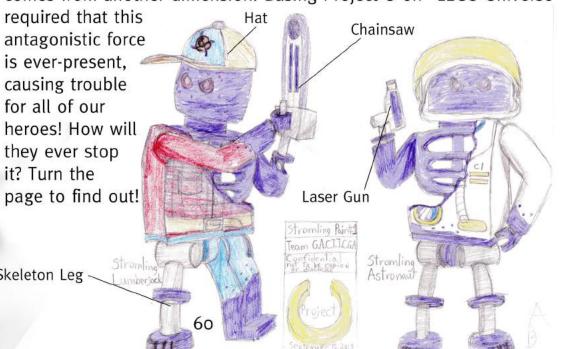
Valscone (n/a)

THE MAELSTROM

Skeleton Leg

(n/a)

What is the Maelstrom? It's a force of destruction that weaves its way throught all of the Project U movies that, according to research, comes from another dimension! Basing Project U on "LEGO Universe"



Maelstrom Vortex

WRITING THE FINAL CHAPTER

What do you get when our entire cinematic universe appears on-screen together for the first time? You'll get "Legends of the Universe," the official end to Project U! Literally bringing our universe together, it'll feature some of your favorite characters in an all-new adventure that will answer all of Project U's questions and bring this chapter to a close.





While most of our past films have been restricted to one hero or team battling one villain, "Legends of the Universe" allows us to take everyone's favorite characters and bring them together onscreen, creating new character dynamics.



Harry Cane (Andrew Bermudez)

Ulysses S. Powell

(Andrew Bermudez)

Propeller

Thruster Exhaust

Katana

NOSTALGIA WORLD TRIP

While "Legends of the Universe" explores many new locations and environments. the film also contains tributes to past movies, including "Alpha Team: Mission Deep Jungle," "Mystery at Shady Acres," "Johnny Thunder and the

Secret of Marco Polo," and others.

Airfield Worker

EPIC INTRODUCTIONS

Legoman

(Jim Freeman)

Most of the characters in "Legends of the Universe" are from Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s past. However, some of them, like the leaders of LEGO Universe's Nexus Force, are being introduced for the first time in our cinematic universe through this film.



Like mentioned on page 60, "Legends of the Universe" is based on LEGO Universe, so that meant that the army that our heroes go up against must have tons of stromlings! While many stromlings from the game are featured in the movie, we took the chance to create new stromlings, like the soldier and researcher shown here.

Tee Vee (Jay Silver) Jessica Thompson (Elizabeth Vasquez)

Dr. Wallace Bishop (Chris Boyer)

Black Pants

I'm really trying

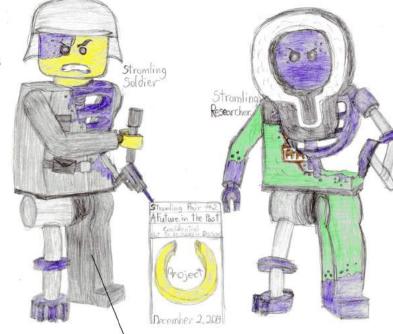
to fill space

am I? Don't

worry. The

book's almost

done.



Stromling Artwork by Andrew Bermudez

Dr. Cyber (Nathan Mellace)



Walkie Talkie

BRINGING THE GAME TO LIFE

of LEGO Universe meant that the game needed to be brought to life in a way unique to the movie. Because of this, many characters, locations, and vehicles that were cut from the game managed to make their way into the film.

Plunging our characters into the world

Digital Armor



by Andrew Bermudez

Johnny Thunder

(Daniel Bermudez)

62

GENERATING IDEAS

Where do the characters and stories that encompass our cinematic universe come from? From several energetic brain-storming sessions, where ideas are tossed around, mountains of notes are recorded, and concepts are refined to a state of being ready for further development. At this point is when an idea for a movie, comic, or other concept is born.

Shot List for

"A Bite of Mylobs"

"New Friends ~ An

Environmental Fable"

Treatment by Raul

Flores.

And someday, that bear is going to build his cabin.

"WHAT IF..."

When making a movie, anything is possible, so pitch meetings for new films allow for as many directions as possible, no matter how ridiculous they may be. This is to ensure that the best solution is reached.

Brain-storming notes for "The Kingfisher," including other directions

WRITING THE OUTLINE

Once a general idea is settled upon, it's time to write an outline of what's going to happen. This is beneficial in not only communicating ideas in an accessible manner, but also to guide the writing of the final script.

"Gone Ice Fishin" Script by Andrew Bermudez

TECHNICAL WRITING

The story's final and the idea is ready to go, so now we get to the bitty gritty task of writing the finalized materials, including the shooting script, shot breakdowns, directional blocking, and other technical mambo-jumbo.

STORYBOARDS

Communicating the look of a film with just words can be tricky, so storyboards are used as a way to help direct scenes in a visual way that helps the entire production crew see how each sequence is going to be broken down. If there are any staging problems, storyboards are a great way to fix these without wasting time and money in the production phase.

"The Kingfisher" Storyboards by Andrew Bermudez

"A Battle to Remember" Storyboards by Andrew Bermudez

CONCEPTUAL STORYTELLING

When making a film like "A Battle to Remember." the conceptual nature of the narrative can call for more "snapshot" style storyboards. These are meant to dictate a feeling that the film has, rather than give a shot-by-shot layout of what happens.

"Alms Pouch" Storyboard

by Andrew Bermudez

Martha Parker



ROUGH STORYBOARDS

Some projects that are under tight schedules don't have the production time for beautiful storyboards, so much rougher storyboards are usually drawn just to serve their purpose.

"A Bite of Mylobs" Storyboards by Daniel Johnson

COLOR STORYBOARDS

It's not often that storyboards will be colored, but director Raul Flores did just that for "An Afternoon at the Zoo!" If storyboards are colored, it's usually because the colors are an important part of the film's aesthetic. This case also gives us a colored version of the Rude Family.

FILM TRANSLATION

To the left are an original storyboard and final shot from "Alms Pouch." They both represent the same shot, but see what was changed! Storyboards typically just focus on the action, which is why the final shot has a more detailed background.

"An Afternoon at the Zoo" Storyboards

by Raul Flores

Cookie

63

THE ART OF MUSTACHE MANIACS FILM CO.

Ralph Vagabond

Turnaround by

Andrew Bermudez

As the looks for each of our films is developed, a wide variety of artwork is produced to evoke not only the film's personality, but also what certain characters, locations, and props are going to look like long before production starts. This stage of development is the concept stage.

"New Friends ~ An

Thumbnails by Raul

THUMBNAILS

To illustrate key

story points for films,

Flores.

Environmental Fable"

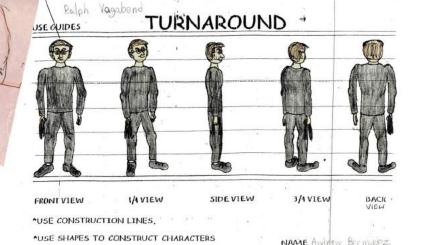
Original Drawn To Life Animation Logo by Andrew Bermudez



Animation

TURNAROUNDS

When creating a character, the animators need to know what he or she looks like from all angles. Because of this, turnaround sheets are created for each character.



Bride of Dracula Character Design by Melanie Modesti

CUT CONCEPTS

Not everything that Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s artists design makes it into the final production, so it is not surprising that a multitude of art pieces represent unused sequences, characters, and locations, such as those below and to the left of this text. "Forest of Fear"

rough thumbnail storyboards are drawn.

"Secret of Marco Polo"

Concept Scene by Andrew Bermudez







Unused Characters



Train Car Designs by Andrew Bermudez

ESTABLISHING A NEW LOGO

When Drawn to Life Animation was conceived in 2013, the first task was to give it a new logo to fit into the Mustache Maniacs Film Co. brand. While many designs were put to the test, the one that ended up as the final logo is the simple, Gestalt Theory-heavy logo seen in the top row, second from the right.





















Pouch!"

Willie Swipe Head by

Andrew Bermudez



CHARACTERS FROM SMUDGES

once said that the best character designs can be found in smudges and dirty walls. That statement can be said

CalArts instructor Masha Vasilkovsky

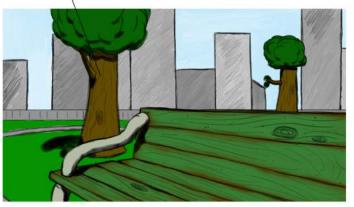
for Willie Swipe, whose head design was first created in this smudge art. Having such a strong design, it's no wonder that he returned for "Alms



Plant Monster Design

by Andrew Bermudez

Drawn to Life Logo Designs by Andrew Bermudez



BUILDING THE ENVIRONMENT

Alms Pouch Background

by Andrew Bermudez

When a film takes place in a specific location, such as the park in "Alms BUILDING JOHNNY THUNDER'S QUEST Pouch" or Forest of Fear's forest, concept art is created to not only show the film's world, but to also to establish the film's mood and characteristics. This is especially true of these two pieces.



Forest of Fear Concept Art by Andrew Bermudez

was important that each location

Taking place all over the world, it in "Johnny Thunder and the Wisdom of the Ancients" had its own personality and cultural influences. While all for this film, each of these three pieces have very distinct features that speak to each location.









Koala Express by Andrew Bermudez

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Once everything is ready to go, it's time to pull out camera, get everyone into place, and call action! This starts the production phase, when all of the principal photography for a movie is done. This is the part of movie development where all of the ideas from the conceptual process are finally realized in a visible, tangible, form. In traditional animation, production begins when the hand-drawn frames are photographed and put to print for editing later on.



NOT WHAT IT SEEMS...

When filming is underway, tricks are usually employed on-set that are later distorted and edited to look convincing. This photo is the set for "Secret of Marco Polo"'s plane fight, where the biplane's nose dive was accomplished with a simple zoom-in. Vending Machine



Movies can cost a lot of money in terms of labor, film, contracts, leases, and more, so sets are usually built with the absolute bare minimum while making it look whole. In this set from "A Friend of the Police," an entire wall is missing, but since the camera never points in that direction, the audience can never tell! Camera

> Mrs. King (Allison Pari)



BETWEEN TAKES

When the camera is not rolling, the cast will usually find time to unwind and relax. In this photo from "Kilroy Was Here!," Lauren Isbell and Allison Pari take some time to relax backstage during the play's performance and cool off, as stage lighting is very notorious for over-heating actors and crew alike.

Marion Rita (Lauren Isbell) Massive Spotlight Supports

PA who's not being useful.

I should fire him.

BRINGING IT ALL HOME

The last component of creating any movie is post production. This is the step where every film is given several coats of polish. This ranges from simple color shifts and frame adjustments to big and elaborate sounds, titles, masks, effects, and even big CGI animation overlay! Once done, the movie is all ready to go!

Lance Spears (Michael Whalen)

TECHNICAL FIXES

Blind Inc. motion graphic designer Lin Wilde once said that the best effects are the ones you can't see. This includes adjustments like flicker reduction, color shifts, and other slight yet essential changes to the film.

TITLE TREATMENTS

Titles are usually the first thing seen onscreen, so it is important that a movie's title design speaks to the film's ideas and character. For "A Battle to Remember," title treatments were merged into images of desert lizards, establishing that the film takes place in the desert.



SOUNDS TO MATCH

Scenes like "Wisdom of the Ancients" jungle chase will usually need to be enhanced with sound effects for tension. In the case of animation, sounds are required, since none are recorded during the production stage.

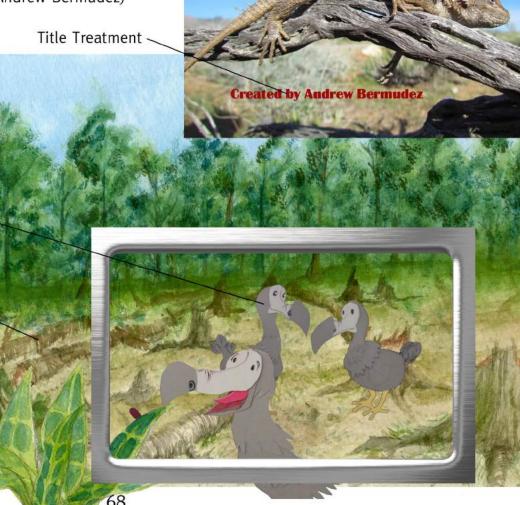
> Malcom (Arthur Smith)

Log

OUTSIDE THE FRAME

The audience will only see what is inside the silver frame, but this reconstructed shot from "New Friends" shows how much of the set extended outside of the view! This was important to make sure that the characters could move around easily

Harry Cane (Andrew Bermudez)



THE BEST FILMS NEVER MADE

It has happened to every film company at sometime or another: while a project is in development, the schedule gets messed up and the project eventually gets cancelled. Mustache Maniacs Film Co. is no exception. This is just a tip of the iceberg of the studio projects that were never completed.

COPS AND ROBBERS

The Indiana Jones and the Treasure of Tikal DVD featured the short film Cops. There was a Cops 2 in development, but this film fell through.

Alyssia Whitley



Daniel Bermudez

OTHER DEAD PROJECTS

Throughout time, other projects were cancelled, including Aunt Mini's Revenge, Legorado, Vikings, Medal of Honor, and others.



IN THE NEWS

Pictures on the wall

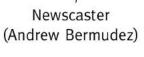
In 2004, a faux news cast was filmed during the pre-formation era. During the development of the 5th Anniversary DVD, Andrew personally rejected the film, and was thus never completed.

TAKE ME RIGHT BACK TO AGONY

At least that's what it became in the end. In 2009, another play, The Nifty Fifties, was supposed to be put on DVD. However, everything went haywire when corruption took hold of the directors and Daniel, Teresa and Andrew dropped out. It turned out to be so disappointing that there was no need to film it. Street Sweeper

A GHOSTLY IMAGE

After the initial success of *The* Adventures of Legoman, another brickfilm, called Ghost Pictures, was put on the drawing board. However, the script wasn't given the go-ahead to film, and the project was dropped.



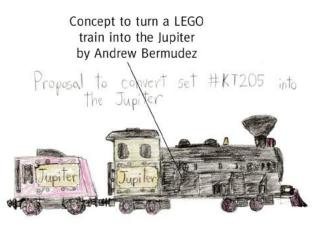
Papers for news report

The ghost has been circled for clarity.



"HEY, MONKEY!" Bush - Not the Presidential Kind

As a promotion for the widely successful "An Afternoon at the Zoo," a Flash game, "Zoo Flight," was produced as a sort-of sequel to the animation. Unfortunately, the action-scripting required to make the game run was crippled, only making the game crash. As other projects were being pursued, this one was put out to pasture.





A PROJECT OFF-TRACK

In 2011, BricksInMotion.com announced a new contest, Hit Man Title Concept "Tales of Yore." For the contest, a historical film, "Making Tracks," was put on the drawing board, but lagged due to impasses with the writing process. With the productions for "Forest of Fear" and "Johnny Thunder and the Wisdom of the Ancients" consuming studio resources, the wisest option was to cancel the film before it went too far.

UNKNOWN CONCEPT

This photo for an unknown "Star Wars" themed concept was recently found in the archives. The details are lost to time, but it does show that the film depicted would have featured a climatic lightsaber duel! Regardless of who won, the force was obviously not strong with this project.



Wait. Is that a pink lightsaber?

Unknown Sith Lord

by Andrew Bermudez

Juniper character design

NOT ON TARGET

In 2012, as part of Advanced Animation class, a concept titled "The Hit Man" was pursued for some time, but was ultimately canned due to a lack of empathy for the characters Juniper and Tim. While "The Hit Man" was never made, this film is paid homage to in the awardwining animation "New

Friends," in the form of Father Juniper's name.



Tim character design by Andrew Bermudez



Junipe

MAKING A COMIC

It may seem like a walk in the park, but making one comic page for Crazyhouse Comics' various titles can take anywhere from a week to a month to complete!

Here is how it is done.

SKETCH

All comics

pages start

their life as a

rough sketch

on paper

to get the

in place.

Hand

REFINED

Once the

panel is

scanned into

are traced

Illustrator,

allowing for

clean lines.

Mutant Lizard

READY FOR PRINT

Once everything is finished, all that is left is to

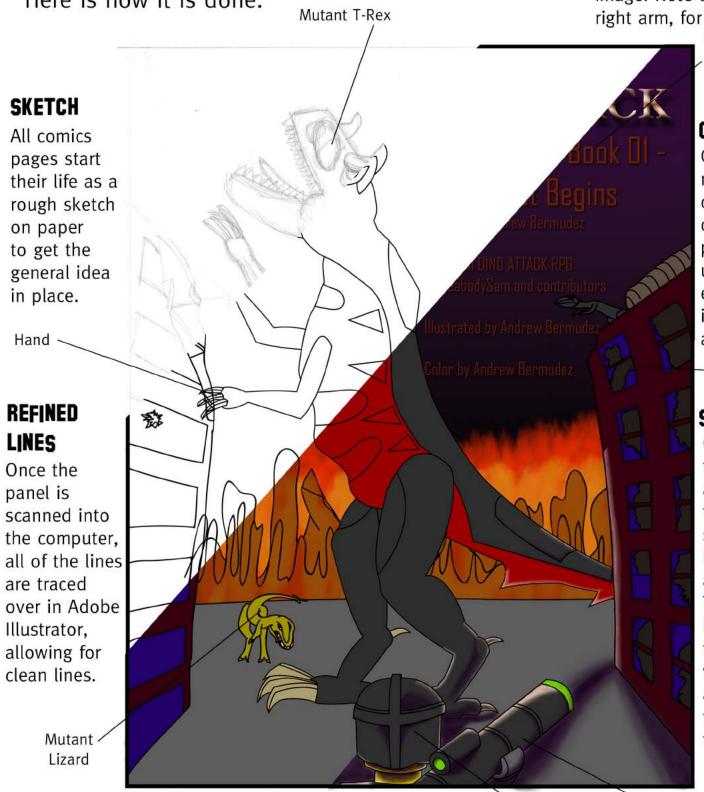
Then it will be available to read! 71

add some text and export it in the correct format.

the computer,

LINES

general idea



RE-ROUTING LINES

During the redrawing process, it is not an unusual sight to see changes made to the image. Note the T-Rex's right arm, for example.

> This page is from "DINO ATTACK: Saga of a Conflict."

COLOR

Color comes next, as a carefully chosen color palette is used to evoke the intended atmosphere.

> Ruined Building

SHADING

Once all of the colors are in place, the entire scene gets highlights and shadows. This really helps to set the mood, as well as tell at what time this scene takes place.

Cosmontric Ray

Andrew, the comic's narrator.

RANDOM ACTS OF FUN

When it comes to generating ideas, working on films, or sitting back for a world premiere, we always want to have fun while doing it. We believe that if we have fun with a project, our audience will, too. To wish you, the reader, farewell, here are some shots of us having fun with our projects.

THESPIANS PRACTICE

With so many minds working on one project, it's sometimes best to unwind with acting silly and having fun on-set.

Stew LaRoach (Cody Ehlen)

Chief Della Wickfield (Sabrina Lewis)



Brandon Maddux

GROUP PHOTOS!

A long-standing tradition for each Thespians production was to feature a group photo of everyone in the cast. While a formal one is always taken, sometimes a crazy one will also be taken.

Andrew Adkins



HANGING OUT

When no one is working, it's always a good time to talk to fellow cast and crew, throw around new ideas, or just hang out with on-set friends.

Nathan Crookston dressed as Peeta Mellark

MOVIE PREMIERES

After years of development, it's sometimes best to celebrate the film's release by having fun and relaxing. To the left is the premiere for "Johnny Thunder and the Wisdom of the Ancients" and to the right is the premiere for "Forest of Fear."



Bryce Bolick dressed

as a werewolf

72

CONCLUSION

The journey that I have made with Mustache Maniacs Film Co. has been a very rewarding one. What started out as a way to have fun has turned into very serious career and life goals for me. Not only have I met so many new people when making each film, I have also used each as a means to fine-tune my skills for the future.

What I do may have changed drastically over the course of this production company's history, but one thing has remained the same: my love for creating new stories, exploring exciting characters, and discovering amazing new possibilities.

I hope you enjoyed this retrospective of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.'s history, from humble beginnings up to now and beyond. If you are already familiar with these films, I hope you found this retrospective insightful. If you are new to the Mustache Maniacs Film Co. Cinematic Universe, welcome to the Mustache Maniacs Film Co. family.

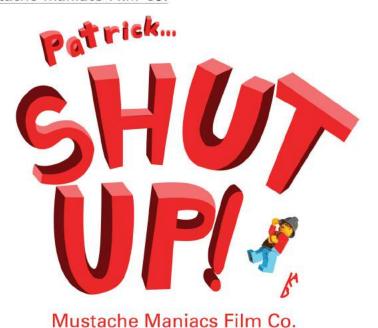
Now, as I continue into the future with Project U and beyond, I hope that you will be there along for the ride. As I further develop my skills, the new stories that I will tell will become even more exciting and varied.

Thank you for reading. I hope to see you all again soon!

Ondrew Bermudez
CEO; Mustache Maniacs Film Co.

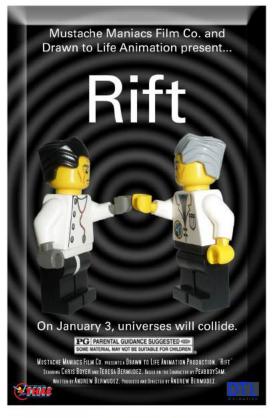
Also from Mustache Maniacs Film Co.

at: Experience, buy, and enjoy all of this and more mustachemaniacsfilmco.webs.com















Welcome to the wonderful world of Mustache Maniacs Film Co.! Contained in these pages is the second edition of our popular visual dictionary, updated and expanded to include CarTOON Shack animations, our ten years celebration, the highly-ambitious Project U, and so much more!

Koo Koo Macaw

Follow the twelve-plus year history of Mustache Maniacs Film Co., as two brothers named Daniel and Andrew Bermudez created a world of funny characters, fantastic adventures, gripping stories, and shocking plot twists! From humble beginnings to three plays, many brickfilms, awards, honors, and an entire cinematic universe, the journey is all covered here!

Also featured in this book is a look behind the scenes at how some of your favorite movies were created, from artwork and writing to production and editing!

Tail Feathers

Pistol Holster



M.P.