

MIKE SMITH CV

Contact: (503) 360 7295

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Nationality: British and US Citizen

BAFTA and ANNIE nominated director.

Experienced with innovative use of mixed media techniques that include 2D, puppetry, cut-out, CG and live action.

CAREER OVERVIEW

Design, direction, story and project development with major motion picture studios including **Walt Disney, Paramount Pictures, 20th Century Fox, Warner Bros, Turner Pictures, Nickelodeon, Sony, United Artists, EMI Films and Gaumont Studios.**

Collaborating in development and production with directors, producers and artists such as **Francis Ford Coppola, Oliver Stone, Zack Snyder, Paul McCartney, Queen, David Byrne, Yoshitaka Amano, Curtis Hanson, Gary Winick, Matt Groening, Harvey Weinstein, Henry Selick, and The Polksy Brothers**

In-house Creative Director/Consultant at a number of animation studios including **Colossal Pictures, Wild Brain, Vinton Studios, Laika and ReelFX.** Also contributing to these studios during their transitions from short to long-form production.

Award winning Direction and Design of many commercials, music videos and idents in the UK, Europe and the USA.

Director and Producer for **1001 Nights**, a 23 minute **BAFTA** nominated film, screened with live performance from **The Los Angeles Philharmonic.**

Director for **The Black Frieghter**, a 20 minute film to go with and be cut into the **Zack Snyder** feature **The Watchmen Ultimate Cut.**

Lead Character Designer for the **Oscar** nominated **Laika Studios** feature **The Boxtrolls.**

Animation Director and Designer for the features **The Motel Life, Natural Born Killers** and **Tank Girl.**

2013 – 2017

BLUE SKY STUDIOS

Storyboards for feature film

ILLUMINATION

Storyboards for the feature film **The Grinch That Stole Christmas**

NITROGEN FILMS

Storyboards for the feature film **Sausage Party**

PARAMOUNT

Storyboards for the feature film **Sherlock Gnomes**

DISNEY

Development Beat Boards for the feature film **TOADS**

DUNCAN STUDIOS

Storyboards for the feature film **STEEL HEART**

2009 – 2013

Laika Studios

Lead Character Designer, Beat Boards and Storyboarding for the stop motion feature film **The Boxtrolls (2014)**

Storyboards and additional ideas for the stop motion feature film **Paranorman**

Development Storyboards for feature film **GOBLINS**

Warners

Storyboards for the feature film **Storks**

Polsky Films

Director of Animation, Design, Character Designer, Storyboards for five animated segments in the live action feature film **The Motel Life**, directed by **Alan and Gabe Polsky**. Illustrated artwork used in the live action and artwork for the end credits

Aardman Animation

Beat Boards and Storyboards for **Pirates: Band of Misfits**, a stop motion feature directed by **Peter Lord**

Universal Pictures

Storyboards for **Despereaux**, a 3D feature produced in London

Warner Bros.

Direction, Storyboards and Design on the 20 minute animated film **The Tales of the Black Freighter**, directed by **Zack Snyder**. Made to be seen concurrently with the live action feature, later intercut into **The Watchmen Ultimate Cut** by Zach Snyder

2005 – 2009

Walt Disney

Co-Director, Art Director and Designer for the 2 minute opening sequence of **The Wild**, a CG animated theatrical release feature, working with director **Steve Williams**

Paramount Pictures

Charlotte's Web Storyboards and Animatics for web writing sequences, working with director **Gary Winick**

Reel FX

Director, Designer, Storyboard and Animator In-house Director in Development

Feature Development with Reel FX, including:

The Mischiviants – proposed feature Story Development, working with creator/writer **Bill Joyce**

A Cricket in Times Square – proposed feature Designs, Story Development and Written Treatment for Producer **Harvey Weinstein**

Opus, a proposed feature Designs and Story Development Producer: **Harvey Weinstein**

2001-2004

Paramount Pictures

The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay, a 5 min animatic test trailer for animation to go into a proposed live feature

Laika Studios / Vinton Studios

Director, Designer, Animator and Storyboard

Creative Consultant/Creative Director:

Helped to create a roster for shorts and feature film development, working with **Will Vinton** and **Phil Knight**

Development:

Pink, (proposed short and feature) Director, Designer, Writer

Moon Girl

(CGI short)

Design work and Written Treatment

Director, Designer, Storyboard and Animator of **Ananda**, a 5 minute multi-media short for **Sony**

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1999– 2000

Wild Brain Studios

Director, Designer, Storyboard and Creative Consultant for satellite studio in London UK.

Universal Pictures

Designer and Storyboards, 4 proposed animated sequences in **8 Mile**, working with director **Curtis Hanson**

Gracie Films/20th Century Fox/ Rough Draft Studios

Futurama Title sequence

Director, Storyboard, working with creator **Matt Groening**

Zoetrope

Storyboards for **Pinocchio** a proposed theatrical feature, working with **Francis Ford Coppola**

1998-1999

Nickelodeon

Director in Development:

Dreams – Art Direction, Character Design and Written Treatment

Hyperion Studio / BS24

Producer and Director of **BAFTA** nominated **1001 Nights** (23 mins)
Collaborating with composer **David Newman**, conductor **Esa-Pekka Salonen** and Japanese artist **Yoshitaka Amano** . Selected for **Sundance Film Festival**

1996-1998

Turner Pictures

Development for **The Red Shoes**. Designs and Written Treatment, working with director/script writer **Caroline Thompson**

Walt Disney

James and the Giant Peach, Storyboard and 2D animation character effects, working with director **Henry Selick**

1991-1996

Colossal Pictures

In-house Director, Designer, Storyboard and Animator, including:

Ixtlan Corporation / Warner Bros.

Director, Designer, Storyboard and Animator, of sequences for feature **Natural Born Killers**, working with **Oliver Stone**

United Artists

Director, Designer, Storyboard and Animator of sequences for feature **Tank Girl**, working with director **Rachel Talalay** and Tank Girl creator **Jamie Hewlett**

Multiple Commercials and Music Videos

1985 - 1986

EMI Films / 20th Century Fox

Director, Designer and Animator of animated monster effects for the feature **Highlander**, working with **Russell Mulcahy**

1982 – 1984

Gaumont Studios

Lead Animator on feature film **Asterix and Ceaser's Surprise**

1980

Bob Godfrey Films

Bio-Woman, Designs and Lead Animator on **BFTA** nominated 10 minute short, working with **Bob Godfrey**

First Independent Commercial

Forbidden Planet Book Shop, shown in cinemas before the first Star Trek movie

Dragon Films

Animator, first job in animation, working with **Oscar Grillo**

1977-1980: West Surrey College of Art

3 year animation course

1976 : St. Martin's School of Art

Foundation course in art