

MIKE SMITH CV

Contact: (503) 360 7295 realmikesmith@hotmail.com

Nationality: British and US Citizen

BAFTA and ANNIE nominated director

Multiple award winner for commercials

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

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 Freighter**, 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**.

HISTORY

2018-2022

NETFLIX ANIMATION

Storyboards for feature film **Escape from Beverley Hills**

GRACIE FILMS

Storyboards for **The Simpsons** trailer

BENT IMAGE LAB

Storyboards for feature film **Harold and the Purple Crayon**

NETFLIX ANIMATION

Storyboards for feature film **The Magician's Elephant**

Development Storyboards for feature film **Cursed Pirate Girl**

Storyboards for feature film **Prince of Port au Prince**

NETFLIX ANIMATION/ PEARL STUDIOS

Storyboards for feature film **Monkey**

KUKU STUDIOS

Storyboards for feature film **Slumberland**

MYTHOS STUDIOS

Development Storyboards for feature **Cupid**

2017-2018

PARAMOUNT

Storyboards for feature film **Rumble**

MGM

Storyboards for feature film **The Addams Family**

BLUE SKY

Storyboards for feature **film Spies in Disguise**

LOCKSMITH

Storyboards for feature film **Ron's Gone Wrong**

2013 – 2017

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**

WARNER BROS.

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 STUDIOS

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

WARNER BROS.

Direction, Storyboards and Design on the 20-minute animated film **The Tales of the Black Freighter**, working with **Zach Snyder**.

Made to be seen concurrently with the live action feature, later intercut into **The Watchmen Ultimate Cut** by Zach Snyder.

2005 – 2009

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

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

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**

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**

PARAMOUNT PICTURES

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

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**

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

NICKLEODEON

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**

1996 and before

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

FELIX FILMS

Owner, Director, Designer and Animator of Felix Films.

First London animation studio to represent individual directors controlling their own showreels and productions within the studio.

Award winning commercials for multiple Advertising Agencies.

Animation for multiple music videos.

EMI FILMS / 20th CENTURY FOX

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

GAUMONT STUDIOS

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

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 PICTURES

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