Create stop motion animation

Overview

This Standard is about your ability to make characters move in stop motion animation. You are expected to understand the way a character should move and be able to carry this through in the shots you are responsible for.

Being prepared to evaluate your work and respond positively to feedback from others is really important, to make sure that the sequences are what is required.

This standard is for you if you create stop motion animation.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. determine requirements that will affect your work by analysing briefs, specifications, dope/bar sheets and storyboards, visual references and technical and production parameters
2. follow director's instructions to plan and block through shots, recording real life videos to try out the performance as a reference when appropriate
3. work within the capabilities and limitations of models
4. create pop through or rehearsal movie and a series of key frames to structure the animation and time out each shot that are appropriate to the production and agree them with the director
5. prepare for and re-animate individual shots in line with the director's notes
6. develop animated characters through its movement and timing
7. move characters on set in the style required to meet the creative, narrative and technical demands of the production
8. contribute ideas that aid the creative development of characters, shots and the overall production
9. make sure that animations are in sync with the soundtrack
10. work in a safe manner in accordance with guidelines or statutory requirements
11. create animations in line with production demands
12. review output with relevant people, offering suggestions to assist others with the production
13. respond to feedback about the animations you create in a positive way, making refinements as needed
14. remain flexible and adaptable to new directions, creative requirements and software developments on an ongoing basis
15. prepare and store assets and files in line with production requirements to enable the next stage of production to run efficiently

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the creative style, overall concept and level of animation required for the production
2. technical and production parameters for the project, such as the schedule, timelines, animation medium, frame count, field size, aspect ratio and format
3. how to read and interpret the relevant sources of information for the production, such as the script, animatic, x-sheet or dope-sheet, soundtrack
4. any performance guidelines for the characters you are working on, such as how they might react and behave in different situations
5. how live action reference can influence your ability to animate characters
6. character development and your role in that development
7. movement and timing
8. the principles of anatomy and how these affect movement
9. shot construction and composition
10. shot breakdown and continuity
11. how to improvise rigging and when it is appropriate for you to do so
12. the media and techniques used in stop motion animation
13. health and safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice that are applicable to studio safety
14. the need to work methodically in an organised and concentrated manner paying particular attention to detail
15. the importance of maintaining data security and following your organisation's guidelines and file structures

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Developed by	Creative Skillset
Version Number	3
Date Approved	March 2017
Indicative Review Date	March 2020
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Creative Skillset
Original URN	SKSANIM14
Relevant Occupations	Arts, Media and Publishing
Suite	Animation
Keywords	create; stop motion; animation; characters; move; shots; evaluate; feedback; sequences