Shir Baron

Character Animator

15232 Dickens st.. Sherman Oaks, California | shir.baron1@gmail.com | (941) 900 5157

Reel: https://www.shirbaron.com/

EDUCATION

Ringling College of Art & Design, Sarasota, FL, BFA Computer Animation, Minor: Film Studies, August 2016 – May 2020.

ANIMATION / ART EXPERIENCE

Animator, Dreamworks LLC, CA, August 2020 – Present

- Character animator on *Ruby Gillman Teenage Kraken*, *Puss in Boots:The Last Wish*, *Trolls: Holliday in Harmony* and *Boss Baby: Family Business*.
- Was part of a core animation team doing animation development on an unannounced film set to release in 2024.
- Presented and demoed our work and software for Dreamworks partners, students, and other visitors on campus.
- Was one of four mentors for an Animation Apprentice program. My mentee excelled in the program, thus was promoted directly to an Animation Assistant position.
- Mentored multiple Dreamworks interns and helped them gain animation skills.
- Awesomeness Award: received the award for doing above and beyond in the animation department and contributing to the growth of the studio's culture.
- Was selected as one of the *Puss in Boots* reels to represent Dreamworks in the Annie's Awards.

Animator on *Jam & Re*, The Hive, Israel, January 2023 – April 2023

- Animated characters for a proof of concept for a new show.
- Was presented in Annecy 2023.

***League of Legends* Champions Team Animator (Intern), Riot Games, CA, June 2020 – August 2020**

- Animated on a variety of new champions (creatures and humanoid), focusing on body mechanics, and posing.
- Developed and established new champions' personalities and styles with teams of creatives across departments.

Animator on *The Slide* short film, The Hive, Israel, June 2020 – August 2020

- Animated shots on 2's for the stylized short film *The Slide*.
- Success of the short film:: short listed for the Oscars, finalist for the Ofir awards (Israeli Oscars), was presented in Annecy and Animix and many more.

Animator, Neko Productions, CA, June 2020 – July 2020

- Helped develop new character rigs for *Frame by Frame* online school.
- Created promotional animation materials for the studio and school.

Animation/CG Generalist (Intern), Hasbro - Cake Mix, RI, June 2019 – August 2019

- Created fully animated 3D commercials and sizzles promoting Hasbro toy brands.
- Animated, modeled, textured and rigged a variety of known characters such as Optimus Prime, Mr. Monopoly and Star Wars' D-O.
- Developed stories and generated promotional entertainment ideas for incoming products.

Animator, CookieByte Entertainment, Israel, December 2017 – December 2019

- Created several in-game animations and implemented them into the game using Unity.
- Worked in a small collaborative team, and was one of the two animators that created all the animation for the game.

IT Technical Assistant, Ringling College of Art & Design, FL, March 2020 – May 2020

- Provided after-hours technical support during RCAD's transition to online studies following COVID-19.
- Troubleshoot technical issues including corrupted files, rendering issues, program installation and more.

Animator/Director, The Train to Qinling, Ringling College of Art & Design, FL, August 2016 – May 2020
- Wrote, directed and executed all aspects of the 2.5-minute short film, *The Train to Qinling*.
- Animated multiple characters, while focusing on genuine and believable performances.
- Introduced Advanced Skeleton rigging system to the Computer Animation faculty and helped implement it into the course curriculum.

HONORS & AWARDS
- **Animation Magazine 2023 "Rising Star":** Was selected as a rising star in animation.
- **Dreamworks Awesomeness Award:** Received for outstanding contribution for the Animation Department.
- **Film Festivals:** *The Train to Qinling* thesis film won many film festival awards. Some of the titles include Oniros "Best Animation," Independent Short Awards "Platinum for Best Animation," The Rookies Finalist, LAFA "Best Director" Honorable Mention and more.
- **ASIFA-Hollywood's Animation Educators Forum Student Scholar,** Received a substantial grant for *The Train to Qinling* short film pitch.

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERISM
EMPOWER Program, Dreamworks, CA, August 2023 – November 2023
- Was selected by the HOCA's (Head of Character Animation) at Dreamworks for a 12 week leadership workshop. This workshop seeks high performing DEI talent that have high potential for leadership and growth within the company.

Judge for *The Rookies Awards,* 2023
- Was one of the judges for this year's prestigious online VFX student competition.

Judge for *Animix*, Israel, 2023
- Was one of 5 judges for the annual Israel animation festival, run by the Israeli Animation Union. This is the biggest festival and animation competition in Israel.

Computer Animation Head Mentor, RCAD, FL, Feb 2018 – June 2020
- Led the Computer Animation Mentorship program, trained and guided over 20 mentors and directly mentored three sophomore students.
- Assisted underclassmen with time management skills, handling stress, professional habits and social connection with upperclassmen.

Hillel President, RCAD, FL, May 2017 – Present
- Coordinated cultural events such as Shabbat dinners, holidays and more.

Arts & Crafts Instructor for Non-Verbal Special Needs Children, September 2009 – July 2010 & August 2017 – August 2018
- Led Arts & Crafts programs for children with special needs through both the YEA program and "Merkaz Shapira" NPO.

First Lieutenant, Israel Defense Forces, February 2011 – April 2014
- Supported soldiers who were victims of sexual harassment, abusive families and relationships, and unintentional pregnancies.
- Commanded and guided soldiers in a variety of leading positions up to groups of 50 soldiers.

SKILLS
- **Fluent** in Hebrew and English, Certified English-Hebrew translator.
- **Proficient:** Maya, Arnold, Photoshop, Zbrush, Premiere, Procreate, Substance Painter, Nuke, XGen.
- **Basic Knowledge:** mGear, 3D-Coat, Marvelous Designer, V-Ray Renderer, Illustrator.
- **Familiar with:** Scripting (C#, Mel), Unity and Unreal Engine 4.