Holly McDowell

2D ANIMATION GENERALIST — LEAD RIGGING ARTIST — TOON BOOM HARMONY SPECIALIST

PROFILE

2D Rigging Artist and Animator with experience working for studios across Manchester, London and Japan on productions and pitches for BBC, Disney, Nickelodeon, Apple TV, YouTube Originals and Netflix. Experience in Lead and Senior roles, including approving rigs and providing retake notes to other artists.

EXPERIENCE

Feb 25 - Mar 26 — **Lead Rigging Artist/ Sun and Moon**
Co-leading a department of 8 on BBC's Duck and Frog. Working closely with the Technical Director, Animation Leads and Scene Build team. Responsible for main character rigs, eye/mouth tpls, working with anim to make rigs reuse-friendly, briefing/reviewing/approving rigs, attending AB meetings and SCB edit reviews.

Nov 24 - Feb 25 — **Senior Rigging Artist/ Blue Zoo**
Senior role on CBeebies' Rafi The Wishing Wizard brought in to assist the team through a period of tight deadlines.

2024 — **Shortlisted Applicant/ BBC Ignite Scheme**
Shortlisted to the top 20 and progressed to the interview stage for an original series idea.

Jan 23 - Nov 24 — **2D Rigging Artist + Various Roles / Surfing Giant Europe**
Disney Junior's Hey AJ!, undertaking senior responsibilities and later acting as retakes animator. Contract extended afterwards for various smaller projects and pitches. Additional roles including: conceptualising and directing two 15-second logo stings under the guidance of the Supervising Directors, lead rigging roles on several other stings, scripting custom tools for pipeline, 2D Clean Up, and Animation.

Apr - Dec 22 — **2D Generalist + Animator / Factory Create**
Multiple roles on the Apple TV hybrid series Slumberkins. Animation in Harmony and onto live action in After Effects. Creating complex Harmony rigs including animals/insects/bitmap rigs built from Photoshop files. Primary retakes animator.

Feb - Apr 22 — **Character Animator + Rig Artist / Ph Studio, Japan**
Harmony Animator and Rig Artist on a children's TV series, hybrid of puppet and hand-drawn animation. Responsible for lead character rigs. Helping introduce and set up Harmony pipelines for the studio.

Nov - Dec 21 — **Jr Animator/Motion Designer / Blue Zoo**
Worked closely with the Art Director and Series Directors to produce 2D animated graphics for 3D production of Netflix's Big Tree City.

Aug 20 - Sep 21 — **Rig Artist / Blue Zoo**
Promoted to Character Rig Artist after two months. Created new and redressed character rigs in Toon Boom Harmony for Nickelodeon's "It's Pony" and YouTube Original "Millie and Lou". Creating complex deformer systems, testing for animation reuse, and working with seniors to implement mouth/hand/feet kits.

FURTHER TRAINING

Adam's Animation Academy
Apr 26 — Moho Magic Animation; developing a professional animation workflow with Moho expert, Dani Abram
Dec 21 — Advanced Animation in Toon Boom Harmony; a 5-week course with one-to-one mentoring from Adam Oliver who has 12 years experience in TV & film animation

Toon Boom Learn Online Portal
2020 — Completion of "Rigging Artist" and "Production Rigging" courses.

EDUCATION

2017 - 2020 — **University of Salford, School of Arts and Media**
BA (Hons) Animation, First Class Honours.

2017 — **Camps International, Ecuador**
ASDAN Universities Award

2010-2017 — **Poynton High School & Sixth Form Centre**
3 A levels, 1 AS Level, 11 GCSEs, 1 BTEC Level 2 Award

CONTACT

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SOFTWARE

Toon Boom Harmony
Storyboard Pro
Adobe After Effects
Adobe Photoshop
Adobe Premiere Pro
Adobe InDesign
FTrack
ShotGrid/Autodesk Flow
MS Office
G Suite

PANELS/EVENTS

Creative Technologies Panelist at the University of Salford Feb 2023

Rising Stars in Animation Panelist for Screenskills Oct 2021

COMPETITIONS

Animorsels Crazy Golf Challenge 2021
Selected Prize Winner for "Shiver Me Timbers"

Cardiff Quickdraw 48hr Challenge 2020 - 2021
Three time participant within various teams

24 Hour Animation Challenge 2019
Team challenge to create a short animation within 24hrs under a set theme

REFERENCES

Available on request