



INTRODUCTION TO ANIMATION

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↑ Some paper cuts How they look in the film ↓



For the end of this unit, we were tasked to create a thirty second film that is about something we feel strongly about. It could have been either positive or negative and the topic could have been anything e.g. something that irritates or inspires us or a wider global issue. The aim of this project was to reflect our views and investigate and explore our creative voices. Initially I wanted to create a film about some bigger issue however I struggled with developing my ideas in a way that is creative but also clearly shows what I want to communicate. Therefore, I decided to focus on something smaller and more personal i.e. things that my family does that aggravate me.

I decided to make my animation using paper cuts for two reasons. Firstly, I wanted to do something more experimental as I have never made a paper cut animation before and I do like the look of them. Secondly, I thought that paper cuts would be perfect since we had limited time and they are fairly quick and simple to make. I made drawings as backgrounds and included in them objects and parts of the characters that didn't move. While for each character I drew a couple of poses and cut them out therefore I could move the paper cuts on top of the background and change the poses when I needed to.

To shoot my film, I used the Stop Motion Studio App. This allowed me to shoot it quite quickly as I was able to use the 'layer' function that allowed me to see an opaque image of the previous frame on top of the camera view and therefore knew how much I should move each part. I could also easily edit the frame order and delete and reshoot unsuccessful ones.

At first, I wanted to make the film about my whole family but later I decided to focus on my sisters since I wouldn't be able to fit everyone in 30 seconds and they are the ones who get on my nerves the most anyway. One of the things that particularly irritates me is when they would come into my room while I was doing something and wouldn't leave. Therefore, this is what I portrayed within my animation.

All the sounds in the video were recorded by me and added separately in Adobe Premier. I wanted to make the film mostly silent with only some sound effects that emphasize the actions. I think I managed to do that well however there are still some parts where I would like to add sound especially when she gets angry. Unfortunately, I was not able to find any sounds for those parts that provided the effect I wanted.

Overall, I think that the film came together quite well and I think it manages to express my feelings of irritation. However, a lot of the frames are a bit blurry, which I think is due to the fact that I zoomed in the camera on the drawings to make them fill the screen. This is something I would want to change. I think I would also change the lighting since the desk lamp light I used wasn't the best however it does kind of make it look like the room light so maybe I would do some digital editing to make it less yellow. Additionally, I would add some more sounds especially to indicate when the character gets angry as that is the main focus of the film and yet without the sound the expression of anger is a bit lost.

Working on projects for this unit definitely gave me a better understanding of the animation world through the exploration of different aspects of it. It has also helped me to become a more confident storyteller through collaborative learning and exchanging ideas with other people.



Some snapshots from a film we did for the 1st group project. I think that this film is the best group outcome out of all the ones we did so far.



Link to MyBlog:

<http://polaz.myblog.arts.ac.uk/>



A couple of photos that are a part of the 20 photographs of objects that I found.



A drawing of what was in front of me at the time. I quite like how it turned out.

