

## Neil McDonald- C.V.

8/5 Clearburn Road  
Edinburgh  
EH16 5EY  
Tel: 01312 582685  
Mobile: 07745239599  
Email: [neil-mcdonald@hotmail.com](mailto:neil-mcdonald@hotmail.com)

### Education & Qualifications

- 1999-2005 Fortrose Academy, Fortrose  
**(5 Highers- "A" in Maths & English)**  
**(Adv. Highers in Art & English)**
- 2005-2009 University of Dundee  
Duncan of Jordanstone college of Art & Design  
**(B.A Honours (upper second class) in Animation)**

### Software Skills

After Effects, Final Cut, Photoshop, ToonBoom Digital Pro, Logic, Pro Tools, Flash

### Degree film- "Great Apes!"

The outcome of my final year at University, my film "Great Apes!" is a 2d hand-drawn animated short. As director of the project I was responsible for co-ordinating the efforts of my production team. I animated the majority of the characters in the film, drawing on my extensive observational research on the eponymous great apes, on whom the film was based.

### Employment

#### Inbetweener- "Titeuf: le film" June–December 2010

Employed by Ink Digital to inbetween on the French 2D feature "Titeuf le film". The production values of the project were exceptionally high and as such the inbetween drawings required a high level of skill, patience and precision. The deadlines of the project were very tight and the number of drawings expected per day was very high. During the course of this employment my skills improved greatly and in addition to my role as an inbetweener, I also occasionally assisted the clean-up team and helped with some of the scanning.

#### Assistant digital artist on Chomet's "The Illusionist" May-September 2009

Straight after University, I was employed by Ink Digital studios in Dundee to work on the post-production team for Sylvain Chomet's highly anticipated follow-up to "Belleville Rendez-Vous". My responsibilities included colouring characters (using ToonBoom Digital Pro), scanning drawings and preparing drawings for other colourists to work on. The experience was very positive, giving me a taste of a feature animation production pipeline and working as part of a large team.

**Animator-“The Enchanted Forest 2009: Scottish myths & legends”** September-October 2009

Commissioned by Blast Design, an explosives engineer, to create animations for the “Enchanted Forest” light show at Faskally Wood near Pitlochry. I sought out and led a team of 3 fellow animators to create approximately 5 minutes of high quality character animation for projection on, among other things, water screens in a dark forest. I was in charge of the 2d animations on the project, for which I used Adobe After Effects to animate some fairies in a “cut-out” style. The project was a huge success, and the Enchanted Forest 2009 was the most well-attended year in the show’s 12 year lifespan.

**Crew Member- Projector Animation Festival**

2007 & 2008

Twice employed by Susie Wilson to help run the Projector Animation Festival in Dundee. I was required to perform a variety of tasks, such as introducing films, liaising with the projectionist, escorting guests and managing the information desk.

**Artworker- “The Tannery”**

February 2010

Volunteered to help film-maker Iain Gardner with his BAFTA-nominated animated short “The Tannery”, commissioned by 4Mations “Digital Shorts” programme. My job involved colouring animation frames by hand and scanning drawings.

**Kitchen worker- Pizza Hut Ltd**

2004- present

Throughout my studies, I worked part-time in the kitchen at Pizza Hut, and have continued to do so since. Working here during university taught me to budget my time responsibly and effectively. I am a vital, valued team member and can easily manage the sometimes hectically busy demands of the job. I often cover shifts for ill co-workers, and believe that this job has nurtured the strong work ethic I bring to my professional work.

**Interests/ Hobbies**

I enjoy drawing in my spare time, both from life and imaginatively. I particularly enjoy visiting the zoo for observational drawings of chimpanzees, as I am also interested in issues surrounding conservation of the Great Apes.

I enjoy films, video games and comic books, all of which inspired me to get involved with the animation and film-making process.

**References**

**Vicky Haworth**

*Animation co-ordinator at Ink. Digital*

Ink. Digital  
23 South Tay Street  
Dundee  
DD1 1NS  
Tel: 01382 201112

**Iain Gardner**

*Former tutor/employer*

Tel: 01316 201402  
Email: iain@iaingardner.co.uk