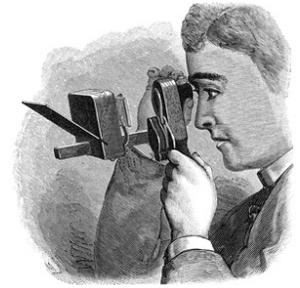


ASIFA Central Newsletter and Currents au Courant SumSumSummertime 2018

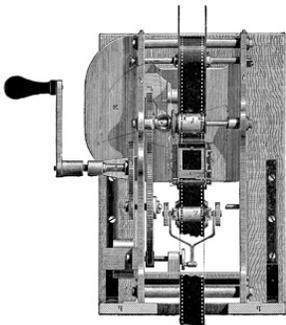
Greetings from The President, *Brad Yarhouse*

We have had a busy winter and lots of exciting opportunities in the works for Summer and this coming Fall. Our newly expanded board is very active having met every month this year to discuss and work on upcoming events. I am so excited to be part of such a dynamic team!



As president, my main concern is with building community. I believe that with community, artists flourish. History is laden with artists, scientists, musicians, writers, etc. joining together and transforming themselves and the world. Excellence doesn't happen in a vacuum. Whether we are networking for jobs, looking for moral support for our dreams and visions, collaborators to create with or just people to hang out with and have fun, community is what allows an organization to live and breathe. Facebook and other online systems help, but gathering in person can enrich us in ways more dimensional and nuanced.

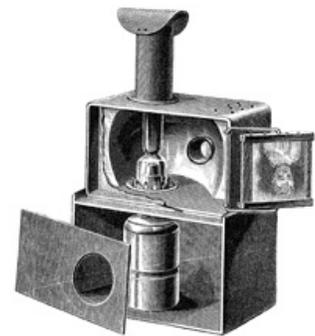
Finally, a number of our members are professors and at this time of year, giving a gift membership to encourage a graduate is a nice way to celebrate their accomplishments and connect them with our community of animators.



If you have questions, (or answers!) please don't hesitate to contact me either through Facebook or via email:

brad@yarhouse.com

Happy Animating!



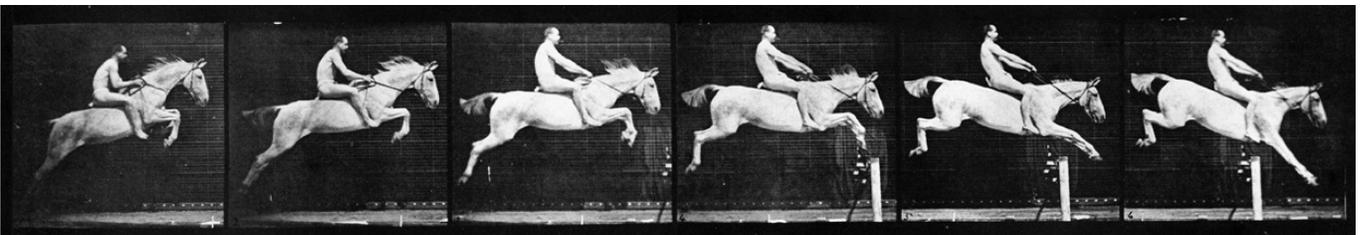
Report on the Celebration of Women Animators Event and Workshop - *By Charles Wilson*



Lotte Reiniger

On Saturday, March 30th, Charles Wilson and Gretchen Vinnedge hosted "A Celebration of Women Animators" at the Grand Rapids Community Media Center and the Wealthy Theater. The morning event had Charles teaching a history of women animators using an interactive quiz and showcasing some original artwork from his private collection that was created by Helena Smith Dayton, the world's first woman animator. Afterwards, he spoke about Lotte Reiniger's history, which included showing some rare films of hers, as well as revealing some historical artifacts of Lotte's that have survived to this day--like an animation trick-table where she created one of her last films in Canada and the only surviving copy of her first animated film "Ornament of the Lovestruck Heart" circa 1919, currently residing at the George Eastman House in Rochester, New York.

Following the morning presentations, Charles and Gretchen hosted a silhouette/cut-out animation workshop where students were taught a little history about animators Lotte Reiniger, Lynn Dana Wilton, and Evelyn



Lambart, and then given a crash course on the DragonFrame animation software. For the rest of the afternoon, the students set to work creating their own films using silhouette and cut-out animation techniques. The films created by the students are available for viewing on the GRCMC's YouTube page at the following link: https://youtu.be/Igij_cNu_08.



Prince Achmed

Upcoming Events and New Initiatives

ANI-JAM 18 Our first foray into a collaborative animation will start on June 9th. It's happening physically in Grand Rapids, Michigan at the Community Media Center. 12:00- 3:00. Members will be able to connect long distance through Skype. Theme, length, structure to be determined.

(See Facebook for more information and ongoing discussion on ideas) examples -

Candy Jam (1986) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQcUqrKM3mc> -

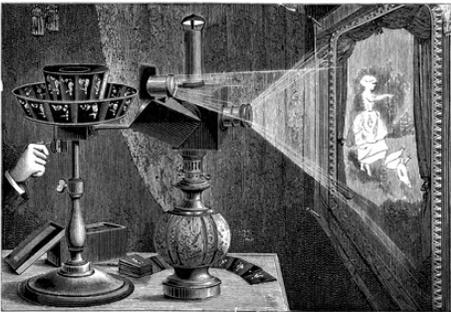
Anijam (1984) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=llBjKoZ0dQk> - *Anijam* 1984

Plympton's *Guard Dog* "global jam":

<https://www.cartoonbrew.com/shorts/bill-plymptons-guard-dog-global-jam-24926.html>

Mo Willem's *Life anijam*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Tpndwr58KA>

SUMMER RETREAT August 11 at the Wealthy Theatre and Community Media Center. Details will be announced on Facebook shortly. If last year's success was any indication, this year will probably involve workshops, animation screenings, Members Talks, & Food.



ANI-MEETUP (formally Animators Open Mike): we had a number of successful get-togethers in 2017 and this year in January. Our goal is to run these bi-monthly. At our Ani-Meetup's we watch animation from other ASIFA chapters and then spend time screening works-in-progress or finished works from our members. It's a great time to ask questions about something you're stuck on, talk about a challenge you overcame during production, and/or just show off the project you're working on.

IAD (International Animation Day) the announcements for IAD will be happening in the next couple weeks, look for it on our Facebook page. This year's poster is being designed by René Castillo, an award winning animator from Mexico. Brad Yarhouse has been asked to act as Interim Coordinator for ASIFA and will continue as IAD coordinator for ASIFA Central.

NEW WEBSITE

Board Member, *Julie Goldstein* has been working on a new mobile friendly Central website. Expected to launch before the August picnic.

NEWSLETTER

Board Members *Jim Middleton* and *Robert Swieringa* are working on our newsletter. Look for deadlines and publication dates soon. If you are interested in contributing to the newsletter contact Jim at: jim.middletonrx@gmail.com.

