



FRAMES

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF ASIFA/Central

# Woo Hoo! The Retreat Is On It's Way!

by Melissa Bouwman

It's that time of year again, the Super Fantabulous Animator's Retreat is just around the corner...I know many of us die hard attendees have had the weekend marked on our Calendar for months. For those of you who have still not made the annual pilgrimage to the natural wonders of Starved Rock for the retreat, you really should consider attending. It's a reasonably priced charge for you animating soul!

Your humble retreat committee has been working on pulling together presenters and activities for this years' weekend of fellowship, enlightenment, and a little debauchery. (We're still hoping to cash in on the firewood offerings of Mike Allore..) Thus far, two of our esteemed members have stepped up to the call for presenters.

*Presentations include:*

**International Animation Festivals**

Deanna Morse will present a session which surveys some of the top International Animation Festivals. She will show some films that won awards in the past year at major festivals, including Hiroshima, Ottawa and Zagreb. In addition, she will give an overview of the

ASIFA sanctioned festivals, and discuss that process. Morse was a member of the selection committee at Hiroshima 1998, and a juror at PISAF (Puchon International Student Animation Festival), and she will share some thoughts on how to design your film for acceptance in an international animation festival. Morse was a member of the board of directors of ASIFA International for three years, 1997-2000. She is currently the treasurer of ASIFA/Central.

**Public Domain Music and Sound Effects**

Jim Middleton's presentation will begin with a discussion of Public Domain music and sound effects. He plans to talk about the sources of public domain sound as well as the limitations and regulations regarding music copyright. He will then turn his attention to various methods of synchronizing music scores to the animated image, making use of the exposure sheet. The presentation will conclude with a "see it to believe it" style presentation where Jim will show off his skills and demonstrate the creation of an exposure sheet from a brief piece of music.

Retreat On It's Way (Bouwman) continued on 7

## Stressed Animation Part III

by Charles Wilson

*Animation: Stress*

*Animator: Charles Wilson*

*Studio: Smudge Animation*

Well, now it's time for my critique of what did and didn't work during my film. These are just the things that I picked up on while watching my film, although there may be more.

**Inside this Issue**  
Conference & Retreat Info.  
Stressed Animation Part III  
and much more ...

**What I didn't like:**

I think that during production I was too preoccupied with story and not enough with the character development. I'm not saying that the fish should've done more, but rather that their movements could have been a little less flat. I should've created more models of the stressed fish so that his movements were much more jittery. It also would've been better if the stressed fish had moved his entire body left and right when looking at the two bored fish. Another glaring mistake on my part

Stressed (Wilson) continued on 5



## Letter from the Editor by Jennifer Eldred

April 27th is coming soon. This is of course the date of this year's 9th Annual Animator's Conference & Retreat. This edition is dedicated to making sure you have all the

information you need to sign up for and find accommodations to attend this years event. Of course ASIFA/Central membership is not required for attendance at the conference, but let me remind you of the benefits of membership:

- 1 year membership in ASIFA/Central
- 1 year Subscription to Frame by Frame Quarterly Newsletter
- Free listing in ASIFA/Central's Web Site Membership Directory
- Free posting of art on ASIFA/Central's Web Site
- Reduced admission to ASIFA/Central's

Conference & Retreat. (This savings alone can cover half the cost of a general membership!) If you sign up for International Membership you also receive a 1 year subscription to ASIFA NEWS, the international, multilingual Animation Quarterly as well as discounts to ASIFA International Film Festivals.

So please return your membership renewal form to remain on our mailing list and to receive discounted registration to the 2001 Conference and Retreat. Don't miss out on future information about animation activities in the Midwest and around the world.

Membership forms can be found on page 6 as well as on the back of the enclosed Frame by Frame. Feel free to send us your comments and suggestions as well.

See ya at the conference & retreat!

*Jennifer Eldred*

**The deadline for the Spring 2001 Edition of Frame by Frame is May 1, 2001.**

## Fifth Annual MadCat Women's International Film Festival Call For Submissions

MadCat is seeking films and videos that challenges the use of sound and image and explore notions of visual storytelling. We accept work of all genres and lengths directed by women. Films can be produced any year and about any topic.

Previews on VHS  
Exhibition Formats: 35mm, 16mm, Super 8, Beta SP, 3/4", SVHS, VHS

### Early Deadline:

April 30th, 2001

### Late Deadline:

July 5th, 2001

Call or email for an entry form  
MadCat Film Festival  
639 Steiner Street Apt C  
San Francisco, CA 94117 USA  
(415) 436-9523 PHONE  
(415) 934-0642 FAX  
alionbear@earthlink.net  
www.somaglow.com/madcat

**ASIFA/Central Mission Statement**  
**ASIFA: Association Internationale du Film d'Animation**

*The purpose of ASIFA/Central is to promote the art of animation locally and internationally and to promote communication among animators and between animators and devotees. - adopted 3/92*

**ASIFA/Central Volunteers and Project Leaders**

**Newsletter Designer/Editor & Vice President**  
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**Reel Coordinator**  
Jim Schaub, [jimschaub@aol.com](mailto:jimschaub@aol.com)

**Storyboard Contest**  
Mary Lou Haynes, [morgpk@aol.com](mailto:morgpk@aol.com)

**Web site Design:**  
Rita Dobias, [rawd@hotmail.com](mailto:rawd@hotmail.com)

**Web site:**  
<http://www.asifa.org/animate>

**E-mail:** [asifa@asifa.org](mailto:asifa@asifa.org)

**ASIFA/Central Conference:**  
April 27 - April 29, 2001

**To contribute or volunteer contact:**  
Randy Rockafellow  
E-mail: [rockafellow2@juno.com](mailto:rockafellow2@juno.com)

**To join ASIFA/Central:**  
Send a check (payable in US dollars to ASIFA/Central) to the address on the back of this newsletter.

Printed in the U.S.A on recycled paper.

## Need a place to stay for the Conference & Retreat? Check out the following Accommodations:

Stay onsite at Starved Rock Lodge! When you call to make your reservation, let them know you are with the Midwest Animator's group, and they will book you a room from our reserved block. To get a room in the block you must make your reservations before **March 27**. Rooms in the block are on a first come, first served basis and fill quickly. Cost of lodging is not included in the registration fee. Please make reservations by contacting the following:

Starved Rock Lodge & Conference Center  
PO Box 570  
Highway 178 & 71  
Utica, IL 61373  
Phone: 1-800-868-7625  
e-mail: srlodge@ivnet.com

If you prefer to stay offsite or the lodge is full, please seek alternative lodging in the nearby town of Oglesby. Several ASIFA/Central members tested out these accommodations and found them to be a pleasing alternative to the lodge. The drive to the

lodge takes about 10 minutes...and it's gorgeous!

Holiday Inn Express  
900 Holiday St.  
OGLESBY, IL UNITED STATES  
Phone: 1-815-8833535

Days Inn Oglesby  
120 N. Lewis Ave,  
Oglesby, IL  
Phone: 1-815-883-9600

If your looking for a Bed and Breakfast try the Brightwood Inn. (Check out a great review at <http://www.bedandbreakfast.com/bbc/p150166.asp>)

Brightwood Inn  
2407 N State Route 178  
Oglesby, IL 61348  
815/667-4600

Make your reservations today!

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**Stressed (Wilson) continued from 1**

was that the tails on the bored fish should have had more inbetweens, but more on that later.

### What I did like:

I liked how the bored fish look. The half-closed eyes and the jutting jaw give the fish that look of apathy that I was shooting for. However, by adding more inbetweens and varying the timing of their actions, I think that there could have been more character to my fish. Instead of being completely apathetic, they ended up being too one-dimensional. The look and feel of the bored fish was good, the execution of their movement wasn't.

Other than that, there's not much that I would change. I liked the backgrounds, the sound, and the flow of the movie. The best thing about what little peer review that I've had is that with the help of my friends, I'm starting to narrow down those areas where I need more work. Well, back to my drawing

table.

### About the Author

Charles Wilson is an independent animator and the president/lead animator of Smudge Animation, located in Bath, Michigan. In 1997, Charles graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology's Film/Video department where he earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in Computer Animation. Since then, he has worked as a web designer/programmer also doing freelance multimedia projects until the summer of 2000 when he created Smudge Animation. Stress is his first animation created through Smudge Animation. He can be reached at Smudge\_Anim@yahoo.com and his work can be viewed at [www.geocities.com/Smudge\\_Anim/](http://www.geocities.com/Smudge_Anim/).

**Retreat On It's Way (Bouwman) continued from page 1**

Jim Middleton is a pharmacist and instructor at Kellogg Community College in Battle Creek, Michigan, whose animations have earned international recognition. He began animating at age 15 with a Kodak Fun-Saver and an adapted movie titler and has graduated to the digital age in spite of the better efforts of Windows 98.

In addition to the presenters, we will have the ASIFA East reel for our viewing pleasure, and we are hoping to debut the new ASIFA Central reel if we get enough members to send us their current work! (See page 3 for more details).

Other activities that we are working on are: onsite animation projects, the annual BBQ, and the newest ritual...the campfire! We will also have a variety of reels from animators, and animation establishments available for attendees to view at their leisure as well as the information table featuring literature from Animation companies, and schools.

We are still accepting proposals for presentations at this time, so if any of you talented, knowledgeable folks care to share some information with us, please let us know. Have you recently completed an animation you wish to



2000 Conference & Retreat Attendees



1995 Conference & Retreat Attendees

additional person.

See page 5 for the Conference & Retreat Registration Form. Please feel free to duplicate the form if you know of interested parties that do not receive this newsletter.

See you at the Retreat!

share and discuss the making of? Are you an expert in an animation related software package? Care to do a demonstration? Do you teach animation at a college or University? Want to share student work...or current trends in student animation? Do you have your own animation business? Could you share your reel and talk about your specialties? The possibilities are endless...if you are reading between the lines...you may notice some grovelling...and outright pleading...step up. get involved...show your support for your midwest animation community!

**Barbecue Luncheon FREE for Registered Attendees.** Vegetarian meal available. Please specify on registration form. The barbeque is \$10.00 each

## Calendar of Events 2001

**39th Annual Ann Arbor Film Festival**  
March 13-18, 2001  
[www.aafilmfest.org](http://www.aafilmfest.org)

**ASIFA/Central Conference & Retreat**  
April 27 -29, 2001  
[www.asifa.org/animate](http://www.asifa.org/animate)

**SIGGRAPH 2001**  
August 12-17, 2001  
[www.siggraph.org/s2001](http://www.siggraph.org/s2001)

**Ottawa Animation Festival**  
October 18-21, 2001  
[www.awn.com/ottawa](http://www.awn.com/ottawa)

### LAST CHANCE!

This is your last opportunity to enter your work for the ASIFA/Central Reel II. The entry deadline is March 25, 2001. Don't let this opportunity pass you by! For information on how you can enter, see page 3.