

Christopher Schenck

Visual Artist

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www.visualbabel.com

650-868-8233

Creative Passion for Video Games and Animation

Specialties

- 10+years of industry experience as a Concept and Story Artist
- High level of experience working in the pre-production aspects of game development
- Exceptional understanding of human and creature anatomy
- Superior eye for light, value, composition, color, staging, and detail in environments and illustration
- Ability to carry an idea from the conceptual phase to a finished illustration
- Strong eye for shape, form, structure, and silhouette in illustration and design
- Strong traditional art background including lighting, anatomy, color theory, etc.
- Strong Photoshop skills
- Excellent organization, communication, and interpersonal skills
- Works well under pressure
- Responds well to changing production needs
- Demonstrated ability to work with a high degree of self-direction and motivation
- Ability to take direction and criticism
- Ability to meet deadlines designated for team projects
- Professional and functions well within a team

Credits:

Electronic Arts

The Lord of The Rings; The Return of The King
James Bond; From Russia With Love

Time Warner TV Animation

Batman Beyond
Scooby Doo Mystery Incorporated

Dark Horse

Tarzan
Enemy
Dark Horse Presents

DC Comics

Amber: The Guns of Avalon
Challengers of the Unknown
Life, The Universe, and Everything

Cartoon Network/Porchlight

Secret Saturdays

Chronicle Books/Mighty Chronicles

Jurassic Park
Terminator II
Mask of Zorro

Midland Productions

Robots of Mars

Multiverse

Art Director
Multiverse Places (Unlaunched Prototype)
Multiverse Kothuria (Unlaunched Prototype)

Spunky Productions

Carboy Canyon
The Little Don

New Comics Group

Asylum

Working Experience

Since graduating from the Academy of Art I have over twenty years of experience as a freelance and in-house production artist. Starting with my first love, comics, I developed my storytelling and drawing abilities on the demanding monthly publication schedules of print comics in the 1990s. After a short time on small projects I landed the Tarzan monthly at Dark Horse which gave me the chance to improve my drawing of animals and natural settings, along with over-the-top action. This was powerful training which gave me the confidence and focus I would later use to lead the story team on The Return of The King.

Before this I boarded TV animation for Bruce Timm's Batman Beyond at Warner TV Animation. This was a great experience and I learned so much from the directors and artists there. Batman taught me the difference between panel-to-panel storytelling and motion storytelling, high tech futurism, simplification and drama, acting and pacing.

My first spot as lead story artist was on a very big project: The Lord of the Rings; The Return of The King. As my first experience on a AAA game project I was under a lot of pressure. I started as the only story artist on the project and by the time we were two months in I was leading a team of six. We boarded 17 full levels, 14 of which made it into the game. I worked 12 hour and over days for many months but it turned into one of the best playing games of that year, and stands out as one of the first games that EA made using Hollywood movie production techniques.

Director of the School of Game Design at The Academy of Art University

Simultaneous to my freelance work I taught courses in Comics, Clothed Figure Drawing, and others at the Academy. After over ten years of teaching experience I was offered the Director position for a new School at the University; prior to my tenure the game curriculum was a small part of the School of 3D animation and VFX. I developed the curriculum for game design and game art from scratch and hired all key faculty and personal. Under my leadership, the School of Game Design grew from less than 50 students in the spring of 2009 to more than 600 in the spring of 2012. I directly manage Lead Artists with multiple disciplines in 3D modeling, Character and Environment Modeling, Vector and Casual Games, Level Design, User Interface, and Game Production in multiple platforms. In addition I have hired a team of more than twenty part-time faculty who come from AAA studios in the Bay Area and around the world.