Jason Armstrong

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Objective:

To continually push the technical limits in creating cutting edge computer generated entertainment

Professional Experience:

April 2016-present - Pocket Gems, San Francisco, CA

Lead Technical Artist

- Oversee future develop and project planning for art depart
- Direct long term vision of technical workflows and pipeline
- Scheduling and day to day task assignments
- Write tools and scripts to increase artist efficiency

April 2015-April 2016 - Telltale Games, San Rafael, CA

Director of Technical Art

- Supervise team of 9 technical artists
- Direct long term vision of technical workflows and pipeline
- Scheduling and day to day task assignments
- Write tools and scripts to increase artist efficiency

Nov 2013-April 2015 - GREE International, San Francisco, CA

Lead Technical Artist for Mobile Strategy Studio

- Lead a team of 5 technical artists
- Implemented core game functionality and tools (Unity/C#)
 - Created animation and FX API's to interface with engineering
 - Authored and maintained shaders (Unity Shaderlab/CGFX)
 - Maintained asset bundling and deployment process
 - Created interactive game map editor (Unity C#)
- Developed and maintained art tools and pipeline
 - Setup OSX Maya/Python environment
 - Created rigging pipeline (Maya/Python)
 - Developed perforce integration in Maya using P4python API
- Handled Perforce and Maya licensing and admin responsibilities
- Guided artists in efficient asset generation for real time mobile games
- Directed and managed tool pipeline development for 3d art department

June 2012-Nov 2013 - Munkyfun, San Francisco, CA

Tools Engineer / Technical Artist

- Implemented core engine features (c++)
 - Additive animation blending
 - Animation time scaling
 - Developed and maintained art tools across all art disciplines
 - Created fully automated character rigging pipeline (Maya/Python)
 - Created Mental Ray lightmap baking pipeline
- Authored and maintained shaders (Mental Ray, CGFX, and GLSL)

- Programmed game logic in both LUA(Proprietary) and C#(Unity)
 - Core gameplay
 - UI functionality
- Rigged and animated characters, cameras, and environment props
- Collaborated with artists and other engineers to identify and address technical limitations
- Identified and enforced art technical guidelines
- Mentored junior technical artists

2008-2012 - 38 Studios, Providence, RI

Project Copernicus AAA MMO - Lead Technical Artist

- o Built a team of 5 technical artists from the ground up to cover all disciplines
- o Identified and scheduled technical art short and long term goals and requirements
- o Conducted employee reviews and career development
- Built complete character rigging/animation pipeline in Maya/Python utilizing character retargeting
- Developed character behavior using Natural Motions Morpheme middleware
- o Assisted development of environment modular building processes
- Developed and maintained art tools across all art disciplines
- Collaborated with artists and engineers to identify and address technical limitations
- o Identified and enforced art technical guidelines

2003-2008 - Tippett Studio, Berkeley, CA

The Spiderwick Chronicles - Lead Animator co-leading team of 30 animators Charlotte's Web - Lead Animator leading team of 20 animators
The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause - Animator
Son of the Mask - Animator
Constantine - Animator
Hellboy - Animator

2001-2003 - Lucasarts Entertainment Co., San Rafael, CA

Jedi Starfighter Cinematics - Lead Character TD (setup rigging/animation pipeline for cinematics) Full Throttle 2 - Lead Character TD (setup rigging/animation pipeline for in game and cinematics)

2000-2001 - Tippett Studio, Berkeley, CA

Evolution - Character TD & Animator

1996-2000 - Metrolight Studios, Hollywood, CA

How the Grinch Stole Christmas - CG Supervisor Red Planet - Animatics Dragonheart : A New Beginning - CG Supervisor

Poseidon's Fury - Lead Character TD & Animator Kull The Conqueror - TD & Character Animation

1993-1996 - Catwalk Digital, Charlotte, NC

Various local and occasional national commercial post production - Senior Animator (generalist)

Software

Maya, Unreal, Unity, Natural Motion Morpheme, 3ds Max, Git, Perforce, Photoshop, Z-brush

Programming Languages

Python, C++, C#, Lua, mel, Maya API, Some Objective C

Education

School of Communication Arts, Raleigh, NC - Certificate in Computer Animation

Awards

Nominated for Visual Effects Society award for "Outstanding animated character in a live action motion picture" for Templeton the rat in Charlotte's Web

References available upon request