Susan Taaffe

3D ANIMATOR

Chicago

sdtaaffe@gmail.com
office

I am a 3D artist and animator currently working freelance in Chicago. I have over 15 years of broadcast animation experience primarily using Maya. I specialize in animation and modeling, but I also have considerable experience in other aspects of CG such as rendering, rigging, lighting and dynamics, tracking (nCloth and Realflow in particular).

I teach animation classes at Columbia College Chicago, and Flashpoint Chicago/Columbia College Hollywood. I have also taught animation at New York University, the School of Visual Arts in New York and at the Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago.

Experience

Adjunct Instructor

Columbia College Chicago

Chicago, IL
Jan 2016 - Present

I teach 3D composition in the Interactive Arts and Animation department and 3D character design in the Cinema Arts and Sciences Department

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Adjunct Instructor of Animation

Columbia College Hollywood / Online

Los Angeles, C
Jan 2020 - Present

I teach classes in 3D modeling, Animataion and Rigging. I recently received an Excellence in Teaching Award from CCH

Maya Generalist

Pixel Liberation Front

Chicagoland area
Jun 2011 - Sep 2011

Pre-viz animation for Warner Brothers' "Man of Steel" release date June 2013
Note: The clip included on my reel is captioned "Autumn Frost" which was the code name for the film during production.

Freelance Animator

EatDrink / Leviathan

Chicago, IL
Jul 2010 - Present

Multiple Projects (freelance)

August 2012 Animation for Callaway Golf
January 2012 RealFlow simulation for Marlboro
December 2011 animation/render wrangling for Dodge
March 2011: animation for Gordman's spot
February 2011: nCloth and RealFlow simuation for Maytag
December 2010: nCloth simulations for Frigidaire Spot
October 2010 – November 2010: 2 minute Character animation project for Aristocrat
July 2010 – August 2010: Realflow simulations and Maya animation for Maytag

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Animator

Noumena Digital

Chicago, IL
Feb 2013 - Present

Rigging and Animation for Contigo product intro

Rigging and Animation for Idex product intro

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animator

Rethink Studios

Chicago, IL
Apr 2014 - Apr 2014

Medical animation

Adjunct Instructor of animation

Illinois Institute of Art

Chicago, Il
Jan 2010 - Dec 2018

I taught classes in 3D Animation, Rigging, and Portfolio Review

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Senior Animator/Generalist

Click 3X

New York, NY
Nov 2006 - Dec 2009

Multiple projects, in broadcast, film, and web:

Clients include: Time Warner, Hasbro, Crest, Staples, Dunkin Donuts, Centrum, Lysol, Samsung, Lanacane, ESPN

Animator/ 3D Generalist

Freelance

New York, NY
Jan 1999 - Nov 2006

Multiple freelance projects at companies including:

Click 3X
Curious Pictures
Team Heavy
Studiolo Design
Collider
Artifact Pictures
Reel Fx
Croog Studios
Piranha Pictures
Blink FX

Instructor

Future Media Concepts

Chicago
Jan 2010 - Present

Teach Introductory and Advanced classes in Maya software

Animator

Clever Image

Fairview, NJ
Oct 1999 - May 2002

Staff Animator. modeler

“The Storyteller Cafe” 1/2 hour childrens TV series for CBN Animation (Telly, Omni & Axiom awards 2001)
"Jam Club" 60 second opening of childrens TV series for CBN Animation - India
"The Witness” 1 hour TV special for CBN Animation (2D with 3D effects)

Adjunct Instructor of Animation

New York University

New York, NY
Jun 1999 - Jan 2009

I taught classes in 3D animation in the Masters Program and in Continuing Ed

Adjunct Instructor of Animation

School of Visual Arts

New York, NY
Jan 2004 - Jan 2007

I taught classes in 3D Animation in Continuing Ed

Education

MFA Painting & Drawing

Ohio State University

Columbus, OH

BFA Painting & Drawing

Ohio State University

Columbus, Ohio

Maya

New York University CADA

New York, NY

Extra Curricular Activities

My Shops

My Marionette Shop: Hand crafted, one of a kind Marionettes
http://www.etsy.com/shop/ofMiceandMarionettes

My 3D Prints Shop: unique 3D printed items
http://www.shapeways.com/shops/LittleRaats

Software

Maya 2022
Arnold
After Effects
ZBrush
Substance Painter/designer

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