

ARTIST STATEMENT

My name is Liza and I make little things.

I have a BFA in Visual Effects (June 2011) from Savannah College of Art and Design. I started my education in computer animation until I found stop-motion animation.

There is something to be said about art made by hand. Artists aren't limited by computer language barriers or glitches. Through stop-motion, I found the joy of building miniatures and decided to change my major to visual effects where I was challenged to make more realistic looking sets and props. I was able to incorporate my sets into more realistic settings, giving me limitless possibilities.

Watching work evolve is my greatest drive. I strive for success and perfection in everything I do and work very hard to reach my goals. I believe learning is a lifelong experience and I'm always eager to learn something new about my art form.

Enjoy!

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MINIATURE ARTIST

SHOT BREAKDOWN



"Influenza" was directed and executed by myself and a small team of sound designers, photographers, and design assistants.

The Mexican landscape is carved out of pink foam glued together. It is filled in with spackle and covered in dirt and sand. The houses are made of carved foam core and assorted papers and paints. I fleshed out the landscape with trees made from sticks and lichen, and added miniature tree stumps and pebbles.

The fence is made of cardboard, dowels and spray painted cheese cloth. There were a lot of alterations done to toys such as matchbox cars and doll accessories to make the rest of the scene.



"Love is Blind" was directed and edited by myself and a couple of sound designers.

The set is made of foam and plaster, covered in dirt and assorted artificial foliage. The rocks on the cliff edges are plastic casts of rocks, allowing me to more easily fasten them to the sides. Gus the goat is made from armature wire, plastic body blocks, foam and painted latex. I lit, filmed, animated, composited and edited the finished short.



"Apartment 2012" was directed and executed by myself and a small team of sound designers, photographers, carpenters, and design assistants.

The kitchens are made from plastic casts which I painted to look as though they had granite counter tops. The furniture is all hand made from foam core, balsa wood, couch foam and assorted fabrics.

The accessories are made from everything including Plexiglas, clay, plastic, balsa wood, thread, assorted papers and custom prints, fabric, altered toys, beads and artificial foliage.

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The background is a complex abstract composition. It features a large, semi-transparent green handprint in the center-left. The entire surface is covered with various splatters and brushstrokes in shades of green, blue, and black. The top right corner is predominantly black, while the bottom left has more blue and green splatters.

DEMO REEL

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INFLUENZA



The Mexico miniature stands about a foot tall, eight feet wide and four feet deep. It is part of the teaser for my short film, "Influenza." There were a lot of challenges that my team and I faced during this project such as set transportation and foam shaping methods. A variety of materials were used including pink foam, foam core, tree branches, matchbox cars and ace bandages, all which used a variety of different skills and techniques to execute.

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INFLUENZA



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APARTMENT 2012



Standing at around three feet tall, four feet wide and a foot deep, "Apartment 2012" is a work in progress directed and produced by myself and a couple of assistants. The apartments have been abandoned due to a recent evacuation and the lives of the tenants have been left behind. The goal of the project is to easily identify the tenants based on what is left behind.

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APARTMENT 2012



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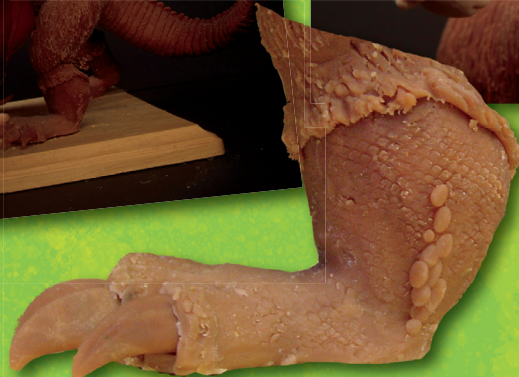
APARTMENT 2012



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KRALL



Krall is a 12 in tall, 10 lb model of a 10 creature chimera made with super sculpey. The creature is a combination of the 10 most "horrific" animals depicted as monsters in stories and movies (wolf, piranha, vampire bat, snake, gorilla, bear, alligator, giant squid, shark and tarantula. Unfortunately, his hand shattered in the baking process, causing the large cracks in his body when the weight shifted.



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CASTING



Walter (the elephant), Harry (the tortoise) and the pigs are all sculpts I made originally with sculpey. I took those sculpts and molded with different silicone rubbers. Walter and Harry are cast of plastic, while the pigs are cast of foam. This is so they can squish into a truck more naturally than they could if they were plastic.



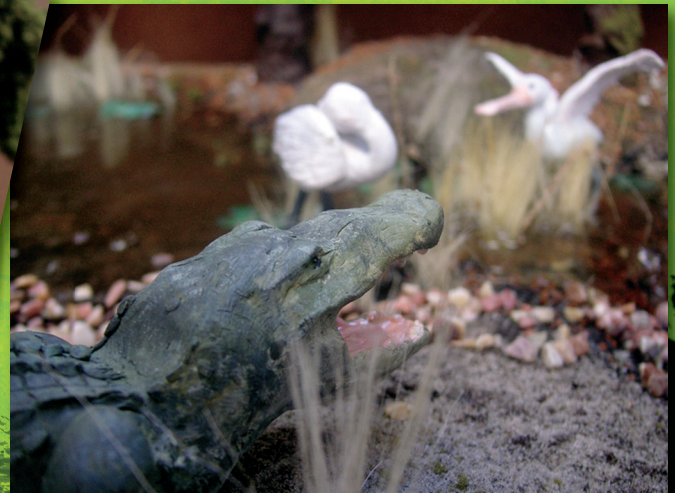
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THE MARSH



I created the marsh because I wanted to further explore the use of artificial water. I made it with permanent floral water and resin, which turned out to be a terrible combination. I used foam core for the base, covered in insulation spray foam for the terrain. I covered it in a mixture of dirt, sand and pebbles after first applying a layer of Plaster of Paris. The animals are all hand sculpted using sculpey and painted with acrylic paints.



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KOI POND

The Koi Pond is the highlight of my Temple miniature. The skeleton of the structure is made from foam core coated with plaster. The pond was filled with gelatin floral water and ground thyme for moss. The statue and koi are made out of sculpey and painted with acrylic. The water stream is craft wire covered in super glue.



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LOVE IS BLIND



"Love is Blind" is a solo stop motion project I did about a poor-sighted goat out to win over his lady's heart. The catch? She's actually a statue! The maquettes are made out of sculpey and the Gus puppet is made out of foam, plastic, armature wire and painted latex.



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LOVE IS BLIND



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