

Khalis Kamarul

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Art Director, 2D Generalist

Highly creative and result-driven Art Director with over 10 years of industry experience exploring innovative ways to express narrative in animation. Proven track record in developing animated IPs, directing and animating several award-winning short films, and collaborating on multi-platform and cross-functional games and animation projects. Skilled in project management and mentoring, with a strong commitment to delivering results.

Work Experience

Art Director

Lemon Sky Games & Animation | Apr 2021-May 2024

- Led the Assembly team on pushing the art quality on a multi-season animated series for Netflix's Not Quite Narwhal and Mighty Monster Wheelies
- Curate and maintain a comprehensive visual resource for the Lemon Sky Assembly team, implementing a thorough standardisation for increased productivity
- Led and collaborated on the conceptualisation and world-building of an HTML5 Metaverse universe, which included avatars, world assets, and UI/UX
- Oversee the development of characters, assets, environment and ideation for an in-house cinematic
- Successfully managed the transition of Lemon Sky's AstroLOLogY IP on YouTube into other cross-promotional platforms like Roblox and various merchandise

Animation Director

Offbeat Seattle | Sept 2020 and May 2022

Co-directed, animated, and designed the visual style for multiple short film projects:

- St Vincent de Paul's initiative in advocating for stability and self-sufficiency within the local Seattle community.
- Alaska Air's youth and community outreach program via the San Francisco YMCA

E-Mentor

Animated Women (UK) Limited | Mar 2021

Mentor and nurture a small, diverse team of designers and junior animators by fostering a culture of inclusivity, creativity and continuous skill development

Animation Director

Forward Arts Foundation | Mar 2020

Directed, designed, and animated a short animation based on 'The Night Watch', a poem by Niall Campbell from the Forward Book of Poetry series and classic verse. The project was made in conjunction with the Foundation's annual National Poetry Day

Concept Supervisor, Concept Artist

Lemon Sky Games & Animation | Feb 2014-Jun 2018

- Supported the Art Director in managing assets and visual standardisation across 144 episodes of Lemon Sky's first published IP, AstroLOLogy
- Developed and successfully executed the character design and world-building of Lemon Sky's AstroLOLogy
- Other roles include mentoring junior concept artists and designing various assets used in production
- Spearheaded Lemon Sky's first IP department by leading the ideation of various 2D and 3D concepts for production

Production Manager

Aerodyne Group | Jun 2016 - Nov 2016

- Designed and implemented a comprehensive production pipeline for Aerodyne's first fully 3D-integrated City and urban planning management project covering 150km² in Kuching, Sarawak (Malaysia)
- Supervised and mentored a production team of 20 artists and techs across interdepartmental divisions
- Successfully QC'd and delivered 150,000 real-world low-poly assets through AutoCAD and CityEngine.

Various Experiences

- **Illustrator**, Pahit Bar KL | 2024
 - **Mural Artist**, Universiti Putra Malaysia | 2024
 - **Director & Animator**, various animated short films | 2021
 - **Illustrator**, Fun Gum Tech | 2021
 - **Illustrator**, Paragon Pictures | 2018
 - **Storyboard Artist**, Homegrown Productions | 2016
 - **Cover Illustrator**, Virginia Cheong | 2015
 - **Illustrator**, *Successful Animator LLC* | 2014
 - **3D Artist**, *Mustache Productions* | Sept 2012-Dec 2013
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Skills & Competencies

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| • Creative direction | • Mentoring and training |
| • Concept development | • Presentation skills |
| • Storyboarding | • Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, After Effects, Premiere Pro) |
| • Project management | • Blender & Maya (Intermediate) |
| • Team collaboration | |
| • Illustrations | |

Certifications

- **University of Hertfordshire, 2019-2020**
Master of Arts
MA in Animation (Distinction)
- **The One Academy of Communication Design, 2010-2013**
Diploma in Digital Animation (Dean's List Scholar)

Short Film Awards

Honorary Mention
2020, Forward Arts Foundation

Honorary Mention
2021, UK Seasonal Short Film Festival

Official Selection
2021, Kultura Kon

Official Selection
2021, Reel Teal Film Festival

Finalist
2021, Sweden Film Awards (Short Animation)

Semi-Finalist for Best Comedy
2021, Couch Film Festival

Official Selection
2021, Short Film Factory

Official Selection
2021, Rianne Pictures