

**Tom Brierton**  
**Educator / Media Arts and Animation/ Web Design / Music**

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**WORK EXPERIENCE (TEACHING)**

- 2016 Purdue University Northwest, Westville, IN. Part-time instructor for an Intro to Television/Video production class. Topics include: Story development, storyboards, frame composition, editing, music, and lighting.
- 2015-Present Calumet College of St. Joseph. Digital Media/Arts instructor, part-time. Duties include teaching classes in visual arts, animation, video production and editing, and multimedia computer graphics.
- 2006-12 Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg. Full-time instructor for **Media Arts and Animation/Game Art and Design** classes. Duties included teaching classes in storyboarding, character animation, foundations of animation and film, materials and lighting, and 3D modeling. Software: **3ds Studio Max**, Adobe products. 1000 N. Plaza Drive #100, Schaumburg, IL 60173, 847-619-3450
- 2012 Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg. Awarded a sabbatical for spring quarter to produce the trailer for my animated stop-motion feature film, THE LABYRINTH (LLC).
- 2008 Columbia College Chicago, Adjunct Instructor, spring semester, beginning stop-motion animation classes.
- 2006 Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg. Adjunct instructor, fall quarter. Instructor of **3D Studio Max** modeling, storyboarding, lighting and materials classes and animation classes.
- 2005-06 Columbia College Chicago. Full-time instructor, one-year appointment. Duties included the teaching of Media Theory and Design - Interactive Arts and Media Dept., Softimage-XSI and Introduction to Computer Animation – Film/Video Dept. – Animation Program (**Softimage XSI, Maya, and 3D Studio Max**). 600 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605, 312-663-1600
- 2006 Illinois Institute of Art-Chicago campus. Adjunct instructor, spring quarter. Instructor of computer animation classes (Maya).
- 2005 Columbia College Chicago. Adjunct instructor, spring term. Instructor of beginning and advanced Maya animation classes.
- 2004 Columbia College Chicago. Adjunct instructor, summer and fall terms. Instructor of advanced stop-motion puppet animation and upper-level computer animation classes (SoftImage XSI).
- 2004 Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago, IL. Adjunct instructor, spring and summer quarter, Maya animation software. 350 N. Orleans St., Chicago, IL 60654 312-280-3500
- 2003 Columbia College Chicago. Adjunct instructor, spring term. Instructor of advanced stop-motion puppet animation and upper-level animation classes.
- 2000 Columbia College Chicago. Acting animation program director, spring term. Duties included the administrative scheduling of animation faculty for orientations, registrations, capital budget proposal

- and subsequent acquisition of equipment and software. Student counseling and advisement.
- 1999-02 Columbia College Chicago. **Full-time, tenure-track instructor**. Duties included teaching beginning and advanced classes in **stop-motion animation, SoftImage 3.9, SoftImage XSI** and **Alias/Maya** computer character animation, and animation production. Proficiency in Photoshop, Premiere, After Effects, Sound Forge, Macintosh and Windows O.S. Systems, web design (HTML), MIDI (musical instrument digital interface), Finale Music Notation Software, Final Draft.
- 2000 Mesmer Labs, San Francisco, CA. Five-day training in **Alias/Maya** animation software.
- 1998-99 Columbia College Chicago. Part-time instructor, animation program.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE (PROFESSIONAL)**

- 2016 Huntington University, Huntington, IN, Department of Animation. Guest speaker on stop-motion animation. Puppet Armature machinist for Dept. of Animation's short stop-motion animated film project.
- 2014 Armature machinist. "*Sinbad: The Fifth Voyage*", Giant Flick Films. Director: Sean Solimon  
Running time: 89 min. Full cast and crew:  
[http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1403862/fullcredits?ref=ttspec\\_sa\\_1](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1403862/fullcredits?ref=ttspec_sa_1)
- 2012 Armature machinist. **The Rochester Institute of Technology**, School of Film and Animation. Rochester, NY. Instructor: Kevin Lamark.
- 2010 President, Knossos Films, Inc. (S-Corp)  
Independent film company specializing in animated films.
- 2006 Sept. 30, 2012  
Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg. Full-time instructor, Media Arts and Animation  
Instructor of **3D Studio Max** modeling, storyboarding, lighting and materials classes, Foundations of Animation and Film, and animation classes.
- 1991-Present  
Stop-Motion armature machinist.
- 2007 BixPix Entertainment, Sherman Oaks, CA. Model maker for DVD stop-motion animated Christmas Special. Client: Wal-Mart. Duties included the fabrication of metal ball and socket puppet armatures, replacement model construction, machining of a camera lighting rig, and props.
- 2005 Original background music for a 5 minute PSA film. Client: Synovate Corp., Chicago, IL
- 2005 *Stop-Motion Armature Workshop*, Burbank, CA, Feb. 4-6. Weekend community workshop devoted to puppet armature construction.
- 2003 *Stop-Motion Animation Workshop*, Chicago, IL, Aug. 15-17. Taught a weekend community workshop devoted to armature construction, puppet fabrication, and animation.
- 2003 *Stop-Motion Animation Workshop*, Grand Rapids, MI, Oct. 17-19.
- 2003 Freelance Maya animator for PlayStation game, *WRATH*, LucasArts, San Francisco, CA.
- 2002 *The Brooklyn Academy of Music*, Brooklyn, NY. Guest speaker at a screening of the 1963 fantasy film, *Jason and the Argonauts*.
- 2000-01 *Illinois Institute of Art*, Chicago, IL. Guest lecturer.
- 2000 *MTV*, New York, NY. Stop-motion animator for *Celebrity Deathmatch* syndicated comedic TV animation shorts.

- 2000 *The Chicago Tribune*. Interviewed by Tribune journalist Judy Hevrdejs for an article on the stop-motion process in the Dreamworks/Aardman Animation feature production, *Chicken Run*.
- 2000 *Close Encounters with Douglas Trumbull*. Assisted in bringing filmmaking/visual effects legend Douglas Trumbull to Columbia College Chicago and The Film Center at the School of the Art Institute for a five-day lecture and screening residency.
- 1995-98 Williams Midway Games, Chicago, IL. Computer animator for video arcade games, **Gaming Division**.
- 1992-94 Animasaur Productions, Highland Park, IL. Freelance stop-motion animator and model maker for owner, Marie Cenkner and animation director, Paul Jessel.
- 1992 Calabash Animation, Chicago, IL. Freelance ink and paint artist.
- 1989-91 Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Carbondale, IL. Graduate assistant in the music department. Taught freshman theory and aural skills.
- 1989-91 Film Composer for undergraduate and graduate films, SIU-C.
- Screenplays (Feature-length)
- 2007 “*The Labyrinth*” – based on the Greek myth of Theseus and the Minotaur
- 1997 “*Wronging Mr. Right*”, romantic-comedy fantasy, semi-finalist in the Chesterfield Writing Competition, Los Angeles, CA.
- 1994 “*A Cure for Annie*”, comedy-drama.
- 1992 “*Foundations*”, drama, semi-finalist in the Nichol Fellowships in Screenwriting, Los Angeles, CA.
- 1988 Adaptation of the C.S. Lewis novel, “*That Hideous Strength*”, drama.

## WEB DESIGN

- 2015 Web Designer, Friends of the Park Forest Health Department. Park Forest, IL  
<http://www.tombrierton.com/parkforesthealth/index.html>
- 2015 Web Designer, Alfred D. Klinger, Poet. Hyde Park, IL  
<http://www.tombrierton.com/alklingerpoetry/index.html>
- 2016 Web Designer, Tom Brierton, Web designer.  
<http://www.tombrierton.com>
- 2016 Web Designer, The Films of George Pal.  
<http://www.tombrierton.com/thefilmsofgeorgepal/index.html>
- 2016 Web Designer, Knossos Films  
<http://www.tombrierton.com/KnossosFilms/index.html>

## EDUCATION

- 2014-15 Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, IL. Certificate Program in Web Design. Date of completion: May, 2015.
- 2014 Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, IL. CIW Certificate (Certified Internet Web Associate).
- 1994 Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. **Master of Music**, Music Theory and Composition. Graduate assistant, music theory and aural training skills.
- 1988 SIU-Carbondale. **B.A.**, Music Theory and Composition. Concentrated in composing for film, for undergraduate and graduate film projects.

## MUSIC COMPOSITION

- 2012 Music cues for *The Labyrinth* (LLC), a feature stop-motion animated film based on the Greek myth of Theseus and the Minotaur.
- 2005 Music cues for 5-minute PSA film. Synovate Productions, Chicago, IL.
- 2003 “*Music for a Science-Fiction Film*”, solicitation, Noma Music, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2003 “*Fugue for a Military Film*”, solicitation, Noma Music, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2003 “*Music for a Romantic Comedy*”, solicitation, Noma Music, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2002 “*F Major in the Study*”, solicitation, Noma Music, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2003 “*Music for Suspense Film*”, solicitation, Noma Music, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2002 “*Music for String Orchestra (For Margaret)*”.
- 2002 “*Romance for Piano*”.
- 2002 “*Appalachian Sunset*” - (background music for a proposed dramatic film, “*Culture Wars*”, solicitation, Noma Music, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2002 “*Lily Symphony, In Memoriam – Symphony in Four Movements*” (work in progress).
- 2000 “*Arthur-Reflections of a Pendragon*” - Symphony No. 1 in Four Movements for Mixed Choir and Orchestra.
- 1991 “*A Maritime Adventure*” – A Tone Poem of the High Seas.
- 1988 “*Fantasia for String Orchestra*”
- 1988 “*Romance in Two Movements for Guitar*”
- 1986 “*Dragon in the Clock Box*” – Background music for a 16mm fantasy film.
- 1983 “*Wooden Wings*” – Background music for a 16mm dramatic narrative film.

## AWARDS/HONORS

- 2000 *Chicago Community Cinema*. Screening of Brierton Productions animated short, *No Exit?*.
- 2000 *The Bare Bones International Film Festival*. Muskogee, Oklahoma. Brierton Productions animated short, *No Exit?*, selected for screening.
- 2000 *The Undershorts Film Festival*, Music Box Theater, Chicago, IL. Animated short, *No Exit?* selected for screening.
- 2000 *The Chicago Reader*, Chicago, IL. Animated short, *No Exit?* Selected as part of the Critic’s Choice of The Undershorts Film Festival.
- 1999 *The Pacific Coast Film Festival*, La Jolla, CA. Animated short, *No Exit?*, selected for screening.
- 1999 *The Tortured Artists Film Festival*, Tacoma, WA. Animated short, *No Exit?*, selected for screening.
- 1999 *The Rezenhedz Model and Toy Show*. Guest lecturer on the stop-motion animation process. Hillside, IL.
- 1999 *The Rezenhedz Model and Toy Show*. Interviewed fantasy filmmaking legend **Ray Harryhausen** before a live audience.
- 1998 Semi-finalist: **The Chesterfield Screenwriting Competition**, Los Angeles, CA.
- 1988 Selected nationally as one of 20 applicants to *The Advanced Studies Program-Composition for the Motion Picture Industry*. **University of Southern California**.
- 1988 Semi-finalist in the **Nichol Fellowships in Screenwriting**, Los Angeles, CA.

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2006 “*Stop-Motion Animation – Cameras, Lighting, and Dramatic Technique*”, by Tom Brierton, McFarland and Company, Publishers, Jefferson, NC. ISBN number: 0-786-42417-6
- 2004 “*Stop-Motion Puppet Sculpting: Foam Injection, Build-Up, and Finishing Techniques*”, by Tom

Brierton, McFarland and Company, Publishers, Jefferson, NC. ISBN number: 0-786-41873-7

2002 “*Stop-Motion Armature Machining*”, by Tom Brierton, McFarland and Company, Publishers, Jefferson, NC. ISBN number: 0-786-41244-5

1998 “*At Last, Foam Puppet Fabrication Explained!*” by Tom Brierton, Animation World Network (AWN.com), February, 1998. <http://www.awn.com/mag/issue2.11/2.11pages/2.11briertonani.html>

#### **ORIGINAL FILMS (direction/screenwriting)**

2014 *The Labyrinth*. Feature-length stop-motion film, 88 minutes (work in progress). Knossos Films, Inc.

1998 *No Exit?* 7.5 minutes, 16mm. Animated short subject, stop-motion animation.  
Link to film: <http://vimeo.com/63216893>

#### **SOFTWARE SKILLS**

3D Studio Max, Adobe Creative Suite, Final Draft, Microsoft Office, Finale Music Software, Sound Forge, Acid Pro, Maya, HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript.

#### **RELATED SKILLS**

Sculptor, painter, designer, mold-maker, composer/orchestrator and arranger, Musical Instrument Digital Interface (M.I.D.I.) interface and digital recording, machinist (milling and lathing operations)

#### **INTERESTS**

Bicycling, camping, hiking, film music collecting, traveling, culinary arts.

*References available upon request*