EXAMPLES OF 2D ANIMATION FOR REVIEW

Introduction
These links are intended to give you an idea of how wide the style of narrative animation can be. It doesn’t matter if you think you can’t draw, or write a plot, or synchronize sound and images. It’s all about practice, enthusiasm, and just working through to the end.

Reviewing animations
When reviewing or analyzing an animation, see it several times. First to enjoy it – don’t think about criticizing or learning from it at all. Just lose yourself in it (if you enjoy it) and endure it (if you don’t).

The second time you see it you’ll know what to expect. You’re not surprised by anything, you know the plot, and you have a good idea of the characters and how they interact. So now it’s possible to step back a pace. Look now at how the story is structured, at the way the scenes are laid out, and how each builds upon the last.

The third time, with the structure in mind, you can step back yet again. Start to look at the way the characters are drawn and lit in each scene, the camera angles and moves, the transitions between scenes, the synchronization with the music, narration, or dialog, and whatever else catches your attention. Every time you see an animation (or a movie, or read a book) it’s different, because your memory of previous viewings changes your present perception.

Please note that links can be deleted by YouTube, Vimeo, or the uploader at any time. I’ve checked them at the time of last editing, but when you follow these links not all of them may work.

Examples

1914-WinsorMcCay-GertieTheDinosaur-5m46s
https://vimeo.com/23059359

1931-MickeyMouse-TrafficTroubles-7m14s
http://youtu.be/kNMPpJIRvXE

1945-TomAndJerry-QuietPlease-7m35s
https://users.soe.ucsc.edu/~yonge/animations-misc/1945-TomAndJerry-QuietPlease-7m35s.avi

1986-Pixar-LuxoJr-2m18s
https://vimeo.com/47750621
If any of these don’t work - or if you have more suggestions - please let me know.

**Useful web sites**

There are many web sites devoted to animation, but one of my favorites is [The Animation Blog](http://www.theanimationblog.com), which has been running since 2007 and includes examples of student work, music videos, professional animations (generally under five minutes), and the occasional curiosity. It sources some of its material from [Vimeo](http://vimeo.com), which is worth reviewing every week or two. [Motionographer](http://www.motionographer.com) concentrates upon professional motion graphics and video, while the [Animation Career Review](http://www.animationcareerreview.com) has a collection of 100 sites at [http://www.animationcareerreview.com/articles/top-100-animation-sites-you-need-know](http://www.animationcareerreview.com/articles/top-100-animation-sites-you-need-know). It’s worth picking through these and bookmarking the most useful and relevant.

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