

# Keith Acheson

## PROFILE

- Knowledge of two leading 3D / VFX packages: Houdini, and Maya.
- Over 2 years of experience working with Houdini at Side Effects Software (creators of Houdini)
- Create visual effects and 3D animations for broadcast television commercials.
- Experience working in a fast paced, deadline-oriented environment creating 3D animations for digital networks including the TTC digital network.
- Graduated with High Honours from the Toronto Film School in 3D Computer Animation in Post Production.
- Creative and innovative with proven organization and presentation skills.
- Ability to work well in a team environment as well as individually.

## ARTISTIC ABILITIES

### Software Skills

- Houdini
- Maya
- Photoshop
- After Effects
- mental ray
- Mantra
- Premiere
- Shake

### Related Skills

- Overall knowledge of 3D pipeline including modeling, texturing, lighting, dynamics, and animation workflow.
- Focus in VFX using Houdini - particles, rigid body dynamics, fur, volume fluids, and particle fluids
- 3D shading, lighting, rendering techniques, and procedural shader creation using Houdini's VOP networks.
- Familiar with mental ray, and Mantra render engines.
- Advanced compositing techniques and post-production effects using After Effects, Shake, Houdini's COPs.
- Image manipulation, enhancement, and texture map creation using Photoshop and ZBrush.
- Understanding of procedural workflow used in node-based programs such as Houdini and Shake.

## EDUCATION

- 2006 ▪ **Diploma - 3D Computer Animation - High Honours**  
Toronto Film School - Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- **Portrait and Figure Drawing Classes**  
Lynrich Arts - Thornhill, Ontario, Canada
- 2000 ▪ **Diploma - Digital Media Design - Honours**  
International Academy of Design - Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 1998 ▪ **OSSD**  
Pine Ridge Secondary School - Pickering, Ontario, Canada

WORK EXPERIENCE

JAN 07 - CURRENT ▪ **PRODUCTION SPECIALIST**

**Side Effects Software**

- Create visual effects and animations for marketing videos and other material.
- Produce Houdini marketing videos for the company's web site and trade shows.
- Help with managing interns and their work progress for various VFX projects.

2005 - CURRENT ▪ **FREELANCE VFX + 3D ARTIST**

- Create commercials for national television, and movie theatres.
- Create high-end graphics for print ads which include 3D artwork and compositing.
- Create 2D and 3D graphics and animations for a variety of customers.

MAR 06 - DEC 06 ▪ **2D / 3D ANIMATOR**

**Fourth Wall Media**

- Created 3D animations for the TTC digital network and other networks.
- Produced various 3D graphics for websites and print material.

2006 ▪ **TEACHING ASSISTANT (TA)**

**Toronto Film School - 3D Computer Animation Program**

- Aided students in the creation of their demo reels.
- Areas of assistance included visual effects, modeling, texturing, rigging, animation, lighting, rendering, and compositing.

AWARDS

2006 ▪ **Nominated - Best Animated Film: Character Animation**

Toronto Film School - Film Festival 2006

NON-CG INTERESTS

Travel, guitar, movies, snowboarding, poker, magic tricks.

REFERENCES

References available upon request.