

Catherine Croft

Brooklyn, New York
cecroft7@gmail.com
+1 (612) 214-2548

Self-taught stop motion animator specializing in miniature fabrication and puppet construction; pursuing job opportunities in stop motion fabrication and/or production.

Professional Experience

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Council of Washington State, September 2021- June 2022

Scripted, fabricated, and animated *Brain Adventures with Myelin*, a three-part series aimed to educate kids on brain anatomy and the effects of traumatic brain injury. Worked independently on contract and reported progress every two weeks to the Traumatic Brain Injury Council. Videos are currently being developed into a teaching module that will be distributed by *safekidswa* to students across Washington state.

Museum of Museums (MoM), Seattle WA, October 2022-present

Created and installed *Crawlers Museum*, an intricate miniature exhibit on display at the MoM through Spring 2023. *Crawlers Museum* is the first exhibit shown in this space, Locker 141, conceptualized as a to-scale “art museum” for the insects, arachnids, and worms of MoM to show off their own masterpieces. Miniature pieces showcased include “Dinner, A Fly-Covered Still Life, *acrylic on canvas*,” “Wings, A Monarch Wing Sculptural Piece, *fabric and mixed media*,” and “Mucus, A Fly Mucus Chandelier, *Resin*.” *Crawlers Museum* was selected out of an open call by MoM for exhibition proposals.

Academic Projects

The Cortex Crew, Los Angeles CA, May - August 2020

Awarded a competitive full-time independent summer research fellowship (Budget: \$4,500) to create *The Cortex Crew*. An experimental animation, the film follows four characters on a journey through the auditory cortex, educating young people about neuroscience. Created short- and long-term project objectives; self-taught fabrication methods, including cinematography and video editing in premiere; completed all aspects of concept development, script writing, fabrication, filming, audio recording, animation, and editing of a 7 minute stop-motion short. Presented short and methodology at the University of Puget Sound’s *Fall Research Symposium*, September 2020.

Wiggling Wonders, Tacoma WA, December 2020- May 2021

In this year-long independent Senior Thesis, I created a nine-part series of stop motion animated shorts that explore surreal sensory experiences through animated forms. These pieces examine the wonder and terror within a dream-like environment to create the simultaneous sensations of indulgence and disturbance. Met for weekly critique and progress reports. On display at the 2021 University of Puget Sound Studio Art Senior Show, May 2021, Kittredge Gallery. Faculty advisor: Professor Janet Marcavage.

Worm-on-worm Action, Tacoma WA, Jan-March 2020

Plaster and acrylic paint.

Show: *2020 Art Students Annual* at the Kittredge Gallery.

Savana, Tacoma WA, Jan-March 2020

Charcoal on parchment.

Show: *2020 Art Students Annual* at the Kittredge Gallery.

Open Wide, Tacoma WA, Jan - March 2019

Stoneware finished in a soda fire.

Show: *2019 Art Students Annual* at the Kittredge Gallery.

Independently created stop-motion shorts

- *Cut off*, July 2019, 15 seconds
- *Nose Bleed*, August 2019, 15 seconds
- *Water Molecules*, October 2019, 40 seconds
- *Happy Birthday*, October 2019, 3 seconds
- *Mole Hole*, October 2019, 20 seconds
- *Gloria*, December 2019, 25 seconds
- *Woven Worms*, April 2020, 1 minute
- *Calligraphy Catastrophe*, May 2020, 20 seconds
- *Snack Time*, September 2020, 10 seconds
- *Hand Sandwich*, October 2020, 25 seconds
- *A Cartwheel*, November 2020, 20 seconds
- *Pimple Popper*, December 2020, 23 seconds
- *Leggs*, January 2021, 43 seconds
- *Bathtime*, January 2021, 22 seconds
- *Cigarette Break*, March 2021, 12 seconds

Education

University of Puget Sound, Bachelor of Arts

Studio Art Major, Neuroscience Minor

Studio art classes include: Sculpture (beginning, intermediate, advanced); Ceramics (beginning, intermediate, advanced); Drawing (beginning, intermediate); Beginning Painting.

Lectures

Guest Lecture at the University of Puget Sound: On my journey being a self-taught stop motion animation artist. Given to ARTS 287 *Introduction to digital imaging*, professor: Nate Clark.

Honors

Annual Sculpture Award at *2020 Art Students Annual* at the Kittredge Gallery for *Worm on Worm Action*.

Annual Ceramics Award at *2019 Art Students Annual* at the Kittredge Gallery for *Open Wide*.

Skills

Fabrication

- Puppet fabrication; wire, cloth, and resin armatures (silicone or foam exteriors)
- Smooth-on silicone and epoxy resins
- Moldmaking
- Silicone and resin dyeing
- Constructing interchangeable eye, mouth, and body parts
- Clay modeling with ceramics, polymer, and epoxy clays
- Fiber arts: sewing (hand stitch and machine); felting; embroidery; crochet; knit
- Miniature props and sets
- Small-scale lighting

Animation

- Dragonframe
- Adobe Premier
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe After Effects
- Rigging

Concept development

- Storyboarding
- Script writing

Technical skills

- Working with power tools
- Working in small scale
- Painting life-size to miniature
- Illustrating

Media Coverage

“The Cortex Crew: Catherine Croft ‘21 uses movie magic to introduce kids to neuroscience in a fun, accessible way,” *Puget Sound Stories*, 2021 <https://www.pugetsound.edu/stories/cortex-crew>

“The Museum of Museum’s Fall Exhibits,” *Real Change*, 2022

<https://www.realchangenews.org/news/2022/10/19/gum-baby-installation-tariqa-waters-draws-crowds-museum-museums>