

12. Practical Flash 1 – Terry Gilliam Style Animation

Introduce your students to the work of Monty Python Animator Terry Gilliam. They are more likely to recognise his influence in the ‘Desperate Housewives’ titles than the original Python material!

See Monty Python's Flying Circus: Terry Gilliam's Personal Best [1969] DVD

Now, google or scan appropriate images to make a short sequence (Classical Art will work well hence Gilliam's use of the Bronzini foot as will historical imagery)

Next, using photoshop, cut out the figure from your picture and save it as a png file (See Tutorial)

Once you have all your png files in a folder, you can go back into flash and create your animation using motion tweens.

Remember to export your animation as an avi or quicktime file, which can then be imported into your video editing software.

References

Clip 12.1 – The student googled images which reflected their interest in Marilyn Monroe and other fifties starlets. The soundtrack was created by sampling from ‘Some like it hot’, then creating other musical tracks in garageband.

Clip 12.2 – This piece was inspired by Robert Bradbrook's short film ‘Home Road Movies’ (http://www.atomfilms.com/sw/content/home_road)) which tells the story of remembered family driving holidays using CGI, live action, animation, all coloured in early Polaroid/postcard hues. The student first created animations in Flash by motion tweening cut-outs from their family album. This was done with a blue background, which was then keyed out to reveal old super 8 footage.

Tutorial 6 – Preparing Images for animation