



Gregory Araya

Animation and Creative Director



Profile

Creative professional with 15+ years experience devoted to media production, 10+ in lead and advisory roles. In-depth knowledge of visual storytelling, animation pipelines, collaborating with production partners and communicating with stakeholders at intersection of technical, creative, and executive realms. Highly proficient with task prioritization and management of multiple cross-disciplinary teams with a proven track record for consistent and successful delivery of creative visions across a variety of traditional and emergent media platforms.



Highlighted Skills

- **Project Management** - Track and report on execution. Prioritize tasks to ensure delivery on schedule.
- **Concept Development** - Cultivate creative visions from ambiguity to definitive, tangible deliverables.
- **Aesthetic Execution** - Appreciate what is needed to communicate intent within a desired mode and style.
- **Team Leadership** - Support and elevate team members as individuals and collaborators.
- **Quality Control** - Maintain highest production standards, refine best practices.



Selected Experience

Director at Bento Box Entertainment, North Hollywood CA

Dec 2020 - Oct 2023

- Provide budget savings by creating operating efficiencies within the post-production phase.
- Develop elegant solutions to fulfill ambitious creative aspirations within time and resource constraints.
- Coordinate and direct co-production partners on five continents to deliver AAA content at outsource rates.
- Oversaw a revisions process whose success subsequently influenced overall practice for the organization.

Associate Chair of Animation at Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah GA

Sep 2016 - Aug 2017

- Collaborated with administration and executives to propose substantive improvements to BFA curricula.
- Recruited and hired passionate, credentialed professionals to expand qualifications and expertise of faculty pool.
- Increased student engagement with quarterly masterclass and mentorship events featuring animation luminaries.
- Spearheaded initiatives which elevated the department's academic ranking per Animation Career Network.

Professor of Animation at Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah GA

Sep 2014 - Jun 2021

- Focused curricula and instruction to boost efficiency and innovation for a department [ranked #2](#) globally.
- Developed bespoke 2D, 3D, and Hybrid production pipelines to convey appealing aesthetic intent.
- Equipped students for success with creative and technical support for dozens of award-winning independent films.
- Mentored creative growth. Consistently rated highly per the RNL Student Satisfaction Inventory survey.

Animation Guild Journeyman at Multiple Studios, Los Angeles CA

Apr 2005 - Aug 2014

- Collaborated with creative leadership and peers fulfilling end-to-end production roles in delivery of multiple Emmy-acknowledged animated television series.
- Worked from scripts and outlines to write, storyboard, and pitch episodes for executive approval.
- Directed story and led animation teams in production of primetime animated television series.
- Employers included Cartoon Network Studios, Disney Television Animation, Warner Bros. Animation, Nickelodeon Animation Studios, HBO.

Graphic Artist at Jellyvision Inc., Chicago IL

Apr 2000 - Jun 2001

- Animated expressive 2D and 3D characters and UI elements for a brand of genre-defining social gaming experiences.
- Designed and coded commercial, educational, and entertainment user experience prototypes which expanded the organization's product range and client base.
- Modernized corporate identity with a revision of the company logo and on-brand designs for assorted new projects.

Video Lead at High Voltage Software, Hoffman Estates IL

Jun 1998 - Apr 2000

- Ran the promotional department and video production division of a third-party video game development company.
- Edited live action and animated 3D cinematics for AAA video game titles and an NBA team identity.
- Oversaw multiple promotional campaigns from start to finish, delivering media for video, online and print distribution.

Contact

(818) 288-0032

greg.araya@gmail.com

Links

gregaraya.com

[LinkedIn Profile](#)

[IMDB credits](#)

Education

MFA Animation & Digital Arts

University of Southern California
2004

BFA cum laude, Illustration

Savannah College of Art and Design
1992

Exhibitions & Publications

[The Loneliest Bachelor](#) 2023

[Adobe YouTube Channel](#) 2020

[Adobe Blog](#) 2020

SIGGRAPH 2008

Los Angeles Film Forum 2007

Young Directors Night LACMA 2006

Sundance Film Festival 2004

SXSW Film Festival 2004

Annecy Intl Animation Festival 2004

RESFEST 2004

Ottawa Intl Animation Festival 2003

Selected Distinctions

Animation Program Juror

RiverRun Intl Film Festival 2023

Honorable Mention, Graduate Film

Ottawa Intl Film Festival 2003

Finalist, Animation Category

31st Student Academy Awards 2003