

Project II
Animation and Film Design (2009-11)

GUIDE:
Prof. Phani Tetali
IIT BOMBAY
IDC 2010

By:
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Declaration sheet

I declare that this written submission represents my ideas in own words and where other's ideas or words have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented or fabricated or falsified any idea/data/fact/source in my submission. I understand that any violation of the above will be cause of disciplinary action by the Institute and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

Signature

Manish Hans

Name of the student

Manish Hans

Roll No.

09634801

Date

31st / Dec / 2010

Approval sheet

The project II titled “ Innocent Dreams ” by Manish Hans is approved in partial fulfillment of the requirement for M.Des. Degree in Animation and Film Design.

Guide

T. Phani

External Examiner

[Signature]

Internal Examiner

[Signature]

Chairman

K. Revale

Acknowledgment

I would sincerely like to thank my guide Prof. Phani Tetali for his immense guidance and support and also I would like to thank Prof. Nina Sabnani, Prof. Shilpa Ranade, Prof. C.P. Narayan, and Prof Sumant Rao for their valuable suggestions during presentation.

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Abstract

The film is based on our childhood assumption of magical existence everywhere around us.
This film exploring the emotions of kid and his innocent acts , who wanted to see the world around him as his own playground.

Introduction

The project is based on the Ventriloquist show and thier performance on the stage, how their lively act gives life to the puppet. Thier art is so natural and perfected by regrous practice that any one who watch the show tend to believe that the puppet is actually alive and talking. This is the power of ventriloquism.

Ventriloquism as an art dated back to egyptian era , where puppets are used to represent Gods Voice by the priests and later it evolved to the entertainment show.

The film attempts to find the deep emotions and attachment of kid with the surroundings around him. He wanted to see play in everywhere , and try to beleive in his own acts. After watching the show of ventriloquism how he initially react to it and the assumptions he made in his mind.

The childs heart is innocent , he tries to belive that the Puppet could actually talk and became his friend.

The film express the state of mind of such Kid who get influnced by the ventriloqism , and thought that the puppet was actually talking.

Explorations

As a child I was always fascinated by people who use to make puppets talk. At that age I use to think that the puppets actually talk and those people have a magical friend with whom they keep talking. But as i grew older I realised that was not the case and those people were actually art-ists who use to provide voice to these magical friends. These people with special art were called 'VENTRILOQUISTS'.

So for my film I wanted to use this art as a base and build a story around it to convey the same fascination I had about these magical friends.

So I started reading about ventriloquists, saw several shows on the internet, and from there i got to know about Mr. Ramdas Padhye who is a well known ventriloquist in India and abroad. He lives in Mumbai, which gave me an opportunity to talk to him and his son Mr. Satya-jit Padhye who is also a ventriloquist. After talking to them I realised about their passion and attachment with their art and their puppets. They told me that to master this art one has to go through a continous and rigorous practise so that they are able to throw the voice without moving their lips.

The talk with them made me realise how important their voice is to them. They spend so much time with their puppet that they tend to build a relationship with it so strong that it actually becomes their shadow. These people through these puppets take their emotions out into the world, sometimes if the artist himself is sad in his life, his puppet is all happy and crack jokes almost in whole the act. So from here my story started taking shape where it revolves around a ventriloquist's journey through the life.



Mr. Bean

The initial idea came through the popular Animation series Mr . Bean. where he has a special friend his Softoy Bear, he keep his bear with him everytime and talk to him . he even bath with him, play , go to shopping and sleep.

the series is very popular with kids and even among adults.



Child Play

Young Girls and Boys are very fond of thier toys especially dolls and Teddy-Bears. They play with them , eat and sleep with them . They even collect different dresses and household items for thier dolls etc.



Ventriloquist Show :

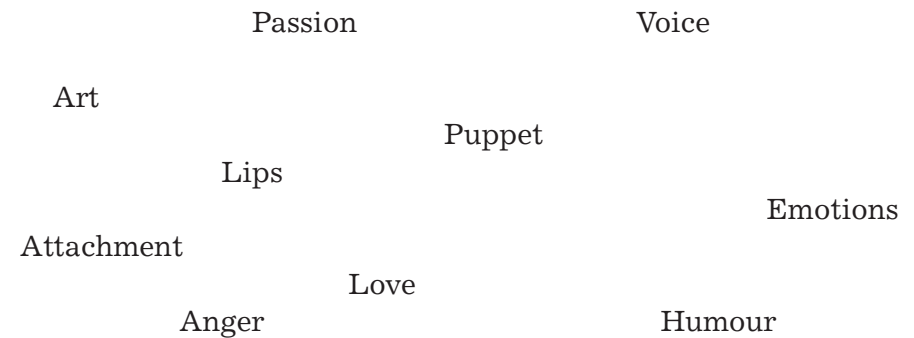
though i didn't myself attended the show , but internet is a good source of watching such stuffs .



At the school of ventriloquism.

Story Development

The keywords I found after exploring the art were-



So the initial thought was to make all these words visible in the story. The first story that came to my mind was that the ventriloquist loses his voice. His puppet actually gets a voice and becomes a magical puppet. But later the ventriloquist finds that all these years when he thought he was giving his puppet a voice was not true. But at the end he realises that His puppet actually had a voice of his own since the beginning. But through various discussions with my guide, other professors and friends, we came to a conclusion that the story lacked a logical base. So I went on to improvise it further where the ventriloquist did lose his voice but the puppet didn't get one.

Final Story

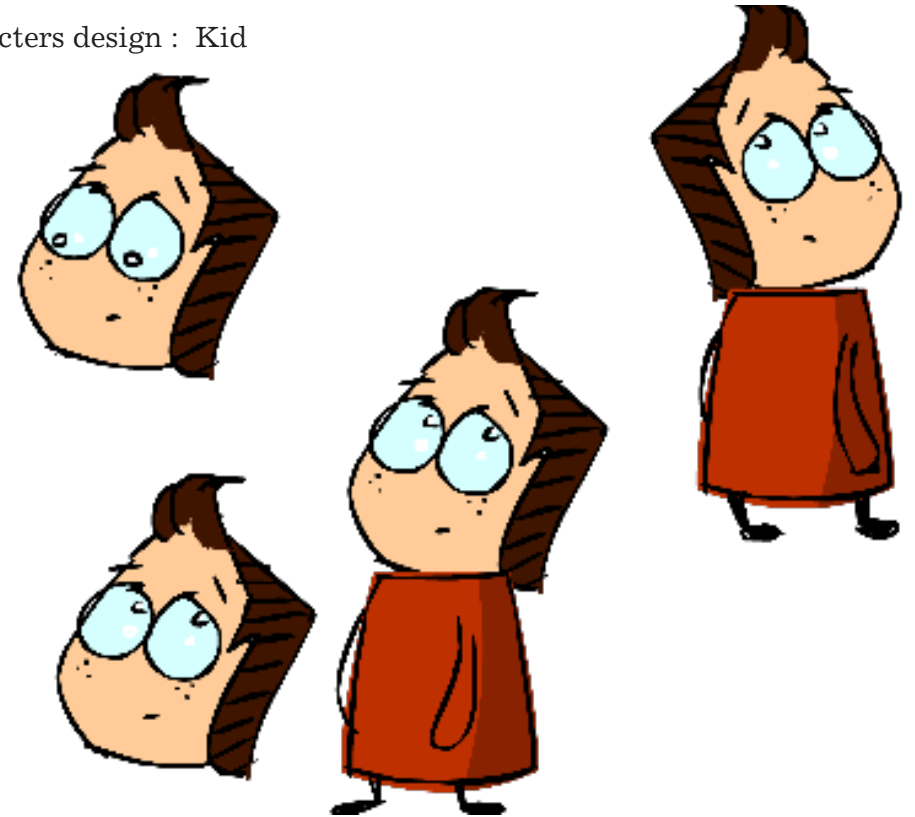
The film starts with the kid watching ventriloquist show in television, getting impressed by performance and amazed by seeing the puppet talking.

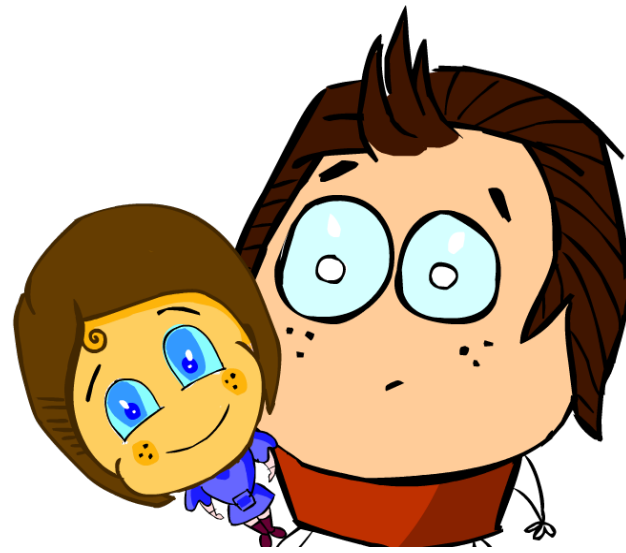
Boy goes down and take his doll kept on the almirah, and try to talk to him. Getting failed he decided to teach the doll, doing various activities like teaching alphabates on the white board, try listening music etc.

scene cuts to the face of an old man , who smiles and look back to the doll , kiss it and kept it back on the old box.

Pre Production

characters design : Kid







backgrounds design :

backgrounds are made in Photoshop . and i choosed blue as my color theme.
the look and feel of the film is colourful yet very monochrome as a overall feel.





here i wanted to little distort the perspective , so as to define its style.



Script

scene 1 :

sequence 1 :

starts with outside of house, and camera slowly zooms in , into the house.

sequence 2:

the camera pans through interior wall of house, where the photographs of kid is shown.

scence 2

sequence 1:

television is on, and ventriloquist show is running , camrea zoom out , kid is watching the show(kids back)

sequence 2 :

side profile of kid watching the show, and his expressions becoming deep and strong.

scene 3

sequence 1:

the kid gets up and climb down the ladders.

sequence 2:

reach to the room where a doll is kept on the cupboard. he looks at the doll.

sequence 3:

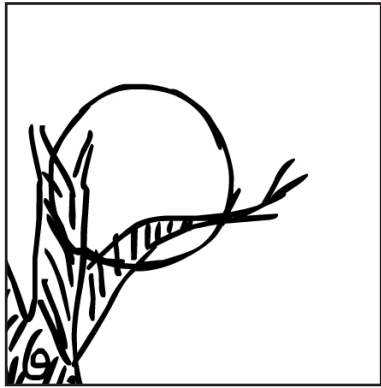
kid try to reach to the doll but fails, he then pulls the small table and finally get to the doll.

scene 4 :

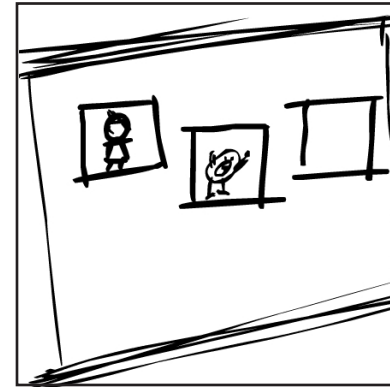
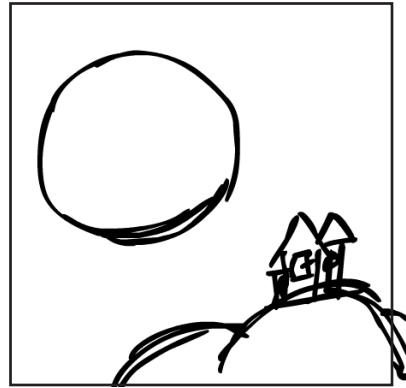
sequence 1:

kid sitting with the doll and trying to talk with it .

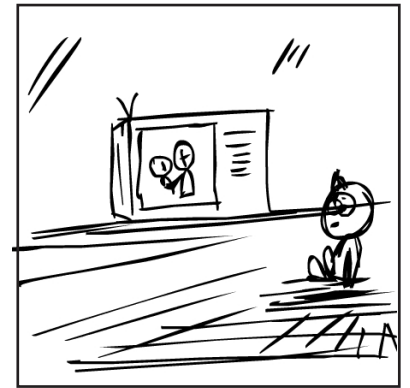
Rough StoryBoard.



big moon , and bluish sky.



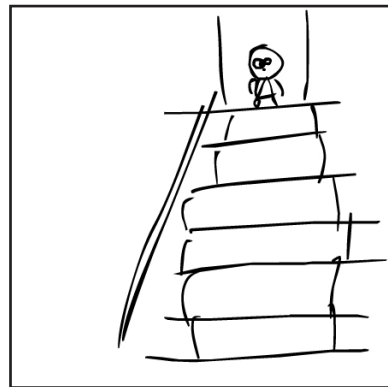
camera pans on the wall,
frames . pictures of kid.



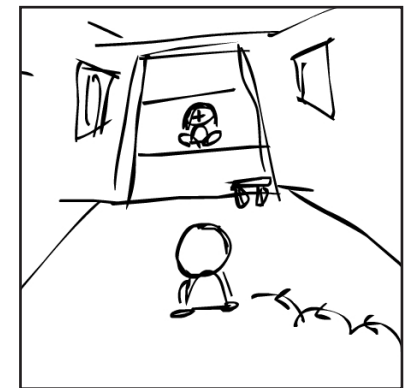
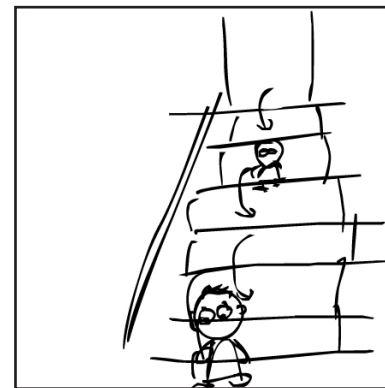
watching TV (ventriloquist
show.)



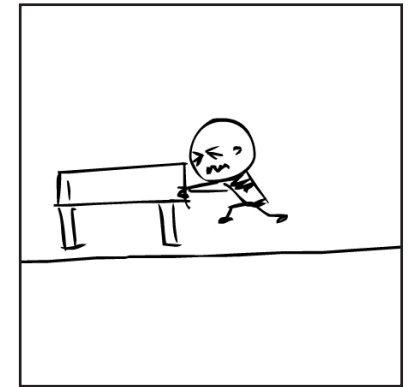
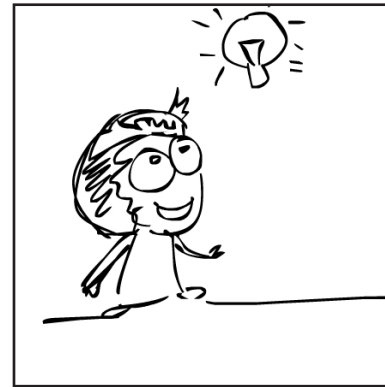
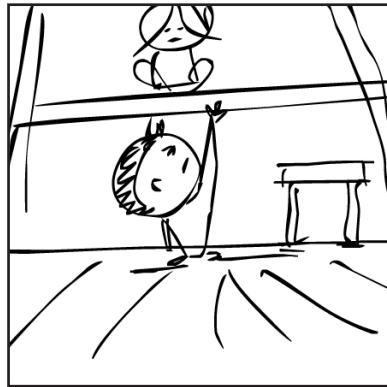
got some idea.



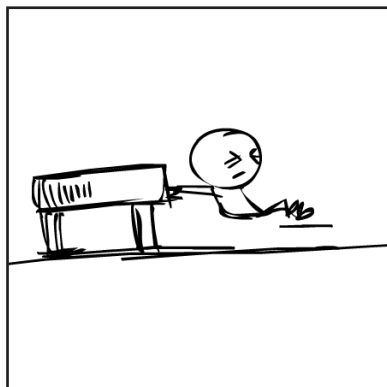
climbs down the ladders.



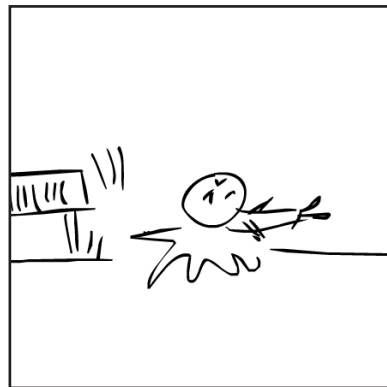
reach to other room.



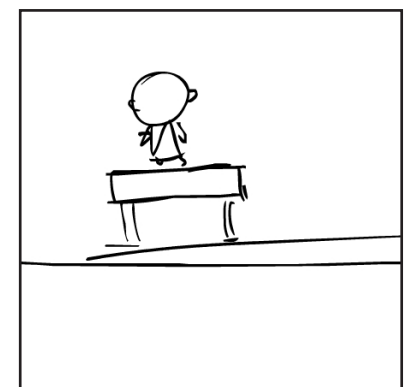
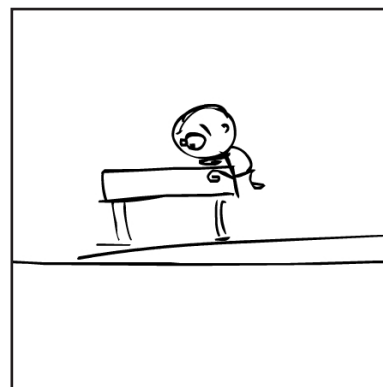
pushing the table.

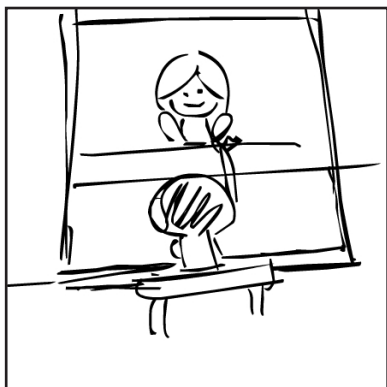


pushing with more pressure

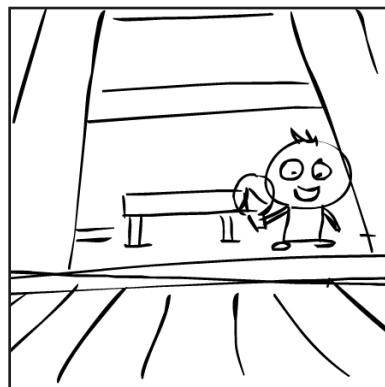
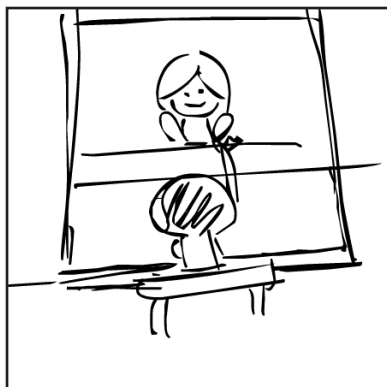


suddenly table moves and he lost his balance.





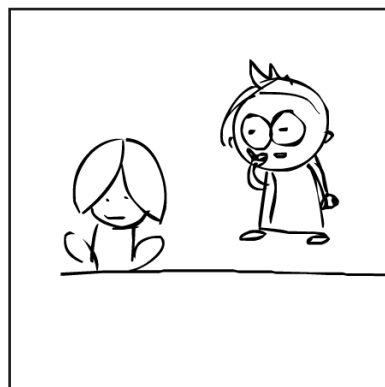
pick the doll.



ladders

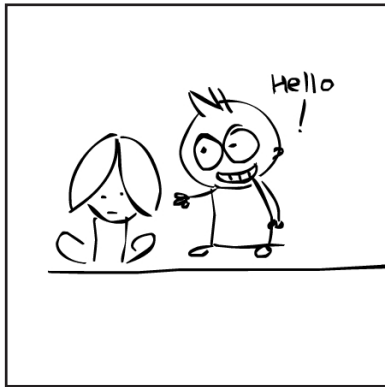


climb up the ladders.

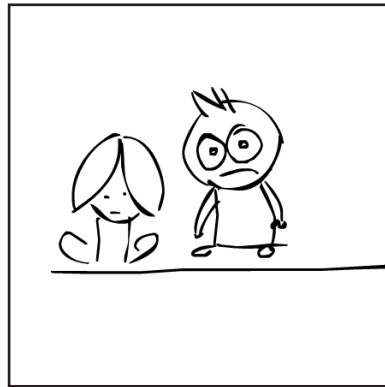


trying to talk with doll.

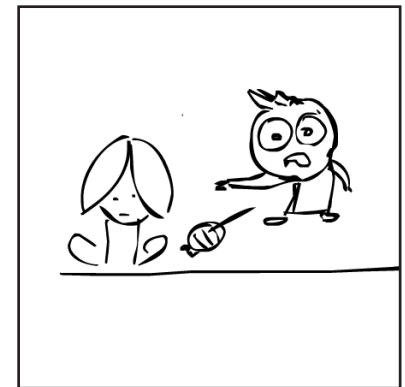
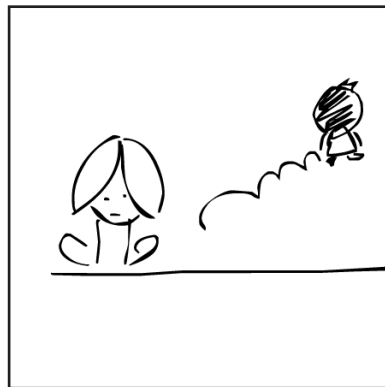
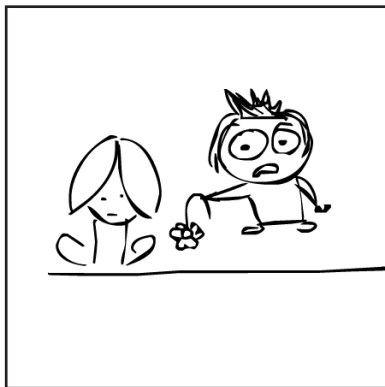
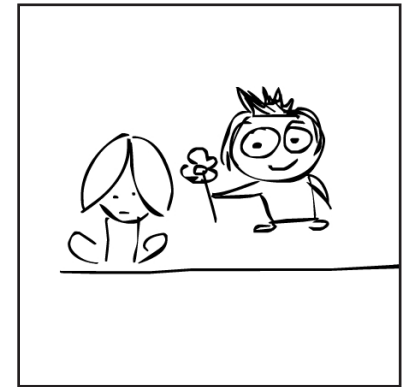
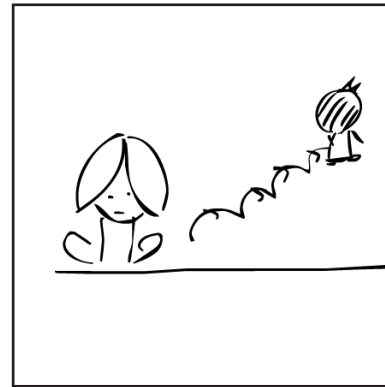


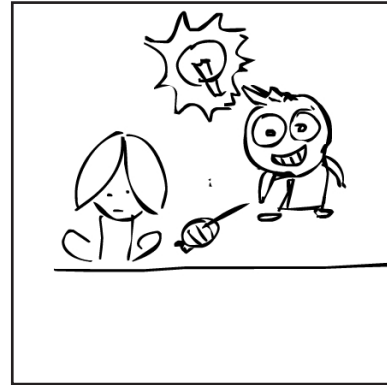
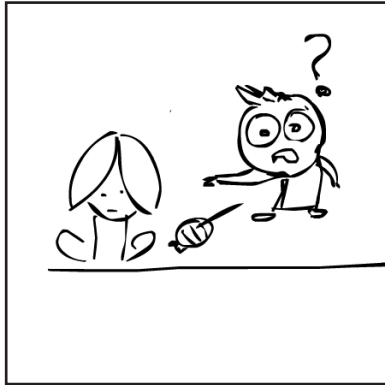


says hello !

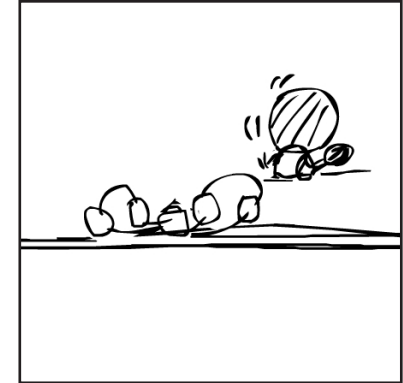
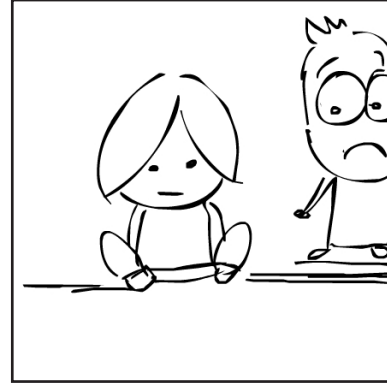
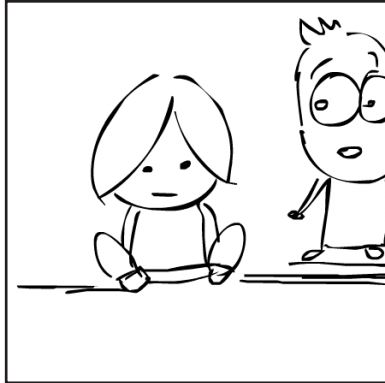


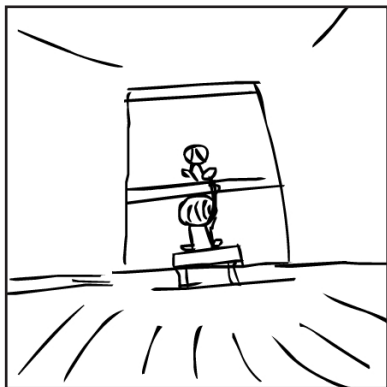
no reply.



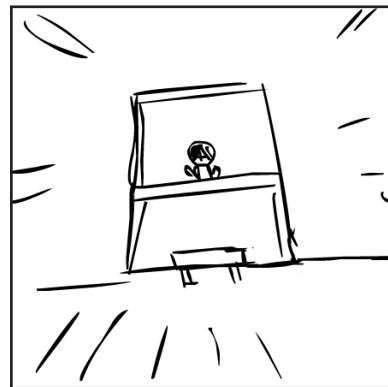


reading book , on how to teach.
zz





kid kept the doll back on the cupboard.



kid goes back.



time changes , frames on wall objects etc.



old man enter, in the room



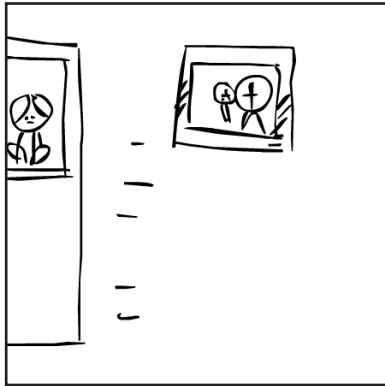
looks at the doll



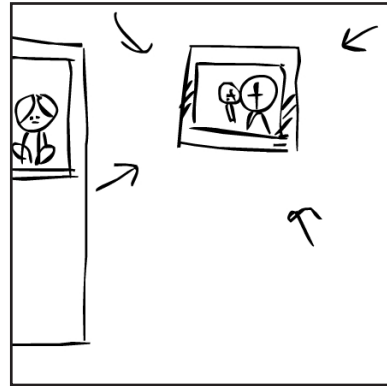
smiles , as he did something foolish in past



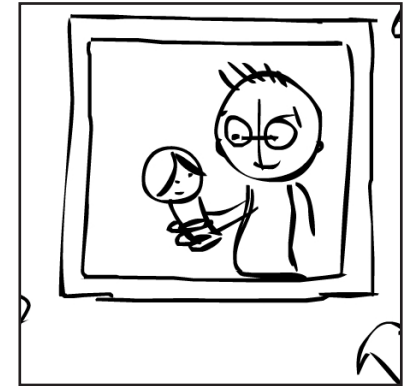
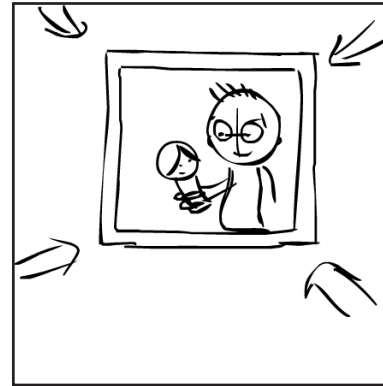
kept the doll back



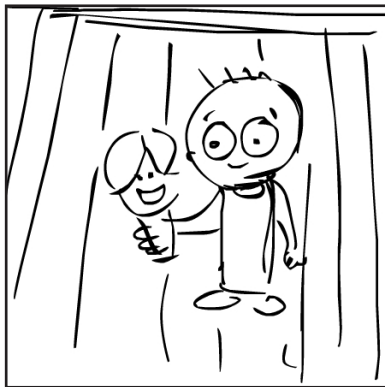
old man goes out.



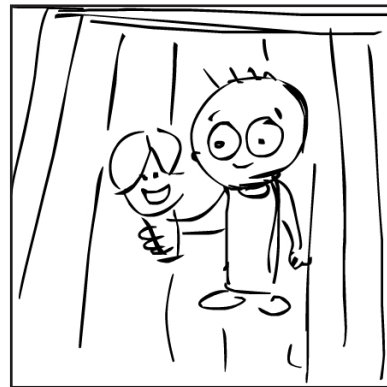
camera zooms on the frame



camera zoom more,
now puppet started moving



and so as the old man



camera zooms out, its an
ambience of theater where
, that old man is shown as
ventriloquist. showz end and
everyone is clapping.

Concept Art







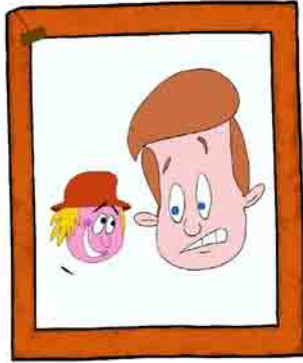












Style

In this film , i want to explore the different style in film making, especially in backgrounds.

In indoor scenes the backgrounds are very monochromes and edge type, also the perspective is distorted, but at the same time it should look good in presentation .

the characters are drawn in flash and very simplistic approach is followed so as it complements the backgrounds and at the same time should animate easily. although the characters are simple but the emphasis is given on the animation,

during animating a character i made sure

- 1) the emotions of the character should be shown with importance,
- 2) the way character react to anything , is very detailed studied and followed in animation.
- 3) where-ever required

The opening shot , the extra bigger size of moon , itself clarifies that the style in the film is going to be little different .

Technique

After the initial story boarding, the animation is mostly done in Adobe Flash CS4 software and some in Adobe Photoshop CS4 software depending upon the complexity of the shot.

Rough animation was done in Adobe Flash CS4 and then were coloured in Adobe Photoshop CS4. The coloured images were then imported in Adobe Premier where they were timed correctly and then again imported back to Adobe After Effects for compositing.

Given more emphasis on compositing , which includes color correction , animation timing and layer blendings etc.

References :

I CAN SEE YOUR LIPS MOVING

The history and Art of VENTRILOQUISM - by Valentine Vox

www.vpuppet.com

(website of Famous Mr Ramdas Padhye)

Ramdas Padhye Show (Marathi) - showreel.