

Summer Internship



STUDIO
EEKSAURUS
PRODUCTIONS PVT LTD

18th May – 27th June

Swati Addanki
AN 146340001
M.Des, Class of 2016,
Industrial Design Centre, IIT Bombay



Date: 27.6.2015

To Whomsoever It May Concern

This is to certify that **Swati Addanki**, of Industrial Design Center, was working at Studio Eeksauros Productions Pvt. Ltd. as an intern from 18th May, 2015 to 27th June, 2015.

During her internship, we found her to be a keen learner, hardworking and sincere. She worked on script & character design for our in-house short film. She was a part of the character design team and worked well on the ongoing projects.

Swati has excellent drawing skills and I liked the characters she had designed for our short film. We had narrowed down on one set of characters she had designed for our in-house short film. Apart from this, her character design work for our ongoing ad projects was also really good. I would urge her get involved in all aspects of filmmaking at this stage of learning and not get stuck with one kind of illustration style or character design style. Swati has immense potential as an animation film designer.

We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

For Studio Eeksauros Productions Pvt. Ltd.

Suresh Erivat
Director

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank Mr. Suresh Eriyat and Ms. Nilima Suresh Eriyat for giving me the opportunity to intern at Studio Eeksaurus Pvt. Ltd. I would also like to thank Ms. Sunita Kathiwada for being extremely patient with us and guiding us at every step. My special thanks to Doofus, the office dog, who made our time at Studio Eeksaurus memorable.

Declaration

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I declare that the views represented in this document as part of the written submission of the summer internship project are entirely my own and do not necessarily represent the views of Studio Eeksaurus Pvt. Ltd.

Swati Addanki
7th July, 2015.

Abstract

This written document is an account of the work I did as an intern in Studio Eeksaurus. My primary aim with this internship was to understand the inner workings of an animation studio and improve my skills in the process.

In the six weeks that I interned at the studio, I worked on the pre-production of an in-house animated film, from script to character design. I also worked on commercial ad films for Google Android which gave me an insight into the variety of projects the studio works on.

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I. Introduction

The Company

Studio Eeksaurus Pvt. Ltd. is a multi-platform production and entertainment company based in Santa Cruz, Mumbai, with an in-house animation studio. The studio is a premiere ad film production company where their expertise include making films using 2D animation, 3D animation, claymation, stop motion, live action and also working on scripts, storyboard, animatic and character and concept designs.

Studio Eeksaurus has been around for more than 2 years, with more than 70 films to its credit and has won more than 20 international and national awards for its work.

In the month and a half that I worked in the studio, I had the opportunity to work and see projects in their pre-production and production stages. I was mostly involved in character design for different projects and script generation.

II. Projects Undertaken

In our time in the studio, we were assigned work in two major projects, the Android films and an in-house animated short 'Wait', both of which ran parallel. We were also expected to do basic-editing work for the Honda commercials.

1. Character Design for Google Android

Brief: To create character designs for two android films based on given scripts. The look and style of the characters had to be built on the existing Android bot.

I was asked to work on two films, 'Hospital' and 'Selfie'. I also did some explorations for the 'Hairstyle' film.

Feedback: The characters I designed for the 'Hospital' film were approved by the clients and were used in the final film. I was asked to make minor changes in colour and detail to fit with their specifications. The final design was an amalgamation of the versions made. The characters for 'Selfie' were also appreciated.

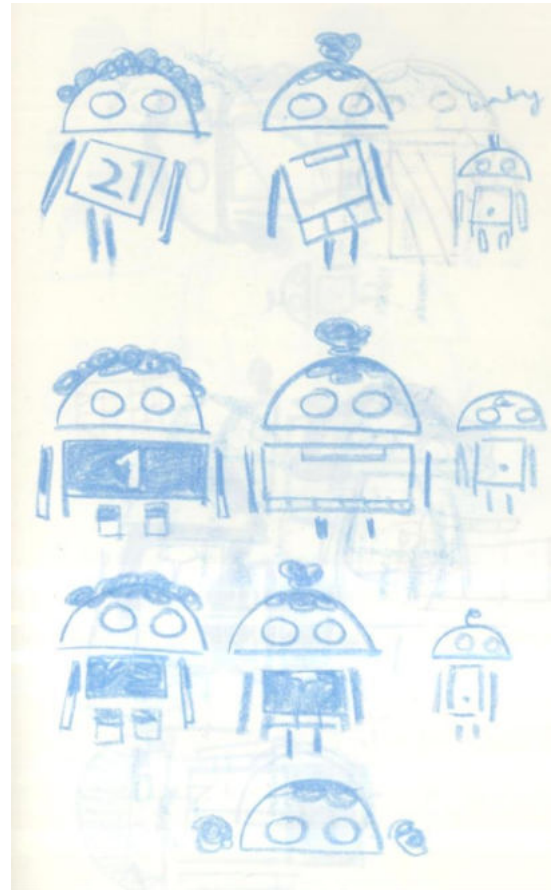
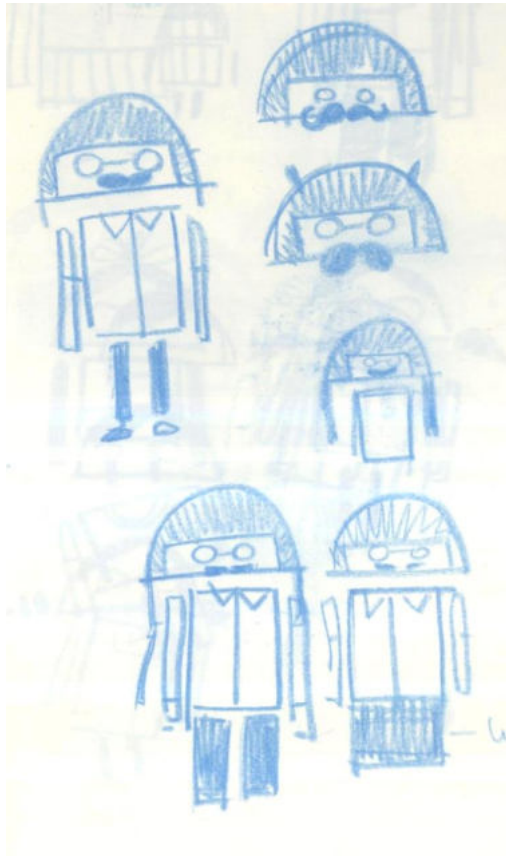
1.1 Hospital film

Script: Film opens on papa bot waiting outside a hospital on his scooter with a sidecar. He has his two children bots sitting behind. They all are shaking their head to music.

Just then we see a female bot, his wife, coming out of the hospital with an new baby bot in her arms. The father and the children bots are overjoyed as the mother puts the baby in a well padded child seat of sidecar of the scooter and she sits behind her husband. Children bots are in between.

Now all the bots ride off shaking their heads together to the music, including the new baby bot.
We cut to the super;

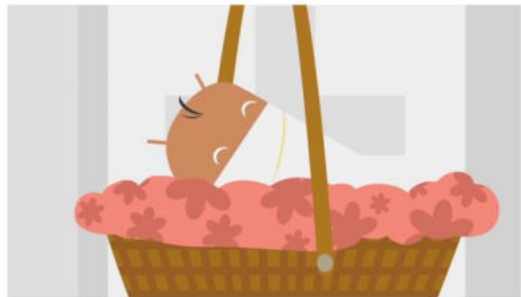
Super: Our new bundle of joy. Welcome Lava xxxx.



Hospital film: Initial sketches



Hospital film: Explorations



Hospital film: Final design used in film

1.2 Hairstyle film

Script: Film opens on a young bot stepping out of a Salon door. We see he has a really funky, unusual hairstyle. The camera pans down to reveal his poodle has the same haircut. Both of them walk away looking happy.

We cut the young bot and the poodle stepping out of the salon again. This time both of them have an all new hairdo. Both of them walk away looking happy.

We cut to them next day again walking out of the salon with an even funkier hairdo. The young bot and the poodle look at each other and walk away confidently.

We cut to them next day again walking out of the salon with an even more fashionable hairdo. The young bot winks at the poodle and the poodle winks back and they both walk away.

We cut to the super;

Super: Always trendy with regular updates



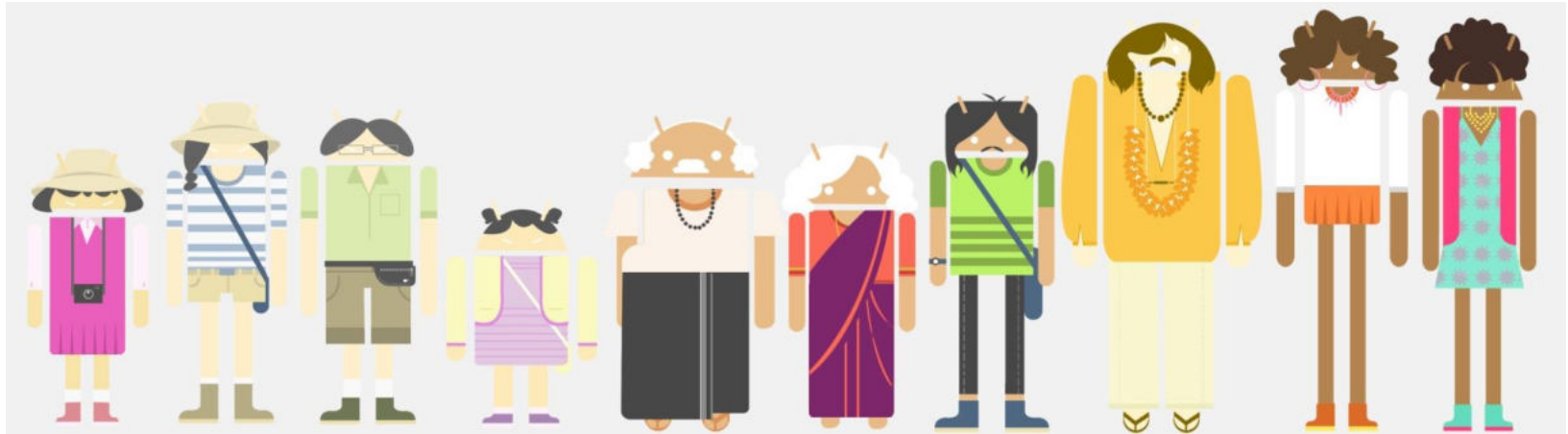
Hairstyle film: Initial sketches

1.3 Selfie film

Script: Film opens on a young tourist bot about to take a selfie standing in front of Taj Mahal. As he holds his phone in front of his face to take a selfie, an American bot joins in. Two more African bots join them for the picture. They reposition themselves and get ready for the selfie. As the bot is about to click, another bot, a group of Chinese tourists, join in.

As they are finally about to click, an old couple slowly walk in to join the group. The bot holding the phone starts taking a panoramic shot in order to cover everyone. Everybody looks in to the phone as we hear the phone's burst mode sound taking picture. We cut to super;

Super: Everyone in with Panoramic selfie



Selfie film: Explorations

2. Pre-production work for the film 'Wait'

Project Brief: An in-house animated film project that was handled entirely by the interns.

We were split into groups based on our skills and areas of interest, and told to create backgrounds, concept art, storyboards and character designs on the given script.

2.1 Script

Brief: To make changes to the script to better time the film and make it easier to animate.

We went through multiple iterations before we finally settled on a script we liked. Each time, the script was sent to E.Suresh for approval and we were given feedback on what could be done to improve it further.

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

Orig- Anthony is playing in the living room with his toy cars. The doorbell rings and he runs towards the door. He is amused to see his father at the door carrying a huge box. He jumps and runs behind his father.

Edit- It begins with Anthony's dad gifting him a radio on his birthday.

His father keeps the box on the table and starts opening it. Anthony climbs onto a stool with curiosity. He gets surprised when he sees his father take a brand new radio out of the box. His father sets the tuner, adjusts the antenna and music starts playing. Anthony jumps in excitement.

He enjoys the new radio as beautiful songs kept playing one after the other, when a thought struck him

Original Script:

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE- DAY

Anthony is scribbling on the wall with crayons when a pair of legs enter the frame. Anthony looks up with guilt and drops his crayons. We see the father keep the box on the table and open it. Anthony climbs onto a stool with curiosity. He gets surprised when he sees his father take a brand new radio out of the box. His father sets the tuner, adjusts the antenna and music starts playing. Anthony jumps in excitement.

He enjoys the new radio as beautiful songs keep playing one after the other, after which he tries to figure out where the songs are coming from.

He steps closer to the radio and peeps into the gaps and speaker holes. He moves around the antenna, calls out to the hidden singers, but finds no one.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE- NIGHT

Curious to know what is there inside the radio, Anthony gets up at night

Final Script:

'Wait' film: Changes made to the script

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE- DAY

Anthony is scribbling on the wall with crayons when a pair of legs enter the frame. Anthony looks up with guilt and drops his crayons. We see the father keep the box on the table and open it. Anthony climbs onto a stool with curiosity. He gets surprised when he sees his father take a brand new radio out of the box. His father sets the tuner, adjusts the antenna and music starts playing. Anthony jumps in excitement.

He enjoys the new radio as beautiful songs keep playing one after the other, after which he tries to figure out where the songs are coming from.

He steps closer to the radio and peeps into the gaps and speaker holes. He moves around the antenna, calls out to the hidden singers, but finds no one.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE- NIGHT

Curious to know what is there inside the radio, Anthony gets up at night when everyone is asleep and goes towards it. He peeps again through the gaps of the radio and slowly pats it. He waits for some time, nothing happens. He is just about to leave when a head pops out from the radio.

(A music will start to build up as different characters pop out one after another of radio)

Slowly more and more characters start popping out in uniforms. Anthony is very happy to see them. The characters then sing a song for him and dance as well. Anthony sits there and enjoys the whole performance. The whole experience is magical

CUT TO:

Montage - it starts with Anthony listening to the songs that the characters are playing on a table.

It cuts to a scene where he is sitting in front of the window surrounded by the characters enjoying their music,

cuts to Anthony sitting on his bed with the characters when he hears footsteps. He looks at the door and when he looks back, the characters are gone. The next shot is in the night where Anthony has fallen asleep on the table and the characters are playing a lullaby. All this while, Anthony has been growing older and the condition of the radio worsens overtime.

The montage ends with a morning scene where Anthony is still sleeping on his table. A character comes and blows a trumpet into his ears taking him by surprise. Wiping his drool, Anthony looks at the clock and runs out of the frame since he is late for school. Camera cuts to the drawing on the table with crayons lying around. Its a drawing of Anthony with the characters and the radio. Camera zooms to the speaker of the radio in the drawing.

-Transition-

Zoom out to the radio speaker, The radio is broken and his dad is putting it away in a box and Anthony (now 12) is visibly sad. Anthony's dad picks up the radio and turns away with his back towards the camera. When he turns to face the table again, he has an L.P. record player in his hands. He puts it on the table and Anthony looks at it with the same curiosity. his father sets the needle, plays it and leave.....

Anthony eagerly sits listening to the LP record player, hoping that his character friends will come out of it. his smile fades as after playing for sometimes, nothing comes out of it. feeling uneasy and restless, he pats it, lifts up the disk to see what is below and even opens the box of record player.

close up of anthony- his whole world comes crashing down as he realizes that there is no one inside and that probably he will never see his friends again.

cut to-

shot of the disk. the circular shape of disk fades in to the circular spool wheel of audio cassette. camera zooms out as anthony looks at

'Wait' film: final script

it curiously . he is much older now (20) .

He puts the cassette into a large cassette player and plays it. Again, nothing magical happens, he looks disappointed. He is determined to find those musical characters. He picks up a screw driver, dismantles the cassette player.

Shot of cassette player dismantled. it is a mess, Anthony finds nothing. Frustrated, he picks up a cassette near him and brings it to his eye level. he looks at it with one eye closed, like he is checking it for something. when he notices a girl looking at him (we see this from the POV of Anthony. And now, we are looking at the girl through one of the holes of the cassette). He removes it and looks at the girl. She is looking at him from a window.

-transition-

The image of girl changes into a photograph. Camera zooms out, we see that the photograph is in the wallet of Anthony. He is older now. He puts the wallet in his pocket and looks at his wife and 3 year old son present in the room. He sits beside his son who is listening to songs in a cassette Walkman. Anthony stares at the player hoping for someone to come out.

He looks up to the window where he used to listen to the old radio.

CUT TO-

Shot of the window. Window becomes a bit more old. Anthony enters the frame and looks out of window. he is older now as well (middle aged). His son (late teenage . playing cricket outside with friends). Anthony looks down on the table near the window sill. There is a family photograph -his wife and grown up son. Beside the photograph, we see a CD Walkman. Anthony looks at it, again wishing someone would come out. He picks it up, tries to open it slowly. But his hands are clumsy and it falls on the floor.

He bends down to pick it up.

CUT TO-

Anthony gets up with an Ipod in his hand. he is even older now. He looks at it and smiles. Remembering how big his old radio was in comparison to this. And gets sad realizing how much time has passed since he met those characters. His chain of thought is broken by a

door in background which opens and his son enters with his wife and Anthony's grandson. He is happy to see them. But gets sad again when he looks at the Ipod

CUT TO-

Anthony goes to his room. He takes out the drawing of the characters he had done as a child decades ago. He looks at it and smiles.

The grand-kid enters the room(now in his late teens), catches him looking at that drawing and notices the expression on his grandpa's face.

CUT TO-

It's Anthony's 80th birthday. They celebrate his birthday with all the relatives. His grandson gets a big gift box and keeps it in front of Anthony. Anthony slowly opens the box and is surprised to see an old antique radio.

At night Anthony gets up and goes towards the radio. his childish curiosity has returned. Quietly, He sits in front of the radio and tunes the tuner. Music starts playing and slowly the characters start coming out. The characters have also become old now. They look at Anthony and are very happy to see him. Anthony is happy and teary eyed. The characters start performing. The magic returns. As the characters perform , Anthony enjoys the music and closes his eyes.

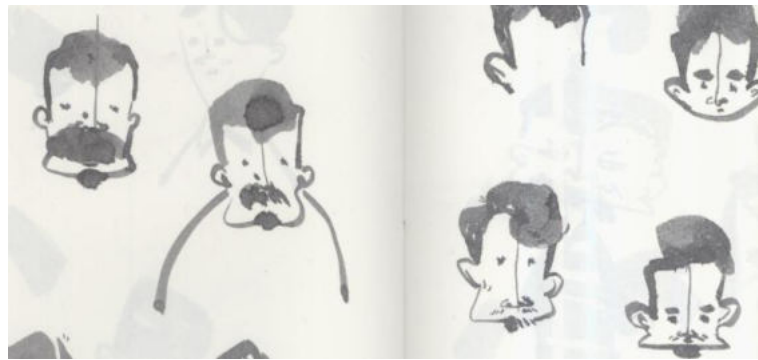
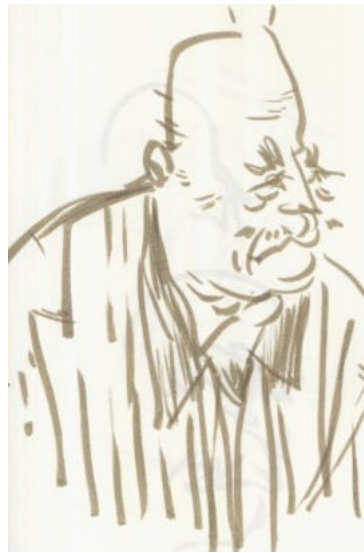
'Wait' film: final script

2.2 Character Design

Brief: To design characters that complemented the story and its setting. As the story follows the main character – Anthony as he ages, we were told to design the characters at different intervals in their lives.

Anthony's character went through multiple changes before it arrived at the final design, I tried to keep a few characteristics and features common as he aged, to better acquaint the audience with the character. His large nose, the way his hair folds over his face and his love for striped shirts remain constant as he grows older.

Feedback: The character design was well-received by the studio and the studio head. I was appointed to draw the rest of the characters as he felt the style would suit the film. As with Anthony (through the ages), I tried to bring the essence of the character in those that followed him (his son and grandson). The final characters were appreciated.



'Wait' film: 'Anthony', initial explorations in various media



'Wait' film: 'Anthony' more explorations

Version 1:



Version 2:



'Wait' film: Character design, 'Anthony'



'Wait' film: Character design, 'Anthony' final, coloured



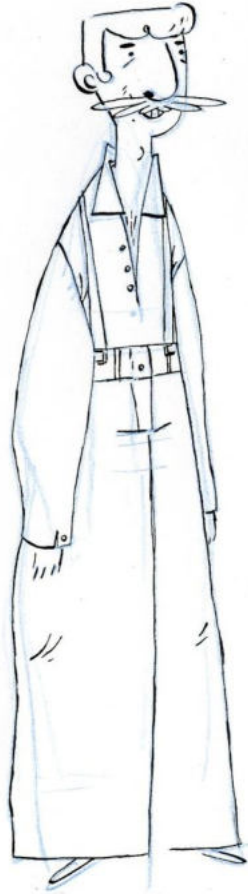
'Wait' film: Character design, Anthony's wife



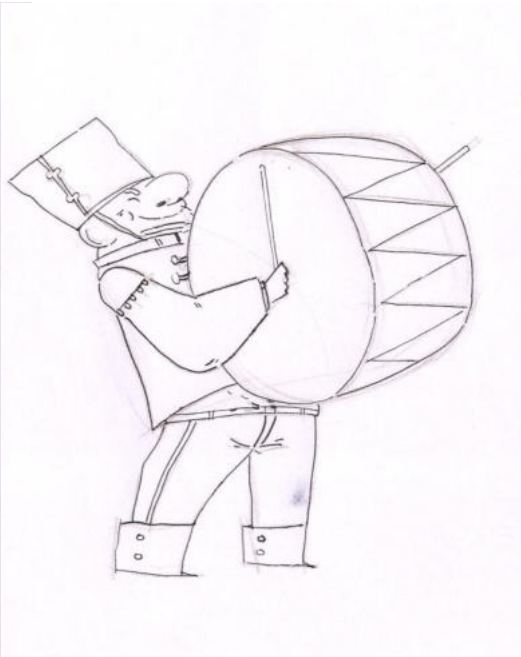
'Wait' film: Character design, Anthony's son



'Wait' film: Character design, Anthony's grandson



'Wait' film: Character design, Anthony's father



'Wait' film: Character design, band characters

III. Experience

Interning at Studio Eeksaurus gave me an insight into how a studio functions. I also learnt the need to practise a certain degree of discipline for the successful completion of a project without any compromises on the quality of the work produced. I experienced the sort of constraints that go with working on commercial projects, that cater to a certain client-base; and the freedom in-house studio projects give you.

While I did enjoy my time at the studio, I felt I would have learnt more had the studio-head been around more often. Mr. Suresh gave us practical and constructive feedback on the work we did and his absence was felt strongly.

