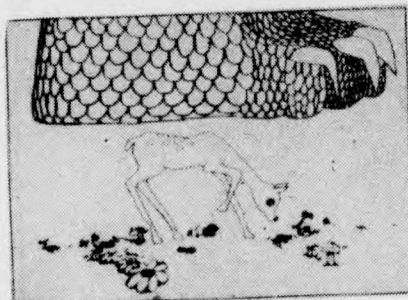




Animator Brett Thompson takes a break from directing cartoon aliens. His most important work to date, *The Housekeeper*, appears as part of *Sean and Shane's Best of the Festival of Animation*, which plays at the Bloor and the Fox until the end of October.

Expect Faster, Housekeeper, Kill! Kill! soon Animator overdose



Bambi Meets Godzilla
by Andrew Kyprianou

Brett Thompson gulped down his orange juice, then put it aside and extended a friendly hand in introduction. Thompson is an animator; his film *The Housekeeper* is currently featured as part of *Sean and Shane's Best of the Festival of Animation*.

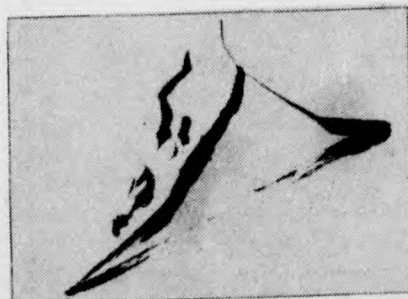
The Housekeeper is the story of a mad scientist's maid who is inadvertently whisked through the 20th Century, changing the course of history as she goes. The Kennedy assassination and the Titanic sinking are just a couple of the historic events that she amusingly changes.



Opera

Thompson told me he had found his niche in sarcastic humour; after viewing *The Housekeeper* at the Festival, I could certainly see his point.

Thompson said *The Housekeeper* took him a year to complete and cost \$15,000. It is made up of 40,000 hand-drawn and hand-painted drawings, yet it only runs six minutes. Thompson shares credit for the film with animators Doug Walker and Ian Gooding.

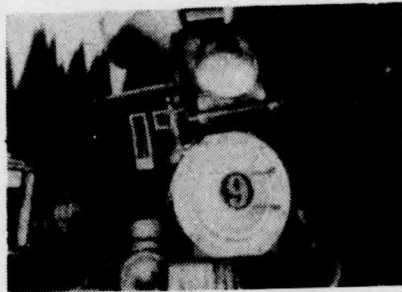


Sisyphus



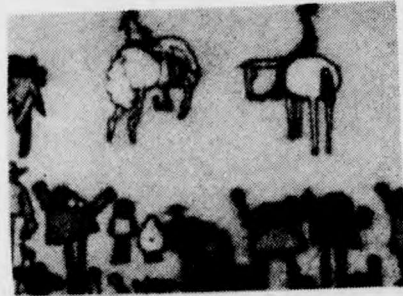
film
Sean and Shane's Festival of Animation
various artists
Bloor and Fox Cinemas

Born in Los Angeles, he grew up in one of the most influential cities in the entertainment business. At the age of 12, he rode his bike 12 miles to Disney Studios, where he snuck in and befriended veteran Disney animator Marc Davis. Davis is the creator of *Peter Pan's* Tinkerbell and many other notable Disney characters.



Locomotion

When he was old enough, Thompson received a scholarship to Disney's animation program. There he studied alongside Tim Burton (*Batman*) and John Lasseter (Oscar winner for *Tin Toy*, also featured in the *Festival*). Thompson went on to make some short films with Burton and Lasseter (including a surprise short at the Festival, *The Stalk of the Celery Monster*).



Thank You Masked Man

Upon graduation Thompson "somehow or other" became the Director of the Film Festivals for the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid and the 1984 Summer games.

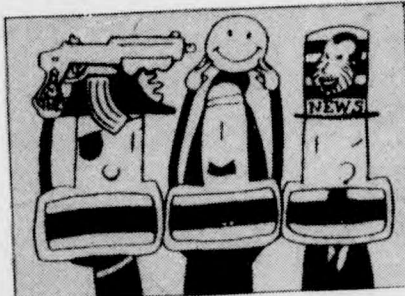
Thompson's film career started with *Not Since Casanova*, which still plays around the world. His most recent works include the just finished *Dinosaurs*, which he directed for the producer of Disney's *Spaced Invaders*.



Knickknack

While working on *Not Since Casanova*, Thompson met Gooding and Walker who both now work for Disney. They are currently preparing a sequel to *The Housekeeper* called *Faster, Housekeeper, Kill! Kill!* It should be completed next year.

There are numerous other great films being shown at this year's *Festival*, including the computer-animated *Tin Toy*, a classic featuring Porky Pig and Daffy Duck called *Porky Pig's Feat* and the wonderfully funny *Knick Knack*, which features an effective soundtrack by Bobby McFerrin.



Black Hula

Three Canadian pieces are also included: *The Sweater*, *Black Hula* and *The History of the World in Three Minutes Flat*. They reaffirm the idea that there is a lot of talent in the Canadian film industry.

I see *Sean and Shane's Best of the Festival of Animation* every year, and I'm always impressed with the quality of the films. The audience shows their approval by laughing during the films and applauding at the end, and rightfully so: this may be the only applause these filmmakers ever hear.

Animation lovers, as well as those of you who just enjoy a good time, should head out to the Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor Street West. *Sean and Shane's Best of the Festival of Animation* runs until October 24. It also plays at the Fox, 2236 Queen Street East, from October 25 to 31.

PUT US TO THE TEST

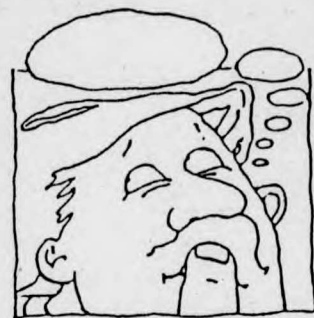
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