

**Benjamin R. Parks**  
**Artist's Statement**

I am a character animator and modeler whose main tool of choice is Maya.

I thoroughly enjoy bringing characters to life. When it comes to animating a character, I feel akin to Michaelangelo in the way that I feel the life of the character has always been there and I am just going through the motions to set that life free.

In my piece, Pygmalion & Galatea, the characters live in a world where, on the surface, everyone is essentially the same. However, the main character still strives to create the perfect mate. This makes a statement about the absurdity of placing importance on physical appearance, thus making the film a contemporary existential satire.

**Short Bio**

Born in Burbank, California on Dec. 12, 1973, raised in Nashville, Tennessee.

Ben Parks began a musical career at the age of 9, by attending the American Boychoir. He continued studying Music Education, bassoon, piano, alto saxophone and vocal performance at Middle Tennessee State University from 1992-1995. He returned to MTSU in 1997 where he received his Bachelor of Science in Mass Communications with an emphasis in Radio/TV-Photography and a specialization in Digital Animation with minors in Art and Music Arts in 1999. During this time, he had three photographs published in the college magazine Collage, and was a student volunteer at SIGGRAPH in 1998 and 1999. His computer arts company, Mouseman Productions, established in 1999, has produced numerous websites for clients local to both Nashville and New York. He began his Master of Fine Arts degree in Computer Art at the School of Visual Arts in 2005 and will be graduating May 2007. He is an ACM/SIGGRAPH member.