

## OUT OF YOUR HEAD FINAL ANIMATION | Yuyang Zhao

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In the final project, I worked with other two people in our group H. I think it was a really interesting and challenge experience for me when we decided to make a 20 seconds film mainly by hand drawing because hand-drawing is not my strength and I prefer to use mix media in my work. However, I decided to jump out of my comfort zone and tried to draw more this time, even it is not my familiar drawing style. Also, everyone in our group has their own art style and timetable. Thus, in my view, a rational time arrangement is essential. Fortunately, from make sure of the concept, researching to making storyboard, we always kept talking and arranging the time step by step, so we could finish our film efficiently. The only thing that dissatisfied me was that I think we need more time on checking and adjusting the storyboard and animatic to keep the visual narrative much clearer! Then, the ability of communication and being patient is also important in the team work. We all have different levels of painting skills and style, so we need to make a balance and decide one drawing style if we'd like to make the film looks like a whole. We communicated with each other online very often to make sure the harmony of the visual effect. Also, we will give each other lots of advice on modifying some parts, which is really an improvement on being patient and always keeping an open mind! For the process part, what impressed me the most was making storyboard. Jinyan Yu and I offered to draw storyboard, we decided to draw storyboard respectively due to the different art style, then finally chose one version as a start. I was enjoyed drawing storyboard because I prefer to make my film abstract and metaphorical, I think this process is imaginative and exciting. However, it will also make the film longer on time and increase the difficulty on visual narrative because it may be not that clear on telling story. In order to avoid this, we finally chose the storyboard drew by Jinyan Yu. Her storyboard is short and focus on the most important plot intensively. From this experience, I knew that I have to be more familiar with control the length of the film, especially when there has a specific and solid requirement on length. When it comes to the concept, we selected different five words and came up with stories many times. We finally chose 'moon, light, measles, linger and village' as our starting point to tell a story. We made a series of research on the background of measles and set the time on the medieval period. Our story is generally about a young boy who was always bullied by people in the village and he was unfortunately infected with measles by them, then he finally went crazy and set fire to the village. It was really a dark story the time was always at night in our story, so the color of background we used was blue and green, the other environment such us the market, we selected some brighter and warm-tone color to make the overall color of the film not too monotonous. On the online screening day, we were glad to receive the feedback of loving our color using on the market. However, I think we still need to make research on the buildings, clothes and colors on the Medieval much further and deeper so that the historical background could be much clearer in our final work. Overall, in this experience of team work, I really learned and felt a lot which I couldn't obtain when work alone. If you were used to work alone freely and desultorily in the past, you have to be more efficient and accelerate the working pace when work with others now. Also, communicating ideas, listening others' suggestions and modifying your work will indeed take a lot of time and energy, however, it's helpful in team work. From this project, I knew my weakness of drawing and painting with low efficiency when finishing storyboards, but I really enjoyed the process. I think I will spend more time on explore painting skills and keep drawing more. In addition, I will make some short film as practice to be familiar with different length of a film. For the final work, I think we all have tried to decrease our personal expressing part to make the film as a whole this time, so the final work only has one style. Actually, in my view, we could try to make a fluent and harmonious film on the base of to keep our own style the next time. It would take a large amount of time make it as a whole, the final work might be busy and confused, but it could also be more interesting, creative and experimental!

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<https://youtu.be/QB4Z8ltTrBU>