

# Derek Bonikowski

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## Profile

Experienced, results-oriented, hands-on creative professional with acute attention to detail. Trained in Maya, live-action film production, and stop-motion animation. Thrives in structured and creative environments.

## Experience

### **SENIOR ANIMATOR, RETRO STUDIOS, INC. AUSTIN, TX 2000 - PRESENT**

Created and implemented in-game cinematic, character, and environmental animation for six triple-A titles. Researched, animated, and tested signature features such as the grapple beam and morph ball for the *Metroid Prime* series. Conceptualized and animated the ground-pound feature of *Donkey Kong Country Returns*; supervised, scripted and animated cinematics for the DK bosses Mugly and Tiki Tong in *Donkey Kong Country Returns*. Managed and trained new personnel on animation, internal tools, and scripting.

### **ANIMATOR, CELEBRITY DEATHMATCH NEW YORK, NY 1999 - 2000**

Maximized productivity while meeting strict project deadlines. Produced five seconds a day of quality stop motion animation from background and crowd shots to such main events as Eminem vs. Kid Rock and Hugh Hefner vs. Larry Flint. Was selected from among CDM animators to join the Hormone High team and create a pilot episode for Eric Fogel's follow-up animated television venture.

## Education

B.S. 1998 University of Texas at Austin - Radio, Television, Film Program

School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Animation Program 1994-1996

## Skills

Extensive knowledge of animation in Maya. Principal strengths include character animation, acting, storytelling skills, staging, excellent communication, strong leadership and organization skills. Outstanding ability to learn new programs quickly and efficiently. Invaluable creative contributor. Superior attention to detail. Peripheral skills include knowledge of martial arts. Third-degree black belt and second-degree black sash in Shaolin Kung Fu.

## References

Available upon request.