



HIDDEN WORLDS

— THE FILMS OF LAIKA —

EXHIBITION OVERVIEW

MoPOP
MUSEUM OF
POP CULTURE

LAIKA


FLYING FISH

HIDDEN WORLDS

THE FILMS OF LAIKA

From the minds that brought you *Coraline*, *The Boxtrolls*, *ParaNorman*, *Kubo and the Two Strings*, and the Golden Globe-Winning *Missing Link*, MoPOP and LAIKA present "Hidden Worlds: The Films of LAIKA".

Known for their wildly creative and timeless films, Portland's LAIKA Studios has been reinventing the art of stop-motion animation for more than 15 years, fusing traditional techniques and revolutionary new technologies in their pursuit of exceptional handmade storytelling. LAIKA has been instrumental in exciting evolutionary leaps in the art of stop-motion animation over the years.



EXHIBITION THEMES

CRAFTSMANSHIP AND TECHNOLOGY:

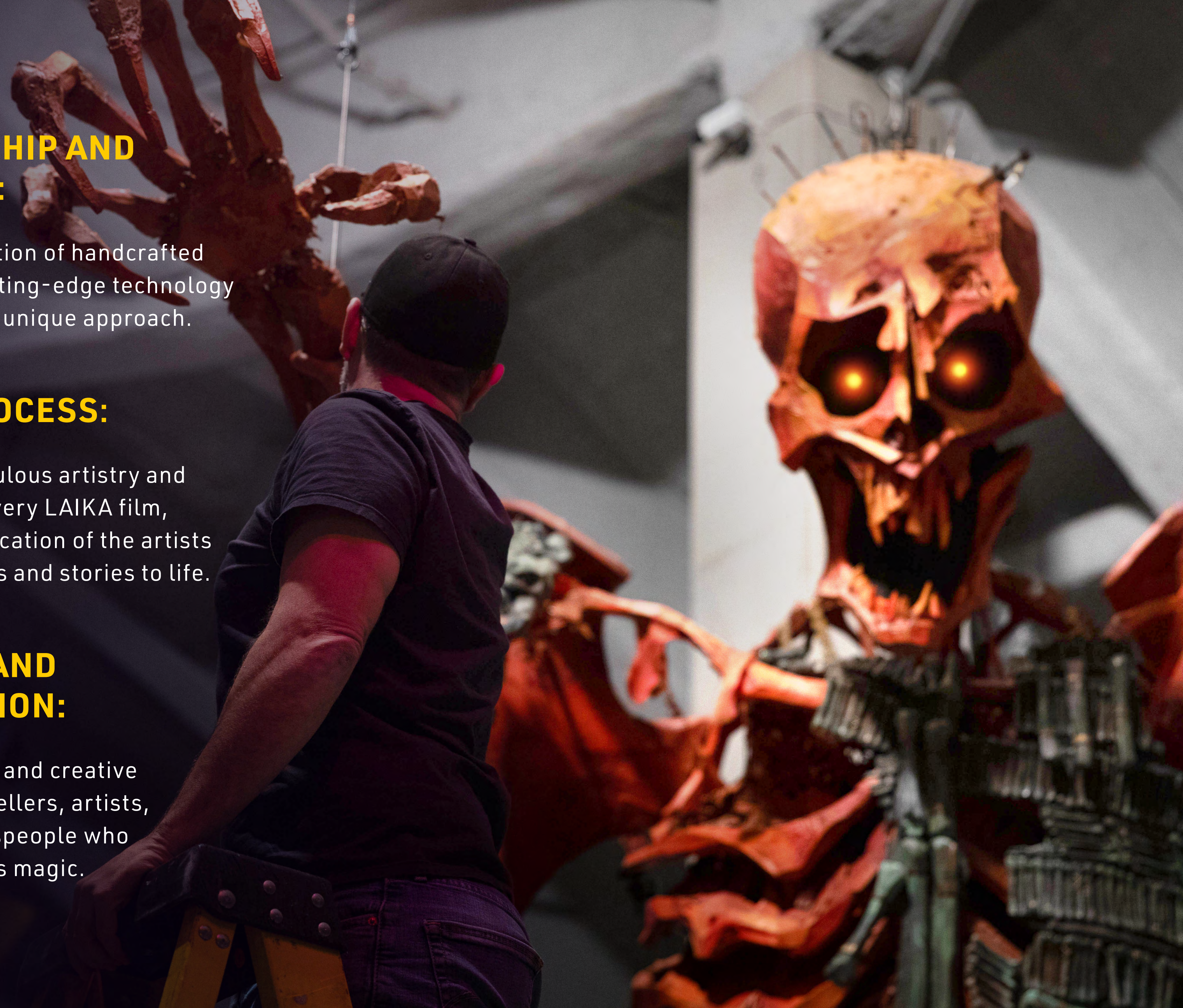
Explore the intersection of handcrafted stop-motion and cutting-edge technology that defines LAIKA's unique approach.

CREATIVE PROCESS:

Delve into the meticulous artistry and innovation behind every LAIKA film, showcasing the dedication of the artists who bring characters and stories to life.

COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION:

Discover the diverse and creative community of storytellers, artists, inventors, and craftspeople who contribute to LAIKA's magic.



KEY EXPERIENCES



SNEAK PEEK:

Access an exclusive sneak peek at LAIKA's next film, *Wildwood*, based on the critically-acclaimed book by The Decemberist's Colin Meloy.

PUPPETS-EYE-VIEW:

Immerse yourself in MoPOP's signature interactive elements, including opportunities to take a "puppets-eye-view" of a LAIKA set or create and share your own stop-motion scenes.

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

A CLOSER LOOK AT LAIKA

Get ready for an exclusive journey behind the scenes of LAIKA. This exhibition takes a film-by-film look at where artistry and technology have converged to redefine the boundaries of modern animation with each successive project from this groundbreaking studio.

Immerse yourself in the hidden world of imagination, ingenuity, and craftsmanship that breathes life into each LAIKA film. From creative processes and behind-the-scenes photography to revolutionary technology, explore the studio's hallmarks that make LAIKA a trailblazer in the animation industry.



CORALINE

Coraline



THE FILM

Welcome to the mesmerizing world of *Coraline*, a groundbreaking stop-motion animated feature brought to life by LAIKA. This exhibition invites you to explore the enchanting realms hidden behind the scenes, showcasing the innovative technologies, intricate craftsmanship, and captivating storytelling that define this cinematic masterpiece.

This section of the exhibition unravels the magic behind *Coraline*, offering a glimpse into the meticulous artistry and technological innovations that make it a groundbreaking achievement in stop-motion animation. Discover the secrets, explore the artifacts, and immerse yourself in the hidden wonders of *Coraline's* universe.



CORALINE



CREATING A MASTERPIECE

Ones vs. Twos:

LAIKA was among the pioneers, choosing to film *Coraline* on Ones (24 frames/second) rather than Twos, resulting in smoother actions and natural movement.

New Technologies for Stop Motion:

Coraline was the first stop-motion animated feature conceived and photographed in Stereoscopic 3D, integrating visual effects and 3D-printed rapid prototype technology.

Replacing Faces:

LAIKA pioneered 3D-printing technology in replacement animation for *Coraline*, allowing for 207,336 possible face combinations, enhancing expressiveness and performance.

The Shoot:

The *Coraline* shoot spanned over 18 months, featuring 130 sets across 52 stages, making it one of the most extensive productions in stop-motion history.

Coraline's Morphing Sequence:

Coraline marks the first time a stop-motion animation morphing sequence was accomplished, running for 130 frames, or nearly 6 seconds.

CORALINE

FEATURED ARTIFACTS

- Coraline Jones, Puppet #9, crafted by 10 artists over 3-4 months
- Mel and Charlie Jones Puppets
- The Pink Palace and miniature Fantastic Garden
- Other Mother's Sewing Room
- Encounter Other Mother #1.3 and Other Father Puppets
- Other Wybie, Puppet #1, Ghost Boy, Puppet #1, Sweet Ghost Girl, Puppet #1, and Tall Ghost Girl, Puppet #1
- Circus Mouse
- Mounted examples of costumes and props



PARANORMAN

THE FILM

Step into the extraordinary world of *ParaNorman*, an animated marvel by LAIKA that blends innovation, craftsmanship, and storytelling. Discover the secrets behind the film's creation, from the illusion of movement to the meticulous handcrafting of puppets, props, and sets.

Witness the reveal of the artistry, technology, and collaborative effort that brought *ParaNorman's* fantastical world to the big screen. Immerse yourself in the magic of stop-motion animation and explore the artifacts that make *ParaNorman* a true masterpiece.

PARANORMAN



FILM & TECHNOLOGY

Illusion of Movement:

Stop-motion animation captured with a DSLR Camera resulted in over 20 hours of footage, comprising 1,770,601 frames.

Hand-Crafted:

Approximately 31,600 hand-made props, including animatable vehicles, were created for *ParaNorman*. Intricate details like Norman's mom's perfume sprayer, a 5/8" brass creation with a working pump nozzle, showcase the level of craftsmanship.

It Takes a Village:

LAIKA's diverse global community contributed to crafting the fictional town of Blithe Hollow, employing a team of 320 to bring *ParaNorman* to life.

Time:

Crafting a puppet from scratch took 3-4 months, with 60 puppet makers creating 178 puppets for 61 characters.

Printing replacement faces required four 3D printers working for 572 days.

FEATURED ARTIFACTS

- Mr. Prenderghast, Puppet #2, and Mr. Prenderghast Study Set
- Agatha Prenderghast, Puppet #1
- Blithe Hollow Witch Statue and Puritan Zombies with unique puppet designs
- Norman Babcock, Puppet #22, Neil, Puppet #2, Alvin, Puppet #5, Courtney Babcock, Puppet #6, Mitch, Puppet #5, Sheriff Hooper, Puppet #2, and Zombie Judge, Puppet #6 interacting with Mitch's Van to showcase the diverse puppet characters
- Norman Babcock, Puppet #23, with 275 spikes in his signature hairstyle, highlights the meticulous craftsmanship
- Encounter Neil, Puppet #1, Mitch, Puppet #6, Courtney Babcock, Puppet #3, and Alvin, Puppet #9
- The Blithe Hollow Middle School Hallway
- Mounted examples of costumes



PARANORMAN

THE BOXTROLLS

THE BOXTROLLS

THE FILM

Embark on a whimsical journey into the peculiar world of *The Boxtrolls*, the third stop-motion masterpiece by LAIKA. Explore the intricate details, engineering marvels, and the enchanting characters that bring this animated wonder to life.

Glimpse into the art, technology, and creativity that make *The Boxtrolls* a captivating and timeless adventure. Marvel at the intricacies of each artifact, and explore first hand the magic that brings this extraordinary world to the big screen.



THE BOXTROLLS



THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAILS

How Many Seconds:

An animator dedicates a week to complete just 3.7 seconds of footage, translating to nearly 90 frames.

All in the Details - Costumes:

A staggering 200 costumes were meticulously crafted, with Lord Portley-Rind's hat featuring 14 different fabrics.

Eggs's sweater utilized 233 yards of hand-dyed thread, showcasing LAIKA's commitment to detail.

Engineering Challenges - Boxtrolls' Retraction:

Creating the illusion of the Boxtrolls retracting into their boxes presented unexpected challenges, leading to innovative solutions with partial body parts.

THE BOXTROLLS

FEATURED ARTIFACTS

- Fish, Puppet #3, Shoe, Puppet #4, Wheels, Puppet #1, and Bucket, Puppet #2
- Eggs, Puppet #8, had over 1,400,000 facial expressions
- Lord Portley-Rind, Puppet #2 and Lady Cynthia Portley-Rind, Puppet #1
- Winnie Portley-Rind, Puppet #11
- Archibald Snatcher, Puppet #5, Mr. Trout, Puppet #8, Mr. Pickles, Puppet #4, and Mr. Gristle, Puppet #4
- Snatcher's Truck
- Tavern Street, Cheesebridge
- The Mecha Drill
- Mounted examples of costumes and props



KUBO

AND THE TWO STRINGS

THE FILM

See the breathtaking world of *Kubo and the Two Strings*, another stop-motion masterpiece by LAIKA. This exhibition unravels the secrets behind the film's innovative technology, the artistry of puppetry, and the captivating storytelling that brought Kubo's epic adventure to life.

Witness the fusion of art and technology that defined *Kubo and the Two Strings*, celebrating the groundbreaking achievements in stop-motion animation and storytelling.

Explore the artifacts, unravel the challenges, and immerse yourself in the enchanting world of Kubo.

KUBO AND THE TWO STRINGS





INNOVATION AND FILM

Scale & Proportion:

Kubo features the smallest and largest articulated puppets in stop-motion history, with Little Hanzo at 2 inches and the Giant Skeleton towering at 16 feet.

Problem Solving:

The Giant Skeleton, weighing 400 pounds, utilized a motorized "hexa-pod" for movement.

The Garden of Eyes Sea Monster, controlled with a modified bowling ball, stood at 11 feet tall.

The Moon Beast, 3D-printed and composited, achieved a length of 17.6 feet at full scale.

Pushing Boundaries:

LAIKA advanced replacement facial animation technology from 6,333 hand-painted faces for Coraline to 100,000 3D-printed faces for Kubo.

Kubo boasts over 48 million possible facial expressions, pushing the boundaries of character performance.

KUBO AND THE
TWO STRINGS

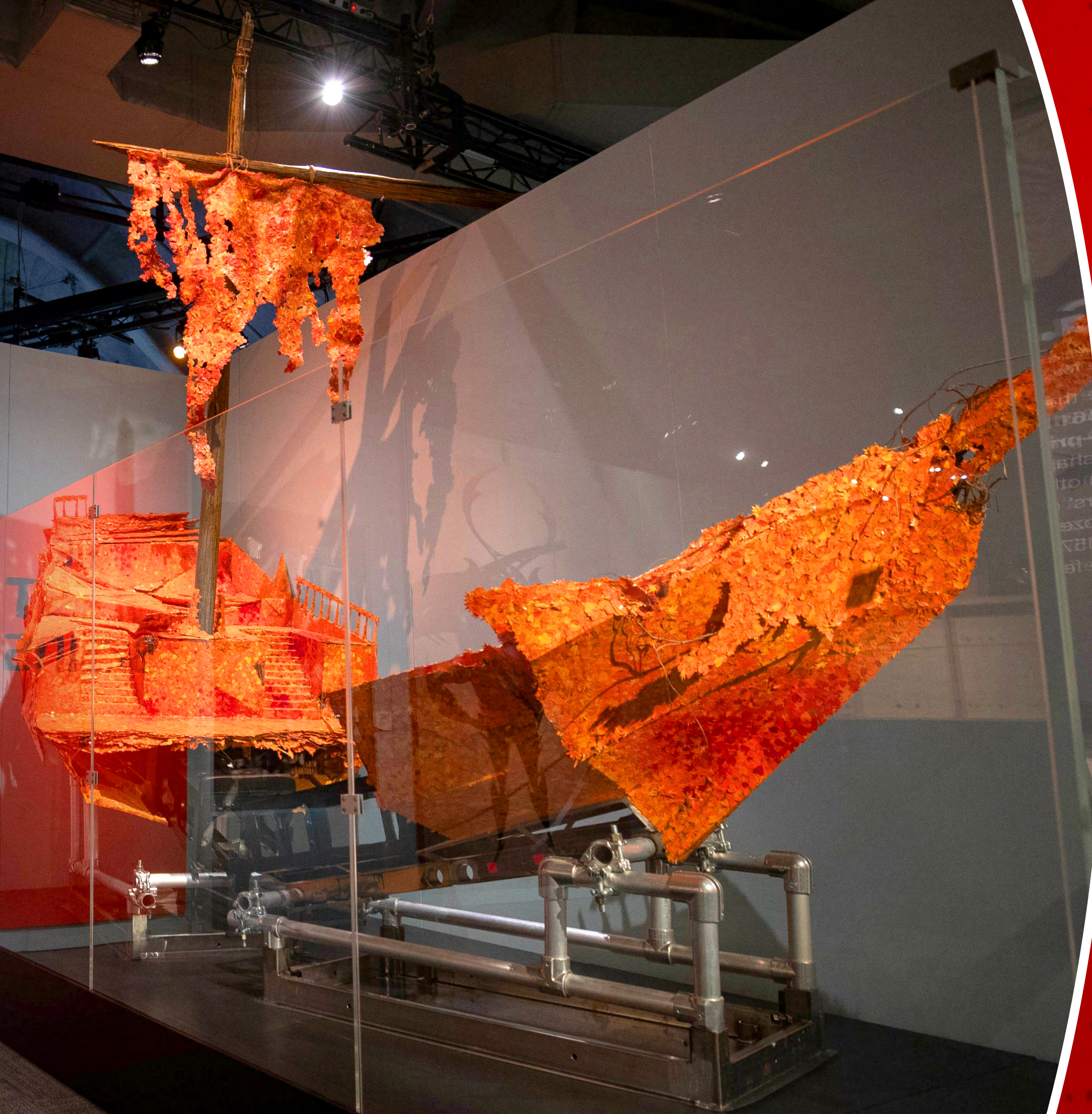
FEATURED ARTIFACTS

- Kubo, Puppet #5
- Monkey, Puppets #16 and #9
- Beetle, Puppets #11, #10, and #4
- The Sisters, Puppets #1 and #4
- Grandfather (Moon King), Puppet #2, and Moon Beast Puppet
- Mother, Puppet #2
- Little Hanzo, Puppet #1
- Hanzo's Study
- Hosato Puppet
- Kubo's Sailboat
- Giant Skeleton Hall of Bones Puppet
- Beetle Maquette and Steel Armature
- Mounted examples of costumes and props

THE
QUEST
BEGINS



KUBO AND THE
TWO STRINGS



MISSING LINK

MISSING LINK

THE FILM

LAIKA's fifth and most recent entry, *Missing Link* pushes the boundaries of animation with pioneering CGI integration. Set in the vibrant Victorian era, the film unfolds a globetrotting adventure featuring Sir Lionel Frost and the unprecedented Mr. Link.

LAIKA pioneered the use of CGI (Computer-Generated Imagery) to expand the scope of stop motion beyond the animation stage, enabling them to do things not typically found in stop-motion, like creating large crowds, big special effects, or wide vistas.



MISSING LINK



PUSHING BOUNDARIES

CGI in Stop-Motion:

LAIKA breaks new ground by seamlessly incorporating CGI, enabling expansive sets, crowds, and special effects beyond traditional stop-motion constraints.

Victorian Inspiration:

Drawing from the richly colorful Victorian era, the film boasts intricate designs and a vibrant, stylized color scheme.

Mr. Link's Complexity:

Described as a "Hairy Avocado," Mr. Link combines loveable exterior with an intricate mechanical interior, including a chest breather and worm gears.

Unconventional Materials:

The production employs an array of unconventional materials like silk-screened craft paper, textured fabrics, and plastic beads for world-building.

Advanced Puppetry Techniques:

The film pioneers various puppetry techniques, including 3D printing for faces and innovative approaches to puppet construction.

MISSING LINK

FEATURED ARTIFACTS

- Mr. Link, Puppets #6 and #20
- Lionel Frost, Puppets #15 and #16
- Adelina Fortnight, Puppets #5 and #7
- Elder Yeti Puppet
- Gamu Puppet #1
- Ama Lhamu and Little Ang Puppet #2
- Willard Stenk, Puppet #2,
Lord Piggot-Dunceby, Puppet #3,
and Mr. Collick, Puppet #3
- Sir Lionel Frost's Study
- Adelina's Boat Cabin
- Casa de Fortnight Hallway
- The Elephant
- Adelina Fortnight Exploded Head view
- Mounted examples of costumes



SPECIFICATIONS

SPACE REQUIRED

7,500 – 12,000 sq. ft.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Families with children, adults, animation fans, cinephiles, school groups

FREIGHT

Five (5) 53 ft. trailers plus one (1) 53 ft. climate-controlled trailer

PRODUCTION TIME

Ten (10) working days for installation; seven (7) for deinstallation

LANGUAGES

Exhibition provided in American English

TOUR AVAILABILITY

January 2025 and beyond





BOOKING INQUIRIES

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Hidden Worlds: The Films of LAIKA is a traveling exhibition
co-produced by LAIKA and MoPOP and toured by Flying Fish