

NIAMH McARDLE

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Showreel: [Vimeo Reel 2025](#)

SKILLS

- Stop Motion Animation, including Character and Experimental
- Model Making
- Sculpting
- Puppet Making
- Textiles: machine and hand-sewing, crocheting/micro-crocheting
- Drawing and painting
- Basic lighting and camera
- Piano and Music Theory
- Planning and Organisation

SOFTWARE

- DragonFrame
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Illustrator
- Storyboard Pro
- Toon Boom Harmony

EDUCATION

2022-Present BA(Hons) Animation, University of the West of England (UWE)

2021-2022 UAL Level 4 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design (Distinction), Carmel College

2021 BFI Film Academy Stop Motion Animation Course with Calling the Shots

2019-2021 A Levels – A* in Art, Graphic Design and Media Studies, The Belvedere Academy

Niamh is a Stop-Motion Animator and Modelmaker based in Bristol, UK. Captivated by puppets and miniatures, Niamh is a highly motivated and diligent creative, committed to continuously learning and refining her skills in character animation. She has a deep love for the whole stop-motion process, from sculpting characters and painting tiny props, to set dressing and editing. But it is animating that makes her brain buzz, bringing everything together on screen through believable performances is a challenge that she thrives on. This has led her to build a strong foundation of experience working on various award-winning short films, including the BAFTA-nominated *'Adiós'*, directed by José Prats. Niamh dedicates spare time to crocheting (both human and puppet size), as well as watching films, ceramics and filling up a sketchbook.

CREATIVE EXPERIENCE

2025 Sep – Present *'Meal Deal'* – Co-Director/Writer/Animator

- University graduate film made in collaboration with Anaïs Kheir and Amy Mulcahy. A mockumentary on the theme of Meal Deals.
- Lead animator on the film maintaining a naturalistic style with lots of lip-sync via replacements.
- Also took lead on pre-production, writing, storyboarding and creating the animatic.

2024-25 Sep – Present Life Drawing PAL at UWE

- Assist with the facilitation of life drawing classes at the University of the West of England.
- Supervise the sessions whilst also providing technical advice when needed.

2024 Nov *'Death's Peak'* Dir. Willy Fair – Animation Assistant

- Animated on Willy Fair's short film at the National Film and Television School in Beaconsfield UK.
- Also assisted with rigging and prop making.

2024 Aug – Sep *'The Flower Witch'* Dir. Zoë Hutber – Art Department Assistant

- Worked for three weeks making various props for Zoë Hutber's short film funded by the BFI.
- Techniques used included sculpting, papier mâché, set painting and textiles.

2024 Jun – Jul *'Space'* Dir. Ruby Black – Stop Motion Animator

- Lead animator on Ruby Black's short film 'Space'.

2024 June Aardman – Trainee Modelmaker

- Worked for two weeks in the model making department making clothing items for the Shaun the Sheep x Barbour 2024 Christmas commercial.
- Techniques used included sculpting, casting, painting and silicone sanding.

2024 Dec – Jun *'The Happy Pig Brand'* Dir. Léo Bournas Milazzo – Stop Motion Animator

- Completed test animation for a final-year UWE film, providing feedback to the director, suggesting improvements to be made to puppet fabrication.
- Animator on the final project, completing more than half of the film. Animating up to five characters at once and multiple shots using motion control.

2024 Feb BFI Film Academy Stop Motion Camp – Teaching Assistant

- Ran a lip-syncing workshop, teaching young people how to use Dragonframe and match up replacement mouths with audio.
- Worked with a small group to produce a short film in three days, from idea to final edit, acting as producer and mentor. Aided in setting realistic deadlines and teaching new skills such as cut-out animation and software like Premiere Pro.

2023 Aug and Nov *'Adiós'* Dir. José Prats – Stop Motion Animator

- Animated on José Prats's BAFTA-nominated short film at the National Film and Television School in Beaconsfield, UK.
- Animated both humans and animals maintaining a realistic and subtle animation style.
- Adapted quickly to a professional animation pipeline and received positive feedback from the director.

2023 Oct – Dec *'Nellie's Adventure'* Collaborative film – Producer/Stop Motion Animator/Fabricator

- Second year university film made in three months.
- Took on the role of producer whilst also fabricating two puppets and leading the animation.

2022 Jan – May *'Alone in a Crowd'* – Director/Animator

- Experimental short film made during Art Foundation course exploring the theme of loneliness.
- Selected to be exhibited at the UAL Origins Creatives 2022 exhibition in London.

REFERENCES

Available on request