

Animated Narratives

Semester 1 - Week 12

For my final week of Animated Narratives, I decided to finalise the storyline for my AirPods animation.

- As a woman sleeps, the AirPods case on her bedside table begin to move
- The case opens and out comes the two AirPods
- The AirPods communicate using only sounds that are played through them, podcasts, songs, voice notes etc.
- The AirPods are fighting with one another about spending too much time cooped up in the case together, they run away in opposite directions
- When the woman wakes she notices that they are missing
- She then finds them in different areas around the house, confused, she puts them both back in the case
- As she watches TV, the Airpod case moves again on the bench across the room
- Without her knowledge the AirPods run away, still arguing with each other about how they need space
- Again she finds the AirPods later as she walks through the house
- We then see the AirPods fighting for a third time, and again they run away from each other in different directions
- This time, the woman yanks on a white cord. The headphones come flying towards her and crash together
- She has replaced the AirPods with corded headphones
- She throws the Airpod case in the bin

Reflective Text

This work examines the idea of character and narrative.

By using dot points, I was able to draft out a final storyline for my animation. Using each of the weekly focuses (e.g. sound, movement, character) I have been able to add depth and dimension to my storyline.

This work is similar to the work of Babikian et al. (2017) who directed the short animation *Garden Party*. In this work the frogs act as primary characters, while the humans are secondary characters. This is the opposite to how we, as people, view the world. We often see ourselves as the 'main characters' with animals as peripheral creatures. In my work I also hope to create the same concept, with humans in the outskirts of the narrative, and the AirPods taking the lead.

By examining character and narrative, I reflected that featuring humans as background or secondary characters creates an interesting twist on the standard 'human centric' narrative style.

Babikian, F Bayoux, V, Caire, V, Dufresne, T, Gabriel, G & Navarro, L 2017, *Garden Party*, viewed June 1 2022, <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bX8GaZ3O4-Q>>.