

# THE GUARDIANS OF MOLLY



THE GUARDIANS OF MOLLY is the story of MOLLY, who is a typical nine year old girl, except for one thing – at night, when she’s sleeping, her stuffed animals come to life and protect her from the monsters in her closet.



Throughout the world, there are stuffed animals, dolls and other toys who rest in the happy arms of their child owners during the day. But at night, once their child owners are asleep, their world comes alive! These stuffed animals are not just companions, they have a job – it is their challenge to defend their child owners from the terrors that come out at night. They steadfastly fight boogymen in the closet and monsters under the bed, while their child owners sleep.

It is imperative that the child owners be asleep, or else the animals won't be able to do their job. On the rare occasion that a child wakes up, the animals bring in the Sandman, who puts the child to sleep again, with the assurance that “it was all a dream”. Molly, as with all children, has no idea that her toys fight remarkable battles nightly, to ensure her safety.

Molly's mother passed away when she was very little. Her father, PAUL, has just remarried and they've moved to a new house. On their first night there, things go awry and instead of fighting off the closet monsters, the animals try to find KITTY, the fearless leader, who is still packed in a box. They rush back to Molly's room to find that she's been taken back to NIGHTMARELAND!!



Thus begins the journey of the animals, to rescue Molly from the evil clutches of QUEEN PREVIMA, a vampire who feeds on the fear of children, and her henchman, WIZACORN, a lizard-like humanoid monster.

The animals must traverse a dank swamp, leading to a dark forest, and face the fearful creatures within. In the middle of the forest is Queen Previma's castle, a nightmareish place. With their help, Molly escapes, but they must still find their way back through the labyrinthine landscape of Nightmareland.

Facing much adversity, they finally make it to Molly's bedroom, only to find that Queen Previma and Wizacorn have beaten them there and are in the REAL WORLD. Realizing that her fear is keeping Queen Previma alive, Molly must overcome her fear in order to save herself and her animal friends.



THE GUARDIANS OF MOLLY is a blend of live action with sophisticated puppetry, and computer generated (CG) imaging/animation. Heidi C. Bordogna, writer/director/producer and Matt Lesser, master puppet creator, will be creating all of the creatures in the film. Ms. Bordogna and Mr. Lesser are currently in development on two puppet series - UNDERDOGS and STUFT.

We will likely be filming in New York or Pennsylvania and in order to take advantage of the strong tax incentives. The majority of the film would be done on a soundstage, with the remainder on location.

We have some vendors and resources sourced for our puppet fabrication and sets. Given how affordable quality VFX have become, we are excited to create the world of THE GUARDIANS OF MOLLY. CG will be used sparingly, rather choosing to have practical sets and animatronic creatures to give a sense of realism and imagery that is reminiscent of the 1970s and 1980s.

By blending splashes of color in the animals and creatures, with the darker and moodier sets and backgrounds, we will set a tone that is more exciting, than frightening, as our target audience are children.





The stuffed animal characters in MOLLY are just as human, compelling and flawed as the human characters. KITTY, the leader, a ratty cat doll that Molly has had since she was a baby, is fearless and (nearly) sacrifices herself to save Molly. SNOWBALL and HONEYBUN are much more timid and nervous, but bring inner strength when needed. SHERLOCK, the “MacGuyver” of the group cracks jokes, but is clever and fast. TRAGIO, the “Muscle”, seems slow and even sad, but is sensitive and steadfast, never wavering in his duties. This initial artwork gives an idea of what the animals will appear to be.

KITTY



SNOWBALL & HONEYBUN



SHERLOCK



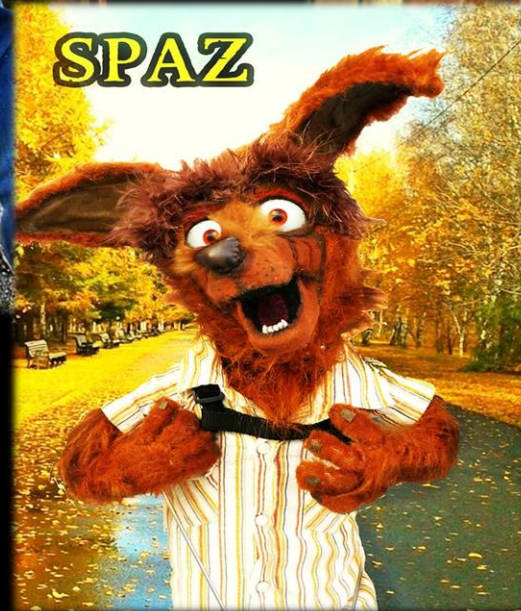
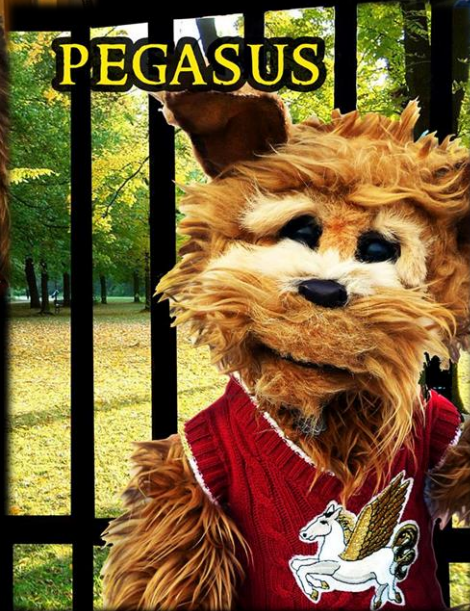
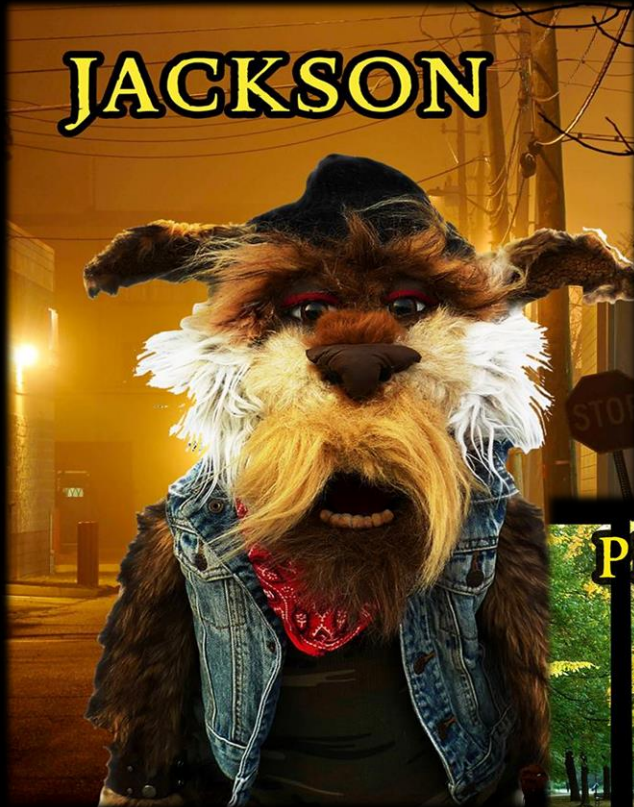
TRAGIO



While QUEEN PREVIMA is a live-action character and will be played by an actress, WIZACORN will be played by an actor in prosthetic makeup and will also have CG elements as he is a cross between a praying mantis and a lizard. COIL is an evil Jack-in-the-Box, who will be a puppet with CG. MUFFINDUMPLING is another stuffed animal, who is a “shape-shifter”, in that the audience will not know if she is a villain or an ally. She’s adorable and that makes others trust her, but there’s more under the surface.



Additional examples of what the puppets will look like can be seen in another project of ours, UNDERDOGS. You can view the trailer here: [www.youtube.com/underdogsshow](http://www.youtube.com/underdogsshow). The images below are taken from UNDERDOGS and give a further sense of the style of our puppets. All the stuffed animal characters will be built in a similar fashion.



**Heidi C. Bordogna** (Writer/Director/Producer) is a film and television producer/director/writer. She produced the feature film, *Asockalypse!*, which will be released in May/June 2016. She wrote and produced a sitcom pilot, *Exiled Out East*, currently completing post-production. She has two projects involving sophisticated puppets, *Underdogs* (series) and *The Guardians of Molly* (feature), both in development. Her short documentary, *Controlling Tourette's Syndrome*, can be seen on ABC NewsNow and she recently produced the television pilots – *Dr. Fukovsky* and *General Studies*. She co-wrote the narrative feature, *Court Jesters* and her documentary feature, *Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler!* premiered at the Acadiana Film Festival domestically and internationally at the Saulieu Nuits Cajun et Zydeco in Burgundy, France. Her scripts have placed in *The New York Television Festival*, *The Atlantic City Cinefest/Downbeach Film Festival*, *The Fade-In Awards*, and other film and screenplay festivals.

She has worked in production and development for companies in New York and Los Angeles, with programs on ESPN, Animal Planet and in syndication. For five years, she was a camerawoman/video eng with the hit Off-Broadway show, *Blue Man Group*. She has a BFA in Film/TV production from New York University, an MFA in screenwriting from Goddard College and has taught as an Assistant Professor at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, New York University, Fordham University and New York Film Academy.

**Matt Lesser** (Puppet Fabricator/Designer) is an FX artist/puppet fabricator/producer/performer, originally from Alexandria, Va. After graduating from the Walnut Hill School for the Visual and Performing arts, he ventured to London to study hair styling and coloring at the esteemed Graham Webb Academy. Matt graduated from the New York Film Academy in 2006, with a focus in Directing. Matt has also studied drama and has starred in commercials for Heineken, Bugle Boy, BBC America and the Maryland Jockey Club. He has been featured in several television series, including *Third Watch*, *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* and *Law & Order: SVU*. A lifetime fan of puppetry, Matt returned to school to learn puppet fabrication, puppeteering, and special effects make up. He graduated with an Associates Degree from the Tom Savini School in Pittsburgh, where he received the prestigious Spotlight Award.

***Morris Ruskin, CEO Shoreline Entertainment*** – (Worldwide Sales) During the course of producing more than fifty films, Morris has structured deals that incorporate deferments, soft money and international co-productions in order to create financially-viable motion pictures. These productions focus on bankable genre content and star-driven projects that can secure success in a sometimes-uneven marketplace.

Notable amongst such productions are the modern classic [Glengarry Glen Ross](#) (Al Pacino, Jack Lemmon, Alec Baldwin, Ed Harris, Kevin Spacey, Alan Arkin) which led to an Academy Award Nomination for Al Pacino; [The Man from Elysian Fields](#) (Andy Garcia, Mick Jagger, Angelica Huston); [The Visit](#) (nominated for four Spirit Awards) and [Marilyn Hotchkiss' Ballroom Dancing & Charm School](#) (John Goodman, Marisa Tomei, Octavia Spencer, Robert Carlyle, and Danny DeVito).

Morris is no stranger to the festival circuit having films in the most distinguished festivals worldwide such as the Toronto International Film Festival, Berlin International Film Festival, and Sundance, where [The Signal](#) was sold in a multi-million dollar bidding war hours after the world premiere.

Morris's productions have spanned a variety of genres and locations, from a stereoscopic RealD 3D-animated film based on a comic book being released by Anchor Bay ([The Amazing Adventures of the Living Corpse](#)) to a wartime dark comedy starring Harvey Keitel and Gérard Depardieu ([A Farewell to Fools](#)). A documentary narrated by Jeff Bridges ([Pablo](#)), a co-production shot on location in China ([Wushu Warrior](#)) a comedy that was the opening night gala film at Slamdance ([Weirdsville](#)), an action thriller shot in India starring Harvey Keitel ([Beeper](#)), a heist crime caper starring Timothy Olyphant that premiered in The Berlin International Film Festival ([High Life](#)) and a South African feature dedicated to Morris's mother ([Master Harold And the Boys](#)). By consistently developing and acquiring projects that are attractive to domestic and foreign markets alike, Morris has ensured for over twenty years that Shoreline remains a stable yet versatile and ever-evolving organization.

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