

From the files of Detective Crawford...

CROAKED!



STARRING:

Marley Stroud-Gliddewell
Jonathan Stewart
Alexis Cole
Cristiana Woods
Rohan Gnaniah
Faith Loudon
Valerie Manning
Bella Khoury
Davi Trueblood

About “Croaked!”:

I've been making short films and videos my entire life, but my fascination with noir films started when I was in high school. My best friend and I would spend half our free time on a shared Google doc writing scripts and the other half at his house filming them. After making several projects together, I wanted to make a detective film with a horror twist. We wrote a script, filmed it, edited it, and... it sucked. The short was a total mess, and unintentionally felt like a half-baked parody. So I went back to the drawing board and decided to do more research on the genre. It was then that I saw “Double Indemnity” by Billy Wilder, which left a profound impact on me. I felt like a child watching a movie for the first time, eyes glowing at all the possibilities. The second the credits rolled, I rewrote the script, making it less of a parody and more of a sincere love letter to the genre. It's been a few years since I rewatched our second attempt, but— for the sake of keeping things sentimental— I'll pretend it was perfect. After this project wrapped, I remained hooked on noir films and mashing together seemingly random genres. While I continued writing and making other films throughout my SCAD career, I wanted to revisit noir and do something else with it. When it was finally time to begin developing my pitch for senior capstones, I knew I wanted to make an extremely stylized and cartoony film— an animation style I'd grown fond of as I progressed through my degree. I've always described Croaked as a bubblegum noir— something with bright, cheery visuals and a dark, moody protagonist that takes himself too seriously. I wrote and pitched the initial story knowing things would change along the way as everyone's visions seeped into the film. The most important thing that remained consistent until the end is that the final product expresses love and gratitude for the films, songs, humor, and artists that inspired us— from the smoke-filled neon cities of “Fallen Angels” to the brooding protagonist of “Sunset Boulevard” to the jazzy soundscape of “Twin Peaks”. We hope you enjoy “Croaked!” as much as we enjoyed making it.

- **Rohan Gnaniah**, Director

Film Stills:







Logline:

Detective Talon Crowford, bereft of his wife, finds solace in the bottoms of bottles. One night, a concerned frog presents him with a case that sets him on a new quest—to hunt down a twisted bird known only as “Silly Goose.” Crowford quickly finds himself thrown into action in a city where everybirdy's counting on him.

Trailer:

<https://vimeo.com/1085442082/15d5e11fdd>

Fact Sheet:

Running Time: 3 min 31 sec

Software: Autodesk Maya, Autodesk Shotgrid Production Tracking, Substance Painter, Nuke, Davinci Resolve, Procreate, Adobe Suite (Premiere Pro, After Effects, InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop), Blender, Toon Boom Harmony, Arnold, ProTools, Ableton, Cozyblanket

Screening Format: 2K mov, 2K Flat DCP

Aspect Ratio: 1920x1080 (16:9)

Sound: Stereo, Binaural, 5.1, and Dolby Atmos

Country of Production: Savannah, Georgia, United States

Year: May 2025

Language: English

Website: <https://croaked.wixsite.com/croakedfilm>

Press / Business Contact: crowcapstone@gmail.com

Social: @croaked.film on Instagram

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Meet the Team

Rohan Gnaniah

Director, Writer, Concept Artist, Modeler, 3D Animator, 2D FX Animator, Lighter, Compositor, Editor



Rohan Gnaniah is a 3D animator from Pooler, Georgia. He has always been drawn to the vibrant visuals of saturday morning cartoons and the moody stylings of classic noir films and wanted to tell a story that pulled from both. In addition to writing and directing *Croaked*, Rohan also worked on concept art, modeling, 3D animation, 2D FX, lighting, compositing, and editing. When he's not working on the film, you can find him at the movie theater or buried in a book, drawing inspiration from the vibrant worlds that captivate him.

John Oleniacz

Producer, Character and Rigging Technical Director, 3D Animator, Lighter, Compositor, Colorist



John Oleniacz is a character technical director and animator from just outside of Philadelphia. As the producer of the film, he was responsible for leading dailies and keeping production on track. When he was younger, he was the type to take his toys apart and study how they worked rather than play with them, so it's fitting that he meticulously rigged and designed the underlying systems that enabled the dynamic poses and nuanced emotions of the characters, along with all the things they interact with. He helped write each draft of the script, and with additional expertise in character animation, lighting, compositing, color

grading, and graphic design, John's multifaceted skill set helped bring "*Croaked!*" to life. In between working on the film, John could be found taking walks along the beach, playing pickleball, or picking away at his guitar.

Davi Trueblood

3D Animation Lead, Concept Art Lead, 2D FX Animator, Lighter, Compositor



Davi Trueblood is a senior 3D animator and visual development artist from Elgin, Oklahoma that specializes in character acting. She served as the 3D Animation and Concept Art Lead, and worked on character design, environment and prop design, 2D Effect animation, 3D character animation, lighting, and compositing for Croaked. In her free time she likes to read, draw, and grow plants. She just finished the latest Hunger Games book and eagerly awaits the film.

Cristiana Woods

Storyboard Artist, Color Key Artist, 3D Animator, Lighter, Compositor



Cristiana Woods is a 3D character animator and storyboard artist from Raleigh, North Carolina. She worked not only as a 3D animator but also assisted in developing some of the story aspects of the film while boarding out primary sequences for Croaked, along with assisting with character drawovers, lighting, and compositing. In her free time, Cristiana thoroughly enjoys video games and writing. She recently started the game *Expedition 33* and is currently developing a children's short story on her own time.

Valerie Manning

Modeler, Texturing Artist, 3D Animator, Lighter, Compositor



Valerie Manning is a 3D animator from Troy, Alabama that loves to write DND sessions in her free time. She worked on texturing, modeling, lighting, composition, and 3D animation for Croaked, and she was drawn to the film by the cool noir style with a cartoon silly twist.

Bella Khoury

Technical Lead, Modeler, Texturing Artist, Lighter, Composer



Bella Khoury is a LookDev and Lighting artist from Sykesville, Maryland. She loves all things shapes and colors and worked on texturing, modeling, lighting, compositing and pipeline development for the film. She loves to play with her dogs and create art in her free time.

Marley Stroud-Glidewell

Concept Artist, 3D Animator, Lighter, Composer



Marley Stroud-Glidewell is a 3D animator from Moore, Oklahoma. She worked on concept art, 3D animation, lighting, and compositing for Croaked. In her free time she likes to draw, read, and play video games, currently obsessed with *Final Fantasy 7 Rebirth*.

Alexis Cole

Modeler, 3D Animator, Lighter, Composer



Alexis Cole is a 3D generalist from Purcellville, Virginia. She worked on both technical aspects of the film from modeling and compositing to animating. In her free time she loves to hike, garden, play a good game, and read. Currently obsessed with *The Last of Us* and *Stray*.

Jonathan Stewart

Storyboard Artist, Concept Artist



Jonathan Stewart is a storyboarding and visual development artist from Glen Burnie, Maryland. He served as storyboard artist, concept artist, and illustrator on Crooked. In his free time he likes to draw, study the Bible and history, as well as read. He can also play the guitar and won first place for Bible teaching.

Faith Loudon

Texture Artist, Modeler, Lighter, Compositor



Faith Loudon is a character modeler from Livonia, Michigan. She worked on technical aspects of the film including, modeling, texturing, lighting, and compositing. In her free time she fawns over her three cats and watches horror films.

Full Credits

Director: Rohan Gnaniah

Producer: John Oleniacz

Faculty Supervisor: Hannah Kuehn

Writer:

Rohan Gnaniah

Story by:

Rohan Gnaniah

Storyboards by:

Cristiana Woods

Jonathan Stewart

Color Keys:

Cristiana Woods

Concept Art Lead:

Davi Trueblood

Concept Art:

Rohan Gnaniah

Marley Stroud-Glidewell

Jonathan Stewart

Technical Lead:

Bella Khoury

Models/Textures by:

Alexis Cole

Rohan Gnaniah

Bella Khoury

Faith Loudon

Valerie Manning

Character and Rigging TD:

John Oleniacz

Starring:

Aidan Wise as Detective Crowford

Ariel McIntyre as Silly Goose

Joel Haver as Frog Hopkins

Andrew Erbskorn as Crosswalk Sign

3D Animation Lead:

Davi Trueblood

3D Animators:

Alexis Cole

Cristiana Woods

John Oleniacz

Marley Stroud-Glidewell

Rohan Gnaniah

Valerie Manning

2D FX Animators:

Davi Trueblood

Michelle Camargo

Rohan Gnaniah

Lighting and Compositing:

Alexis Cole

Bella Khoury

Cristiana Woods

Davi Trueblood

Faith Loudon

John Oleniacz

Marley Stroud-Glidewell

Rohan Gnaniah

Valerie Manning

Editor:

Rohan Gnaniah

Colorist:

John Oleniacz

Composers:

M Boone

Noah Sacks

Sound Design:

Garv Garvey

Mixing and Mastering:

Myiah Kapp

Ashley Park

Special Thanks to:

Ancient Magic Team

Professor Keith Osborn

Ethan Nasiff