
Weichun (Cassie) Shao

Animation Artist

Location: Los Angeles, California

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Qualifications & Education

2016 - 2019 University of Southern California

Master of Fine Arts, John C. Hench Division of Animation & Digital Arts

2012 - 2015 School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Major in Animation and Sound Design

Filmography

- 2022** "Basic Training" (Animation Director)
- 2022** "Eddie Beatz - Healing Act" (Animation Director)
- 2022** "TAAF AAPI Heritage Heroes" (Animator)
- 2021** "Metanoia" (Animation Director)
- 2021** "What I Had to Leave Behind" (Animation Director)
- 2021** "Maggie Dave - Old You"
- 2020** "Hedgehog - Bat" (Animation Director)
- 2019** "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready"
- 2019** "There Were Four of Us"
- 2018** "Flash Flash Comfort - Safety"
- 2017** "Eddie Beatz - Black Bird" (Animation Director)
- 2017** "Synched"
- 2016** "Yuan"

Awards & Honours

- 2022** "What I Had to Leave Behind" Winner Combination Animation & Live-Action at Los Angeles Animation Festival USA
- 2021** "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" Winner Best Animation/Mixed-media at Austin Music Video Festival USA
- 2021** "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" Winner Best Music Video at Columbus International Film & Animation Festival USA
- 2020** "There Were Four of Us" Winner Best Experimental Short (Student) at National Film Festival for Talented Youth USA

- 2019** "There Were Four of Us" Winner Experimental Animated Short at China Independent Animation Film Forum China
- 2019** "There Were Four of Us" Silver Student Experimental Short at Los Angeles Animation Festival USA
- 2019** "There Were Four of Us" Silver Visual Arts & Animation at Unknown Film Festival Russia
- 2019** Carole & Larry Auerbach and Family Finishing Fund Award Recipient
- 2018** "Safety" Best Student at Ibiza Music Video Festival Spain
- 2018** "Synched" Bronze Visual Arts & Animation at Unknown Film Festival Russia
- 2018** "Synched" 1st Place Mixed Media/Experimental at Florida Animation Festival USA
- 2018** "Black Bird" Best Animated Sequence at BlackBird Film Festival USA
- 2017** "Black Bird" Best Animation at Ibiza Music Video Festival Spain
- 2017** "Black Bird" Best Music Video at California International Shorts Festival USA
- 2016** USC Beijing Galloping Horse Film Co. Scholarship Recipient
- 2012** SAIC Merit Scholarship Recipient

Official Selections & Screenings

- 2022** **CutOut Fest Retrospective** "There Were Four of Us" Mexico
- 2022** **Los Angeles Animation Festival (Honorable Mention)** "Maggie Dave - Old You" USA
- 2022** **Los Angeles Animation Festival** "What I Had to Leave Behind" (Animation Director) USA
- 2022** **Doc NYC** "What I Had to Leave Behind" (Animation Director) USA
- 2022** **HollyShorts Film Festival** "What I Had to Leave Behind" (Animation Director) USA
- 2022** **Palm Springs ShortFest** "What I Had to Leave Behind" (Animation Director) USA
- 2022** **Insomnia International Animation Film Festival** "Maggie Dave - Old You" Russia
- 2022** **International Animation Film Festival Golden Kuker- Sofia** "Maggie Dave - Old You" Bulgaria
- 2022** **Anibar Animation Festival** "Maggie Dave - Old You" Kosovo
- 2022** **Fest Anča** "Maggie Dave - Old You" Slovakia
- 2022** **Short Waves Festival x Short Film Club** "There Were Four of Us" Poland
- 2021** **ReAnimania Int. Animation Film & Comics Art Festival of Yerevan** "Maggie Dave - Old You" Armenia
- 2021** **San Diego Underground Film Festival** "Maggie Dave - Old You" USA
- 2021** **London International Animation Festival** "Maggie Dave - Old You" UK
- 2021** **Filmfest Dresden** "There Were Four of Us" Germany
- 2021** **MIAF 2020 Re-Animated** "There Were Four of Us" Australia
- 2021** **Nevada City Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
- 2021** **Next Generation Indie Film Awards** "There Were Four of Us" USA
- 2021** **Austin Music Video Festival** "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
- 2021** **Columbus International Film + Animation Festival** "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
- 2021** **Portland Film Festival** "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
- 2021** **SXSW** "Hedgehog - Bat" (Animation Director) USA
- 2021** **UK Music Video Awards** "Hedgehog - Bat" (Animation Director) USA
- 2021** **CLIPPED Music video Festival** "Hedgehog - Bat" (Animation Director) USA

2020 **Tbilisi International Animation Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Georgia
2020 **DC Chinese Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Film Maudit 2.0** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **HollyShorts Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **BIT BANG International Animation, Videogames and Digital Art Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Argentina
2020 **Leeds International Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" UK
2020 **Prime The Animation! New Talent International Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Spain
2020 **Uppsala Short Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Sweden
2020 **World of Film International Festival Glasgow** "There Were Four of Us" Scotland
2020 **Denver Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **National Film Festival for Talented Youth** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Drunken Film Fest Oakland** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Quebec City Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Canada
2020 **San Diego Asian Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Weird International Animation Market** "There Were Four of Us" Spain
2020 **Animatou** "There Were Four of Us" Switzerland
2020 **Aggregate Animated Shorts 4** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Fantasia International Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Canada
2020 **Open World Animation Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Animakom Fest** "There Were Four of Us" Spain
2020 **Supertoons International Animation Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Croatia
2020 **New Zealand International Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" New Zealand
2020 **Odense International Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Denmark
2020 **Palm Springs ShortFest** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Fest Anča** "There Were Four of Us" Slovakia
2020 **Stockholm Independent Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Sweden
2020 **Maryland Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Milwaukee Underground Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Deep Focus Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Vienna Shorts** "There Were Four of Us" Austria
2020 **Annecy International Animated Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" France
2020 **Columbus International Film and Animation Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Hallucinations Collectives festival** "There Were Four of Us" France
2020 **Animafest Zagreb** "There Were Four of Us" Croatia
2020 **First Look** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **Mecal Pro, Barcelona International Short and Animation Festival** "There Were Four of Us" Spain
2020 **Sarasota Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 **REGARD - Festival international du court métrage au Saguenay** "There Were Four of Us" Canada
2020 **Anifilm** "There Were Four of Us" Czech Republic
2020 **Ann Arbor Film Festival** "There Were Four of Us" USA

2020 Animac "There Were Four of Us" Spain
2020 Short Waves Festival "There Were Four of Us" Poland
2020 Victoria Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" Canada
2020 IbizaCinefest "There Were Four of Us" Spain
2020 Slamdance Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2020 VOID International Animation Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" Denmark
2020 IndieLisboa - International Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" Portugal
2019 THE MAGIC FLOOOT 3 Festival of Hand-Drawn Animation "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 Los Angeles Animation Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 China Independent Animation Film Forum "There Were Four of Us" China
2019 CutOut Fest International Animation and Digital Art Festival "There Were Four of Us"
Mexico
2019 Animation Marathon "There Were Four of Us" Greece
2019 Palm Springs International Animation Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 ANIMASIVO - Festival de Animación Contemporánea de la Ciudad de México "There
Were Four of Us" Mexico
2019 ReAnimania Int. Animation Film & Comics Art Festival of Yerevan "There Were Four of
Us" Armenia
2019 Austin Arthouse Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 Animation Chico Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 PÖFF Shorts, the Black Nights Film Festival's short film and animation festival "There
Were Four of Us" Estonia
2019 First Frame "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 London International Animation Festival "There Were Four of Us" UK
2019 Feinaki Beijing Animation Week "There Were Four of Us" China
2019 Primanima World Festival of First Animations "There Were Four of Us" Hungary
2019 Kuandu International Animation Festival "There Were Four of Us" Taiwan
2019 Istanbul International Experimental Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" Turkey
2019 Lausanne Underground Film & Music Festival "There Were Four of Us" Switzerland
2019 Retransmisión "There Were Four of Us" Mexico
2019 Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film Festival "There Were Four of Us"
Germany
2019 Ani'mest "There Were Four of Us" Romania
2019 Antimatter [Media Art] "There Were Four of Us" Canada
2019 Mill Valley Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 Sweaty Eyeballs Animation Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 Bolton International Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" UK
2019 Supernova Digital Animation Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 Squeaky Wheel's 16th Annual Animation Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 Encounters Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" UK
2019 South London Shorts "There Were Four of Us" UK
2019 Indie-AniFest (Panorama) "There Were Four of Us" Korea
2019 TAIS Animation Showcase "There Were Four of Us" Canada

2019 San Diego Underground Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" USA
2019 Kadoma International Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" Japan
2019 Linoleum International Contemporary Animation and Media Art Festival "There Were Four of Us" Ukraine
2019 Unknown Film Festival "There Were Four of Us" Russia
2020 Columbus International Film & Animation Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2020 Insomnia International Animation Film Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" Russia
2020 Animafest Gdansk "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" Poland
2020 Portland Film Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2020 San Diego Underground Film Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2020 Cucalorus Film Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2020 Sweaty Eyeballs Animation Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2020 Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2020 Sidewalk Film Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2020 Linoleum Contemporary Animation and Media Art Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" Ukraine
2020 Nevada City Film Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2020 Unknown Film Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" Russia
2020 Fest Anča "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" Slovakia
2020 Pictoplasma Berlin Festival and Conference "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" Germany
2020 Athens International Film + Video Festival "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2019 Music Video & Shorts Night #3 "Maggie Dave - I'm Not Ready" USA
2019 San Diego Underground Film Festival "Synched" USA
2019 Melbourne International Animation Festival "Synched" Australia
2019 International Film Festival For Children "Synched" Mexico
2019 ATHENS ANIMFEST "Synched" Greece
2019 ATHENS ANIMFEST "Safety" Greece
2018 Ibiza Music Video Festival "Safety" Spain
2018 London International Animation Festival "Synched" UK
2018 Japan House - Student Works from Japan and the US "Synched" USA
2018 Unknown Film Festival "Synched" Russia
2018 Retransmisión "Synched" Mexico
2018 PSIAF Palm Springs Intl. Animation Festival & Expo "Synched" USA
2018 Open World Animation Festival "Synched" USA
2018 Animation Marathon "Synched" Greece
2018 AnimaSyros International Animation Festival + Agora "Synched" Greece
2018 SS: FILM SCHOOL FALLOUT "Synched" Australia
2018 ReAnimania Int. Animation Film & Comics Art Festival "Synched" Armenia
2018 Mosaic World Film Festival "Synched" USA
2018 ANNY: Animation Nights New York "Synched" USA
2018 Supernova Digital Motion Festival "Synched" USA
2018 We Like 'Em Short - Animation and Comedy Film Festival "Synched" USA
2018 SHORT to the Point "Synched" Czech Republic

- 2018** Anim!Arte - International Student Animation Festival "Synched" Brazil
- 2018** Los Angeles Animation Festival (Honorable Mention) "Synched" USA
- 2018** BlackBird Film Festival "Black Bird" USA
- 2018** Ars Independent Festival "Black Bird" Poland
- 2018** FEEDBACK Film Festival "Black Bird" USA
- 2017** Ibiza Music Video Festival "Black Bird" Spain
- 2017** California International Shorts Festival "Black Bird" USA
- 2017** Aesthetica Short Film Festival "Black Bird" UK
- 2017** Austin Music Video Festival "Black Bird" USA
- 2017** Cucalorus Film Festival "Black Bird" USA
- 2017** Los Angeles Music Video Festival "Black Bird" USA
- 2017** Los Angeles CineFest "Black Bird" USA
- 2017** KLIK Amsterdam Animation Festival (MV Cafe) "Black Bird" the Netherlands
- 2017** International Music Video Underground "Black Bird" France
- 2017** Experimental Film & Music Video Festival "Black Bird" Canada
- 2017** Render: The Vancouver International MV Festival "Black Bird" Canada
- 2017** The World Animation Celebration "Again!" USA
- 2016** LA CineFest (Semi-Finalist) "Again!" USA
- 2016** Supernova Digital Motion Festival "Again!" USA
- 2015** NewFilmmakers Los Angeles "Where Is the Silent Majority?!" USA
- 2015** SAIC FVNMA Screening "Where Is the Silent Majority?!" USA
- 2015** SAIC ExTV "Where Is the Silent Majority?!" USA

Group Exhibitions

- 2022** "Sweaty Eyeballs: Behind the Screens" - multimedia exhibition at *Goucher College Silber Art Gallery* Towson, MD
- 2021** "Animations in collaboration with Denver Digerati" - video exhibition at *MeowWolf* Denver, CO
- 2020** "Friendly Ghost" - online exhibition at *Miriam Gallery* Brooklyn, NY
- 2020** "Currents 2020" - international exhibition at *El Museo Cultural de Santa Fe* Santa Fe, NM
- 2020** "Perspectives 2020" - international exhibition at the *CICA Museum* Gimpo, South Korea
- 2019** "Open Door 15" - Video Art juried exhibition presented by *Rosalux Gallery* Minneapolis, MN
- 2019** "Flux Screening Series" - Short Films and Music Videos screening exhibition at *Hammer Museum* Los Angeles, CA
- 2019** "Frame & Frequency V" - Video Art Screening Exhibition presented by *VisArts* Rockville, MD
- 2018** "Unshuttered" - Projection mapping event at *The Getty Museum* Los Angeles, CA
- 2018** "College Night" - Projection mapping event at *The Getty Museum* Los Angeles, CA
- 2018** "SOFT BYTES; A Feminist Animation Festival" - Animated Gif Event Los Angeles, CA
- 2017** "Rhythms + Visions" - Expanded Visual Music Event at *USC* Los Angeles, CA

Visiting Artist Lectures

- 2022** "Visiting Artist Talk" (10/31) Visting Artist Animator for Experimental Animation Fall 2022 class (instructor: Heidi Kumao) at *University of Michigan* Ann Arbor, MI
- 2022** "Visiting Artist Talk" (02/17) Visting Artist Animator for Film Department class (instructor: Laura Harrison) at *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee* Milwaukee, WI
- 2021** "The Young and The Restless Series" (11/09) Visting Artist Animator for FVNMA Senior Animation Projects (instructor: Chris Sullivan) at *School of the Art Institute of Chicago* Chicago, IL
- 2021** "USC Seminar International Alunx Panel" (12/01) Visting Artist Animators for CTAN 522 Animation Department Seminar (instructor: Sheila Sofian) at *University of Southern California* Los Angeles, CA

Judge Panels

- 2022** Award jury for Experimental Competition at National Film Festival for Talented Youth
- 2021** Award jury for Sweaty Eyeballs Animation Festival (Invited by *Towson University* with an honorarium)
- 2021** Award jury for Animation Competition at Drunken Film Festival Oakland
- 2020** Selection jury for Slamdance

Artist in Residencies

- 2020** at **The MacDowell Colony** (02/05/2020 - 05/26/2020) in Peterborough, NH
- 2019** at **The Corporation of Yaddo** (11/01/2019 - 12/01/2019) in Saratoga Springs, NY

Licensing & Distribution

- "There Were Four of Us"
- Argo** (<https://watchargo.com/>)
- Write Brain TV** (<https://www.writebrainstudios.tv/>)

Related Professional Activity

- 2018** Animation summer Intern at Bento Box Entertainment
- 2017-2019** Student Assistantship at Animation & Digital Arts USC
- 2015** Animation Intern at Augenblick Studio
- 2015** Motion Graphic Assistant at Crunchie Frog