

Max Willis

MFA in Creative Media, School of Creative Media, City University of Hong Kong
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Max Willis was born February 3, 1972 in Suffolk, U.K., the son of American artist David Willis. Max grew up in Okinawa, Japan and in Germany, has lived in the U.S. and Europe. Following five years in Berlin and 3.5 in Hong Kong, he relocated to Beijing. An active painter, sound recordist and media art developer, Max's current focus is on interaction programming, performance media with electronic music and soundscape. Following his graduation with distinction from the MFA program, Max was lecturer at School of Design, Hong Kong Polytechnic University. After a short time at Digital Media Institute, School of Arts and Communications, Beijing Normal University, Max began developing projects and performances in Beijing, as Art Technology Consultant to Penghao Theatre, Beijing.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2010-2011 *Art Technology Consultant*, Penghao Theatre Beijing
- 2010.6.30 *Discussion Panel Member*, Creative Asia 2010, from Asian City Culture Creative and Design Alliance Jinning, China
- 2010.2 -6 *Research Assistant*, to Prof. LeonXiao, Institute of Creative and Cultural Industries, Beijing
- 2009-10 *Senior Research Assistant*, to Dr. S. Louisa Wei, City University of Hong Kong
GE Course Development, Drawing and Modern Painting
- 2009 *Lecturer*, School of Design, Polytechnic University of Hong Kong
Semester B 2008-09: 'Multimedia Fundamentals' - Flash Interaction Design
Semester A 2009-2010: 'Computing Technology' - Flash AS3 Programming
'Design in the Post Digital Age' - Interaction Design and Useability Testing
- 2009 *Senior Research Assistant*, to Dr. S. Louisa Wei, City University of Hong Kong
'Independent Documentary Filmmaking in Hong Kong'
- 2007- 08 *Teaching Assistant* to Dr. Steve Fore, School of Creative Media, City University of Hong Kong
Semester A 2007-08, 2008-09: 'Society, Culture and New Technology'
Semester B 2007-08: 'Art of Moving Image' Film Art and Cinematography
- 2008 *Executive editor* and founder, 'zhuan' arts and literature publication, 2 editions, Hong Kong
- 2007 – 08 *Art Director and Lead Animator* "Storm Under the Sun" 140 min Documentary Film, Directed by Peng Xiao Lian and S. Louisa Wei
- 2007- *Freelance Videographer, Editor and Media Designer*, studioM www.meitiyishu.com/studiom
- 2006 *Shake Compositing Trainer*, Digiparc, Berlin
- 2004 - 06 *Co-founder and organizing member* Berlin Final Cut Pro Users Group

MEDIA ART, DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE

- 2010-2011 *Performance Event Series*, True Jade Lounge, Electronic Music, Poetry and Scriptreading, Spoken Word, Regular Event Series begun 2010.11
- 2010 *Performance*, Journey Between Worlds, live painting, ambisonic soundspace, oral storytelling, Penghao Theatre 2010.12.16&17
- 2009 *Videography*, WWF Hong Kong Mai Po virtual tour, video design for online information application.
- 2008 *Interaction Design* "Processing on Linux"; Development Project, Video and Interface with Open Source
Performance Cinema "Beijing Corner", "Untitled 2008", "i am" SCM Performances, City University
Interactive Installations "Chinese Charms: Arts, Religion and Folklore"; Exhibiton with Alex Chengyu Fang at Chinese Civilization Center http://www.meitiyishu.com/studiom/pf_cciv.htm
Video Installation "Reuse, Recycle and Refine", 9-screen audio/video

MEDIA ART, DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE (cont.)

- 2008 *Interactive Media Exhibition*, 'Pull Senses Together', with Kam Wong and Lee Man Ching, Shanghai Street Art Space, Hong Kong, July 1-15
- 2007 *Performance Sketch Video*, Shanghai Street Art Space, Hong Kong, March 17
- 2006 *Flash XML SMIL project* "Media I Ching" - www.maxwillis.net/media_iching
Mobile Phone Comics - development of mobile java applications, www.maxwillis.net/theگو
Web Design, Internet platform with Videotage and Milkxhake www.letartdisturbU.org (discontinued)
Performance Live Video "Random Specific" at Videotage, Cattle Depot, Hong Kong, Dec 16
- 2005 *Performance Avatar Lecture and Animation* "State of Puppet", Volksbühne Berlin
- 2004 *Virtual Environment Design*, www.hongkongvirtual.com
- 2003 *Digital Mapping* "Mai Po Biotope Mapping Key", Mai Po Nature Reserve, Hong Kong www.stationeast.net/maipo
- 2002 *Flash XML Application* "Cukurova Delta Biotope" www.luminousgreen.net/cukurova
Virtual Environment Design, Berlin Ostbahnhof www.ostbahnhof.de

VIDEO ART AND EDITING www.maxwillis.net/video

- 2010 WWF Hong Kong Mai Po Virtual Tour video project, apps.wwf.org.hk/eng/virtual_tour/
- 2008 "Storm Under the Sun", Art Director and Lead Animator, 140 min documentary film by Peng Xiao Lian and S. Louisa Wei, Blue Queen Cultural Communication
"Traditional Paper Making", Dimen Village Museum, Quizhou, PRC, 8min documentary
"Stormy Outside", Hong Kong, 6min dance video
"Alone the Cats", Hong Kong 8 min, MFA thesis work, animation, soundspace and spoken word
"Rochelle Yang, Latin Superstars Dance", dance video
- 2007 "Hong Kong Dental Lab" - 10 min promotional video
"In Waves", sound art with visuals
"SCM Graduation Show" documentation video
"A Fine Day", assistant editor to Xia Shu, Lijiang, Yunnan, China 33min, documentary
"Ciu Jian: Rocking China" documentary film by S. Louisa Wei, trailer edit
"A Mobile World" starring Calvin Lau and Sun Jialu 10min DV dramatic video
"The Journey pts 1 and 2" mobile comics (selection 8th University Shortfilm Competition, Beijing)
"Bike Trek Lantau" Lantau Island, Hong Kong, documentation
"Robert Ellis-Geiger at Shaw Studios", scoring seminar documentation Hong Kong Philharmonic
"ST/ART on the Farm" Hong Kong, documentary
- 2006 "Miho at zero" (selection 8th University Shortfilm Competition, Beijing)
"Dzuguuun I" Berlin screened at Tromanale 2006 www.tromanale.de
- 2005 "Festival" Mysore, South India, video art
"Working Women" Bangalore and Mysore, South India, video art
"Indigo at Yaoqui" Xishuangbanna, Yunnan, China, documentary
- 2004 "Temple at Manlei" Xishuangbanna, Yunnan, China
"Three Grasses" Yunnan, China (screened at Tromanale Berlin February 2005)
"videogeist@kinzo" w/larry heard "mr. fingers" and brett dancer Berlin
"Parade" Hong Kong, China
- 2003 "Fotanar", Fotan, Hong Kong, China
"videogeist@kinzo" w/ gbr. Teichmann Berlin

PAINTING EXHIBITIONS:

- 2007 Hong Kong July 1 to 15 - live painting and exhibit Shanghai Street Art Space
- 2005 Berlin Galerie Zero. four weeks live painting with Anna Krenz (PL)
- 2004 Berlin Berlinova
- 2001 Sulzburg, Germany, Open Studios
- 1997 - 2000 St. Ilgen, Germany, Bushmann Dyeworks, Open Studios
- 1997 Freiburg, Germany, Jos Fritz, first solo exhibition

INTERNET AND DESIGN

- 2010 www.kom.ma Flash and XHTML sites
- 2009 www.hanse-gym.de www.lexelpress.com
- 2008 www.vossundfyne.de www.kultscreens.de
www.lokkii.com www.bqcc.com
DVD design, “*Storm Under the Sun*”
www.contempo.de
- 2007 K3spray Animation Site
6-posters design for Computer Science Dept, City University Hong Kong
www.lovefield.de/loverocket
www.contempo.eu
- 2006 Design for Computer Science Dept, City University Hong Kong , brochure and six posters
www.glizzclub.com (discontinued)
www.lovefield.de/lovecity
- 2005 www.dietae.de
www.essayrecordings.com
Berlin Final Cut Pro User’s Group Web
Film promotion Herzlutschen
- 2004 www.spielheld.net
www.boxion.de
www.inzwischenzeit.de
- 2003 www.norbert-santiago.de
www.paurray.de
DVD design “*Parasit - Short Film Festival*” - Galerie Zero Berlin
DVD design “*Wenn nicht Jetzt*” by S Schnarrenberger

SKILLSET

Installation and Interaction Programming

Multi-screen video installations, motion tracking, computer-human interface, sensors, controllers, midi, hardware and software interactivity

Software: MAX/MSP, Flash, Processing, Mobile Processing, PureData, Arduino, XML, SMIL

Digital Video Camera and Edit

Professional videography and postproduction, SD, HDV, HD, media management, DVD mastering

Software: Final Cut, Premiere, Compressor, DVD Studio Pro, FFMPEG, THEORA open source encoding tools

Audio Recording and Mixing

Location and studio recording, stereo microphone, edit, mixing and mastering, soundscape design 5.1 and 8-channel Surround Sound, Ambisonics, VBA panning

Software: Nuendo, Qbass, Protools, Ableton Live

Moving Image, Graphics and Compositing

2d, 2.5d, 3d live action and CGI graphics, procedural graphics and animation

Software: Photoshop, Shake, Combustion, AfterEffects, Houdini, Illustrator, Indesign Publishing

Web Design

Flash, XHTML, CSS, Javascript, PHP, MYSQL, WIKI softwares, Content Management Systems (CMS)

Mac, Windows and Debian Linux and open source tools

LANGUAGES:

Excellent German and English, OK Spanish, limited Italian and basic Mandarin Chinese