Evaluative Statement

At the beginning of the last semester, Beatriz Bagulho put some advertisement posters through the campus looking for some animators interested in working on a project related with the Fundação Centro Cultural de Belém in Lisbon. Three of my classmates and I were selected to start working on this project on January.

The first thing we did was to have a formal meeting to discuss what the project is about, and from there we distributed the workload in accordance with our abilities. In my case, I started working in the character design of one main character and some supporting characters, as well as setting up the layout and the colour scrip for one sequence. Finally, once the scene, technique and colours had been agreed, I started working in animating the characters I had been working.

I am really pleased having Beatriz as a director, because she is a very organized and focused person, like all the deadlines and schedules are pretty well planned. Furthermore, is really easy to speak with her as she is very comprehensive and open-minded person. Every time we have to update the schedule, we arrange a meeting to discuss what it has to be done and distribute the new workload. Also, we show our rough animations in order to get some feedback to decide either to start doing the clean-up process or change something that does not work. The payment for this project basically was the purchase of the TV Paint software licence so now I am able to continue working at home.

This project is helping me in learning a lot of new techniques, how to use TV Paint in a more professional way or improving my skills in other software products such as Photoshop and After Effects. This has had a major impact in my last semester submissions, because without all that I have learned with this project I could not be able to present my assignments in such a professional way. Moreover, my animation has considerably improved, that is why if you have a look to what I animated when I started the project it seems unfinished compared with the material that nowadays I am able to produce. We have not finished the project yet, so I will keep working during this summer and part of the next year semester.

Apart from this, I have been working in other projects as a photography retoucher as before I started in the university I had worked as fashion photography retoucher in a major photography studio in London. Because of this, time to time some people approach me in order to do some odd jobs. For example, the next month I am going to retouch some photographs for the Vogue publisher, or two months ago I worked retouching pictures of the Spanish model Laura Ponte done by the photographer Mar Ordonez for the retail company “*Bimba y Lola”*.

I would like to also mention that aside my artistic projects as I has been labeled by Student Finance England as a Migrant worker, so I am obliged to work enough to be able to maintain myself. For that reason, I am working in the cleaning department of Bristol Bower Ashton Gate Stadium four or five times a month. Although I started as a team member, after one moth working there I was promoted to team leader. At the moment, I organize my team and ensure that everything meets the require standards and is done within our work hours.

Finally, since February I have been working as a Student Ambassador for the University of the West of England, as I am trying to find some jobs that are more related either with the university or with my artistic projects.

Laura Miranda Moreno