

# CAROLINE WALOTKA

# EXPERIENCE

EN

## SOMETHING HERE

⌚ July 2023 - Current

📍 Ghent

🔧 Freelance

Independent puppet, props and costume fabricator, host of puppet fabrication and prosthetics workshops. Get in touch!

## WOMEN IN ANIMATION

⌚ 2025-2026

🔧 Mentor

## LAIKA

⌚ November 2019 - June 2023

📍 Portland,OR

🔧 Hair and Fur Fabricator

Hair and fur fabricator for Laikas new feature film *Wildwood* out in 2026. On-set puppet maintenance.

## VRT

⌚ April 2019

📍 Brussels

🔧 Prop Maker

Making props and puppets for *TikTak*, a TV show for toddlers.

- fabricating stop-motion puppets
- fabricating marionettes and hand puppets
- creating background worlds made of food and accessories
- working with felt and recycled materials
- co-working with head of props and director

## DINH VAN FX

EN

☉ March 2019

📍 Liège

👤 Prosthetics Assistant

Assisting the FX artist in the creation of prosthetics for a French film.

- making a mold of prosthetic finger using clay and PU resin
- cleaning and preparing molds for casting
- casting face and finger prosthetics in silicone
- trimming and seaming of silicone prosthetics

## FACTORY CREATE

☉ January 2018 - December 2018

📍 Manchester

👤 Silicone Department

Silicone casting and on-set maintenance for Universal Kids' *Norman Picklestripes*.

- casting puppets in silicone and soft foam
- mixing and matching silicone colours to Pantone samples
- hair insertion
- trimming and seaming puppet body parts
- replacing finger wires, fixing silicone hands
- making armatures for hands, wiring the fingers
- vacuum forming eyelids for all the stages of blinking (open, half closed, closed)
- sanding edges of eyelids
- priming, colouring and sealing eyelids with airbrush
- on-set puppet maintenance
- on-set repair of silicone tears in puppets
- on-set tensioning of puppet armatures
- making armatures for hands, wiring the fingers
- casting new faces and hands for broken puppets

## C-MINE

☉ September 2017 - December 2017

📍 Genk

👤 Prosthetics Designer

Creating rat ears worn by dancers in an immersive live performance.

- life-casting ears on actors
- sculpting rat ears on plaster positives
- molding and casting silicone rat ears
- trimming and seaming silicone ears
- airbrushing and finishing
- applying and styling ears to performers

# ISLE OF DOGS (2018)

EN

© September 2016 - September 2017

📍 London

🏢 Puppet Hospital

Mending and maintaining puppets on set for Wes Anderson's latest feature film *Isle of Dogs*.

- on-set puppet maintenance
- on-set repair of silicone tears in puppets
- on-set tensioning of puppet armatures
- final checks of puppets before each shot
- continuity checks of puppets
- creating background puppets using wire and silicone
- styling fur
- styling hair and wigs
- creating spare hands for each character
- trimming and seaming
- air brushing for silicone
- mixing silicone colours
- casting plastic eyes, glueing paper pupils onto eyes
- sanding and painting miniature 3D printed characters
- making replacement collars for puppet's shirts
- sculpting, molding and casting for dog tongue used in closeup
- creating "singed" look on dogs using coloured hairspray
- creating "wet" look on dogs using hair gel
- punching and laying fur on silicone puppets
- adding paw pads to dogs when needed for the shot
- opening rigging holes in silicone and fabric
- mending torn costumes
- airbrushing bruised foot
- redesigning old puppets into new background characters
- paint matching puppets during each movement stage for replacement animation
- repairs and paint blending of silicone puppets
- painting "growl" dentures for dogs
- cleaning stained costumes
- altering silicone puppets to allow exaggerated movements

## FACTORY CREATE

EN

🕒 May 2016 - September 2016

📍 Manchester

👤 Puppet Maintenance

Mending and maintaining puppets on set for CBBC's animation series *Scream Street*.

- vacuum forming eyelids for all the stages of blinking (open, half closed, closed)
- sanding edges of eyelids
- priming, colouring and sealing eyelids with airbrush
- on-set puppet maintenance
- on-set tensioning of puppet armatures
- repairing silicone tears in puppets on set
- making armatures for hands, wiring the fingers
- casting new faces and hands for broken puppets
- painting faces, feet and hands
- replacing faces, feet and hands
- working as puppet wrangler, keeping track of each puppet, delivering puppets to set
- assembling new characters using existing parts
- restyling puppets when needed
- reorganising the "puppet hospital"

## ARTEM

🕒 January 2016 - March 2016

📍 London

👤 Fabricator

Designing and fabricating a pregnant belly for ASOS pregnancy wear.

- working with reticulated foam and lycra
- hand sewing
- sanding and smoothing down foam belly
- fitting belly to model

## MADAME TUSSAUDS

🕒 May 2015 - April 2016

📍 London

👤 Junior Moulder

Moulding and casting a variety of celebrities, sanding and assembling before they're passed on to the painting department.

- moulding life sized clay bodies
- working with fibreglass and moulding silicone
- cleaning and prepping moulds for casting
- casting body parts in fibreglass
- lifecasting hands using alginate
- filling alginate moulds with plaster
- moulding plaster hands using silicone and fibreglass
- sanding cast body parts and assembling bodies
- priming hands and bodies
- co-working with sculptors

## ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

EN

⌚ April 2015 - May 2015

📍 London

🔧 Prop Maker

Making props, including life-sized gargoyles, for *The Queen of Spades*.

- cutting up existing mannequins for repositioning
- working with fibreglass
- sanding mannequins
- making a steel structure for the wings
- fabricating feathers out of plastazote
- creating skeletal arms for mannequin made of wood and fibreglass
- priming and spray painting gargoyles

## ARTEM

⌚ March 2015 - April 2015

📍 London

🔧 Fabricator

Creating a giant inflatable underwater scene and shadow puppets for the 2015 *Take That* tour.

- fabricating large plants
- glueing and stitching
- using polyester fabrics and plastazote
- cutting and painting flowers made of plastazote

## TELETUBBIES

⌚ August 2014 - February 2015

📍 London

🔧 Fabricator

Working with Niki Lyons on the build of the iconic *Teletubbies* for the reboot that launched in 2015.

- making Teletubby antennae of hard foam, wire and soft foam
- enlarging existing patterns according to the size of each character
- applying patterns to reticulated foam
- cutting out each pattern
- glueing and forming foam patterns to create Teletubby suits to be worn by performers
- fitting and adjusting suits to performers
- creating anti-slip soles for Teletubby feet
- dressing performers on set

## NATIONAL FILM AND TELEVISION SCHOOL

⌚ July 2013 - August 2013

📍 Beaconsfield

🔧 Model Maker

Building and painting set and props for several stop-motion animation productions.

- sculpting, moulding and casting severed arm of silicone
- silicone painting with airbrush
- using plasticine, sculpey and balsawood for sets and props
- creating cardboard and paper props
- painting props with acrylics

## NATIONAL THEATRE

EN

🕒 January 2013 - February 2013

📍 London

👤 Costume Props

A six-week work placement in the Costume Props department, helping in the preproduction of *The Captain of Kopenick* as well as the hustle and bustle during the performances.

- redesigning hats
- making veils using existing lace patterns
- creating foam troll mask
- working with lycra, Varaform and latex
- assisting head of Costume Props during fittings
- making belts for army uniforms
- dyeing fabrics
- dressing actors

## LIFECAST INC.

🕒 September 2012

📍 London

👤 Workshop Assistance

Gaining experience in a professional environment, helping with the development and execution of projects including exhibitions and film props.

- assisting the lifecasting of a leg
- casting, trimming and seaming in silicone
- making fibreglass props for a V&A Museum costume exhibition
- sanding and priming fibreglass props

## OLYMPIC OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES

🕒 February 2012 - June 2012

📍 London

👤 Costume Volunteer

Working intensively in the costume department.

- customizing costumes
- creating large masks
- helping with costume fittings
- assisting during rehearsals
- measuring performers for costumes

## CARRION CROW

🕒 October 2010

📍 London

👤 Costume Designer

Designing and making costumes for a Victorian age inspired music video.

- altering existing clothes to fit era
- costume assistance on set

## DE FONZ

EN

⌚ March 2010 - June 2010

📍 Brussels

👤 Costume Designer

- designing and fabricating lycra superhero costumes
- styling all characters
- costume assistance on set

Working as costume designer on this short film about superheroes.

## MISSCHIEN LATER

⌚ January 2010 - April 2010

📍 Brussels

👤 Costume Designer

- costume design
- styling all characters
- costume assistance on set

Co-working as costume designer on this short romantic comedy.

## HITOMI

⌚ October 2009 - January 2010

📍 Brussels

👤 Costume Designer

- designing and making a kimono
- styling all characters
- costume assistance on set

Working as costume designer on this short film with Japanese influences.

## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

⌚ September 2009 - December 2009

📍 Brussels

👤 Costume Designer

- creating fatsuit for character using foam, latex and jersey
- assisting during rehearsals
- measuring actors
- altering existing clothes to fit style

Designing and making funky costumes from scratch for this student musical.

## QUEST FOR AVALON

⌚ January 2008 - June 2008

📍 Brussels

👤 Costume Assistant

- buying and styling costumes
- costume assistance on set

Assisting the costume designer on this short film set in the middle ages.



## WIGMAKING

© 2025

♥ CVO, Antwerpen

## 3D PRINT PRODUCT DESIGNER

© 2025

♥ Syntra, Aalst

## NEILL GORTON'S PROSTHETICS BOOTCAMP

© 2018

♥ Falmouth

Crash course in film prosthetics taught by Neill Gorton.

## INTRODUCTION TO KNOTTING

© 2017

♥ London

Learning the basics of wig making

## TECHNICAL EFFECTS FOR PERFORMANCE

© 2011-2014

♥ London College of Fashion

Learning all the tricks of the Special FX trade. Making maquettes, puppets and creature suits. Focusing on stop motion in my final year.

## **COSTUME DESIGN**

EN

© 2006-2010

♥ Royal Academy of Fine Arts Antwerp

Design and making of modern and period costumes for both college projects and collaborations with film and theatre students. Introduction to scenography and puppetry, studied in-depth during an Erasmus exchange at Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera in Milan.

## **SKILLS**

- painting
- silicone painting
- airbrush
- moulding
- silicone
- fibreglass
- casting
- life casting
- hair insertion
- wig knotting
- costume making
- fabrication
- sculpting
- model making

## **CONTACT**

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