

## Where Do We Go From Here

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Everyday we read about another studio opening up outside of the US with original content designed by US artists being outsourced. Large companies have told American animators that they aren't valuable anymore by outsourcing. Lean forward and listen in on this unconventional brainstorming discussion from an artists point of view with directors, studio owners and other creatives who candidly discuss in an informal conversation the possibilities of where do we go from here?

**Dominic Carola** Owner / Creative Director at Premise Entertainment

Prior to coming to work for The Walt Disney Company, Dominic worked as a cartoonist for D.C. Comics. There, his interest in animation and filmmaking led him to the prestigious California Institute of the Arts (CalArts), where he became the first-ever recipient of the Walter Lantz Animation Award, and the only one presented by Walter Lantz before his passing.

While at CalArts he was selected by Disney and went on to spend more than a decade working for Walt Disney Feature Animation in Orlando Florida. While at Walt Disney Feature Animation, Mr. Carola was a Lead Animator for LILO & STITCH, and animated on such films as BROTHER BEAR and MULAN. His other animation film credits include JOHN HENRY, THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME, POCAHONTAS and THE LION KING. Mr. Carola was the Director of Animation for Walt Disney's California Adventure Animation Pavilion, that was recognized for the THEA Award for theme park attractions upon its opening.

In 2004, the Disney studio was consolidated back to Burbank, and Dominic chose to stay in Orlando to launch an independent animation production studio with his colleagues from Walt Disney Feature Animation in Florida. Since then he has overseen productions ranging from theatrical features, direct-to-DVD's and television projects. As

a Creative Producer and Director while with Project Firefly, he had also served as the Head of Production for the Florida unit on the Universal Pictures theatrical release of CURIOUS GEORGE and as well as several other animated productions.

As President and Creative Director of Premise Entertainment, he is overseeing original content development as well as being an active animation and production service provider. Including his work as the Head of Production at Premise Entertainment for the Florida unit of animation artists working with Walt Disney Pictures release of 'THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG'. Dominic continues to creatively lead visual development, pre-production, story, and animation production teams on 2D and 3D productions and original content projects working with clients and studios from around the world on various television, feature, gaming, theme park entertainment, publishing and web based episodic content.