

The Big B Animation presents

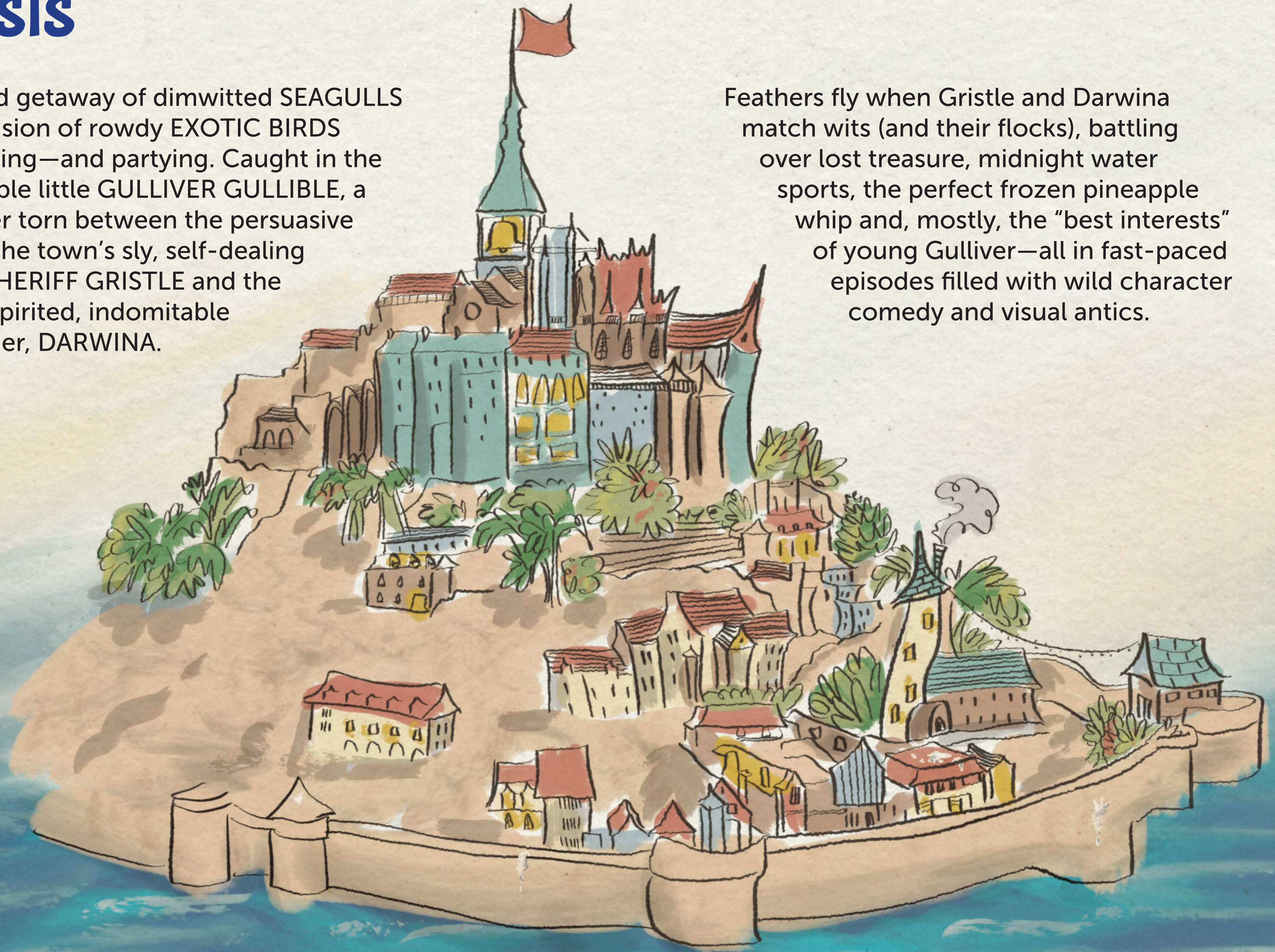
# THE GULLIBLES



# Synopsis

A serene island getaway of dimwitted SEAGULLS suffers an invasion of rowdy EXOTIC BIRDS intent on pirating—and partying. Caught in the middle is gullible little GULLIVER GULLIBLE, a naïve pushover torn between the persuasive influences of the town’s sly, self-dealing old Buzzard SHERIFF GRISTLE and the Exotics’ free-spirited, indomitable Dodo ringleader, DARWINA.

Feathers fly when Gristle and Darwina match wits (and their flocks), battling over lost treasure, midnight water sports, the perfect frozen pineapple whip and, mostly, the “best interests” of young Gulliver—all in fast-paced episodes filled with wild character comedy and visual antics.



# Gulliver

## GULL

An earnest, naïve-though-adventuresome 10-yr-old boy, the hero of our show, is a wannabe Treasure-Islanded Jim Hawkins torn between two flocks: the yawning local yokel gulls and the wild, breathless Exotics.

Since the Exotics' adventures are much more exciting, or daring, or just plain fun, Gulliver usually sneaks out to help them. But he's often coerced into helping the wacky pirates in their sketchier schemes, especially when Darwina makes a convincing case for mild preteen rebellion. Or because Gulliver knows that their young stowaway Liang is involved, and he really likes her and wants to impress her.

But even when Gulliver flies too far in the wrong direction, his moral compass guides him back to doing what's right for his community.



# THE EXOTICS

## Darwina

### DODO

Free-spirited leader of a raucous band of pirate birds, and a worldly Hippie Earth-Mama to the sheltered Gulliver. Darwina is also determined to find the "InDecent Jewels" marked on her treasure map ...when she's not keeping her crew entertained with whatever wild diversions they can cook up on this boring berg.

Darwina can see right through the good-ol'-boy veneer of Mont Decent's conniving Sheriff Gristle. So she is not above joining him on a shoreline Barcalounger, where they muse together after contentious skirmishes between their flocks as she shares with him her scandalous pineapple whip dessert: "Live it up while ya can, Buster."

(Voice Type: Frances McDormand or Tracy Ellis Ross)



# Liang



## MANDARIN DUCK

Chinese for “bright,” Liang is a very bright nine-year-old girl. She is an orphan stowaway, a foundling of the Exotics, who represents the adventurous life Gulliver dreams of having. Liang sometimes pretends she’s really a dragon-in-training. She never will be, but she does unintentionally burn poor Gulliver, who really likes her. If Liang is helping an Exotic mission, that’s reason enough for Gulliver to sneak out to tag along.

# Rotisserie

## HEADLESS SEA HAWK

Old school pirate swashbuckler who never says die, no matter his apparent deficits (of like, well, a head). His pirate hat seems to float over his empty shoulders, and he speaks through an Electrolarynx (mechanized voice amplifier) around his neck. He’s easily insulted, if only to motivate a sharp-tipped duel. He has a standing feud with an old swordfish nemesis still hunting him, leading to some daring watery sword fights.

(Voice Type: Errol Flynn by way of Stephen Hawking)



# Dr. Plumaj

## PEACOCK

Arrogant inventor with brilliant ideas, who's not as charming as he thinks he is.

(Voice Type: Aziz Ansari)



# Alfie

## TOUCAN

Clumsy comic relief who's way more charming with the Mont Decent ladies than Dr. Plumaj. (Like Harpo Marx, but not as pushy or obnoxious.) Alfie's big colorful beak is keen for sniffing out the coveted treasure—except that he's usually wrong. He does not speak, but rather taps, clatters, brays, barks, croaks, and growls.

(Voice Type: Dame Judi Dench)

# THE LOCALS

## Sheriff Gristle

### OLD BUZZARD

is Mont Decent's gristly, gruff, blustery, self-dealing 'small town sheriff,' a retired scavenger grounded with a bad wing and no way to escape this vacation resort of dimwitted gulls. He's long ago given up his search for the legendary "InDecent Jewels," and traded it in for fixing up his dream cabin on the beach. Gristle tries to hold on to his dwindling power and sanity as he's constantly frustrated and undermined by his dim neighbors.

And by the unpredictable, treasure-hunting invaders, The Exotics. He thinks the wild birds' invasion has thrown the serene Mont Decent into a spiraling descent. Most days, he's motivated to stop them. Other days ...Eh. Not so much. But if he hears of a new lead to the old treasure, or if his Zen garden gets trampled, then the sheriff guesses he's ready to "dive back into the ol' business."

(Voice Type: A drawling Sam Elliot, or Delroy Lindo.)





# Aunty Deputy

## GULL

Gulliver's aunt runs the Guano Gardens BnB, and moonlights as Sheriff Gristle's hulking deputy (and de facto bodyguard). She's a protective female guardian similar to Game of Thrones' Brienne of Tarth, who helps Gristle keep the local gulls in line (pretty easy) or keep the Exotics in check (pretty impossible). Also Gulliver's loving guardian, she's unaware her nephew is sneaking off to enjoy time with the Exotics. Deputy Aunty has a peg leg she often repurposes for some creative use.

(Voice Type: A respectful Gwendolyn Christie)

# Anton & Chekhov

## GULLS

Co-habiting Everybirds and purveyors of the mountain's number one hotspot (okay, tepid-spot), The Bait & Boba ...that is, until their customers ditched them for Darwina's pineapple whip kiosk. (Can they lure them back with Boba drinks? Hmm, sounds kinda scary.) The pair have a push/pull dynamic with their business, their mountain, and the wild intruders.

Anton is big and sweet; easy-going and welcoming. The smaller Chekhov can be bristly and cynical and competitive. Bombarded by the collateral damage of the Exotics' schemes against the Sheriff, our small business birds have to rebuild their little business often.

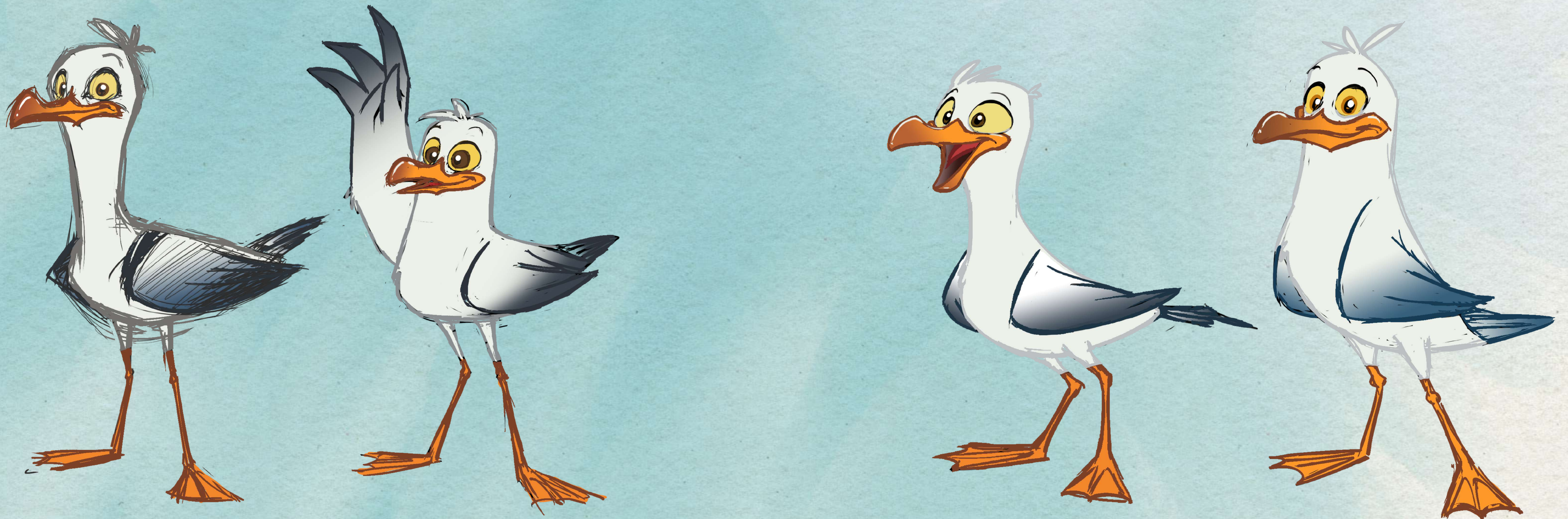




# Decent Seagulls & Sandpipers

...are the gullible Denizens of Mont Decent. Bland spectators to all the Exotics' crazy stunts, their theme song might be "Gulls Don't Wanna Have Fun." They are virtually identical gulls and pipers who are trusting, easily flustered, and otherwise indistinguishable (except by their unique uniforms, props, hats, bow ties, briefcases, ear-buds, etc., that define their role in the community: students, nurses, insurance salesmen, mechanics, etc.).

Gulliver watches helplessly as these cookie-cutter spectators are bowled over like bowling pins, or washed away or flattened when they ogle in the wrong place at the wrong time—usually during the skirmishes and treasure hunts and parties triggered by the Exotics that Sheriff Gristle tries to squash or race against. A running visual gag is how randomly and viscerally these nameless birds get obliterated in a multitude of creative ways.



# Locations

## **MONT DECENT**

This Mont Saint Michel-esque, mini-mountain island is a sun-drenched, sand-washed ancient resort. Its dullard Seagull merchants care only about keeping their few aviary tourists happy and earning an honest living. A Lake Wobegon-kind of feel, with their suffocatingly-modest town motto: "If You're Enjoying Yourself, You Must be in Decent!" ...Until this serene island is invaded by a whole flock of Indecents: an exotic, wild and carefree band of aviary pirates who like to search for treasure, make pineapple whip, and have fun. The island has a big empty monastery at the top, and narrow streets below lined with souvenir shops and bed-&-breakfasts and kiosks: it's the perfect track for the Exotics' wild races steering anything with wheels.

## **THE BELLTOWER**

The highest point on Mont Decent is the belltower atop the old monastery, where Darwina and her Exotics have taken over the arched roosts and sound the bell whenever they feel like it, to the confusion and consternation of the time-disciplined and tea-time-dependent local gulls.

## **ANTON & CHEKHOV'S BAIT & BOBA**

Business has really taken a swan dive since the Exotics opened up their Pineapple Whip kiosk down the path. (Who knew their neighboring gulls went for tangy? Anton and Chekhov don't do tangy.)

## **SHERIFF GRISTLE'S COTTAGE**

A peaceful place overlooking the ocean. It's got a Zen garden ...and a deep basement filled with not-very-Zen-like secrets.

## **GUANO GARDENS**

Gulliver helps out at the front desk of his Aunty's tiny bed-&-breakfast, while she works as Gristle's Deputy keeping peace on the island.



## **MOTORSHARK!**

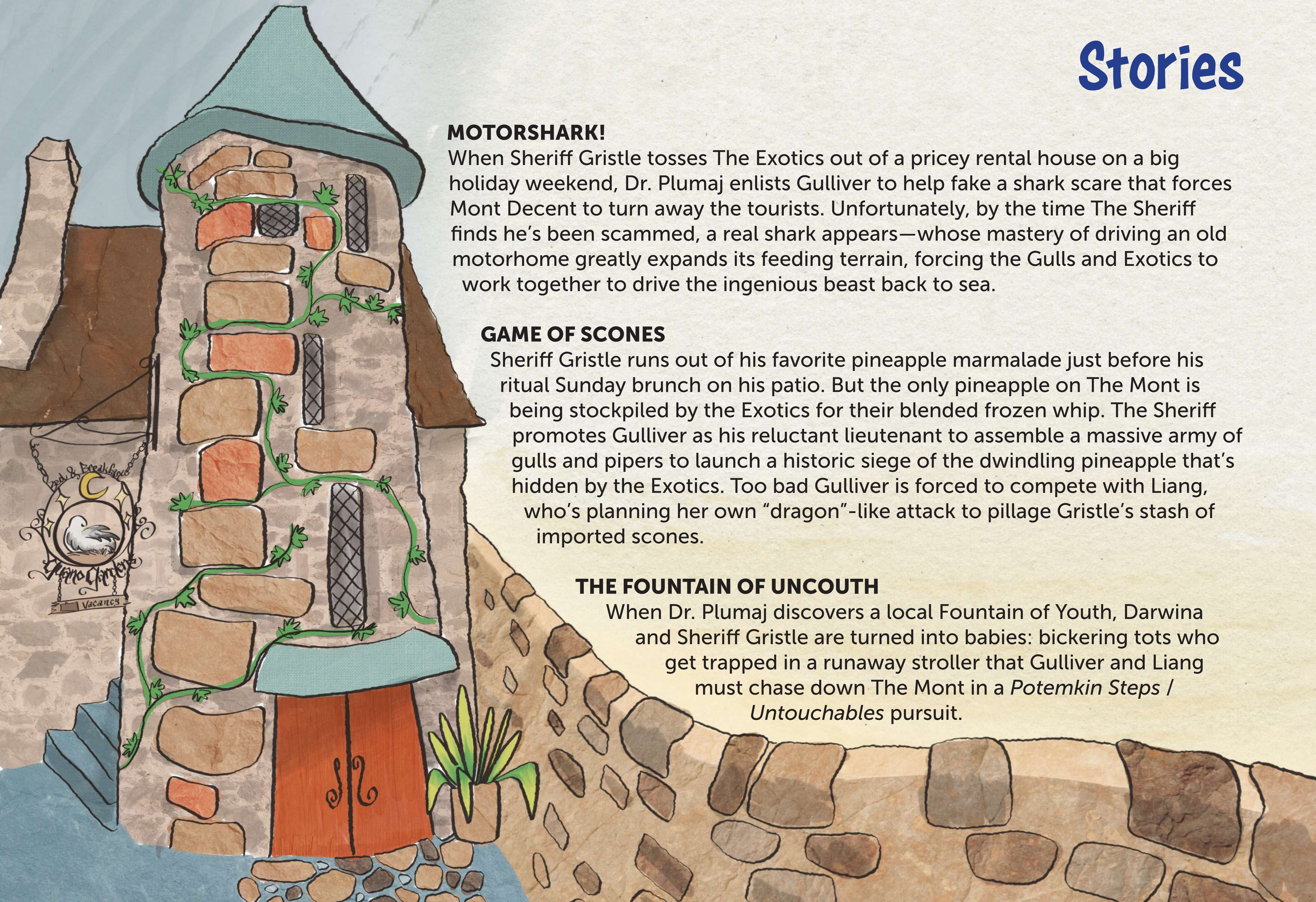
When Sheriff Gristle tosses The Exotics out of a pricey rental house on a big holiday weekend, Dr. Plumaj enlists Gulliver to help fake a shark scare that forces Mont Decent to turn away the tourists. Unfortunately, by the time The Sheriff finds he's been scammed, a real shark appears—whose mastery of driving an old motorhome greatly expands its feeding terrain, forcing the Gulls and Exotics to work together to drive the ingenious beast back to sea.

## **GAME OF SCONES**

Sheriff Gristle runs out of his favorite pineapple marmalade just before his ritual Sunday brunch on his patio. But the only pineapple on The Mont is being stockpiled by the Exotics for their blended frozen whip. The Sheriff promotes Gulliver as his reluctant lieutenant to assemble a massive army of gulls and pipers to launch a historic siege of the dwindling pineapple that's hidden by the Exotics. Too bad Gulliver is forced to compete with Liang, who's planning her own "dragon"-like attack to pillage Gristle's stash of imported scones.

## **THE FOUNTAIN OF UNCOUTH**

When Dr. Plumaj discovers a local Fountain of Youth, Darwina and Sheriff Gristle are turned into babies: bickering tots who get trapped in a runaway stroller that Gulliver and Liang must chase down The Mont in a *Potemkin Steps / Untouchables* pursuit.



# Stories (continued)

## CHEKHOV'S GUM

Anton & Chekhov's Bait & Boba is stocking an enticing new product: chewing gum. After Gulliver's Aunty Deputy forbids him to try it, Darwina sneaks him a stick. Gulliver eagerly starts chewing, successfully hiding it from his Aunty and looking cool to impress Liang. But the wad quickly ends up on the bottom of his webbed foot, gluing the guilty gull to anything he touches. Soon, evidence of Gulliver's careless decision stretches him thin across the entire island, gumming up Sheriff Gristle's profitable Clean Up Day event.

## THE BOYDS

Gulliver's date with Liang hits the skids when his distant family of indiscreetly-pooping seagulls arrive for an unwelcome visit ...and bombard Mont Decent. When Sheriff Gristle uses the distraction to pursue a lead on the lost jewels, Darwina engineers a plan to turn the dive-bombing gulls on the Sheriff and find the jewels herself, evoking Hitchcockian twists—and slips.

## THE REAL HOUSEBIRDS OF MONT DECENT

Following a lead on the whereabouts of the InDecent Treasure, Dr. Plumaj disguises the Exotics as a reality show film crew to interrogate the local gulls—only to be dragged into the various wild and reckless hobbies that brighten the (supposed) dull gulls' private lives. The doctor - and the documentary - get nowhere with the treasure, but do get somewhere understanding the boiling preoccupations bubbling under the surface of this cool berg.



# Stories (continued)

## FOILED AGAIN!

When Gulliver helps his Aunty sneak out for swashbuckling lessons with Rotisserie, the Deputy soon finds herself swept away by the daring sea hawk and she quits her lawful job for a life of unlawful adventure. But when the Exotics pull her into a wild scheme to dig up the InDecent Jewels, Aunty realizes the “Pirate Life” is not for her, leaving poor Rotisserie heartbroken—but determined to win her back.

## JEWEL OF DENIAL

Just as Sheriff Gristle finishes building the seaside retirement cabin of his dreams, Alfie finds proof that the InDecent Treasure is buried directly beneath it. Using Gulliver and his science fair project as an annoying distraction, the Exotics try to excavate the treasure under the old buzzard’s nose, ultimately finding a hidden cave beneath the cabin that swallows up the entire structure—without ever finding any jewels. (Oops.)

## THE SQUAWKING DREAD

On Halloween, Gulliver races between trick-or-treating with his Aunty—and helping the Exotics build the scariest Zombie Belltower ever. Meanwhile, the Sheriff finds no serenity when trick-or-treating Sandpipers trample his pebble-perfect Zen Garden, but his un-Zen-like scheme to keep the little monsters “off his lawn” attracts a zombie-bird uprising.



## CREATOR & WRITER

# MARLOWE WEISMAN

has written for virtually all animation genres, and earned an Emmy nomination for Warner Bros.' Baby Looney Tunes. His development work on HahnFilm's girls action-fantasy Mia and Me made it the most-viewed trailer at MIP JUNIOR. Other credits include Disney Junior / Netflix's preschool comedy P.King Duckling, co-writing the animated feature Felix 2 for Germany's Caligari Film, three years on staff at Disney TV Animation and development for HIT Entertainment. His original short for Steven Spielberg's and WB's Animaniacs featured just one word - repeated over 100 times.

## PRODUCER & DIRECTOR

# JODY GANNON

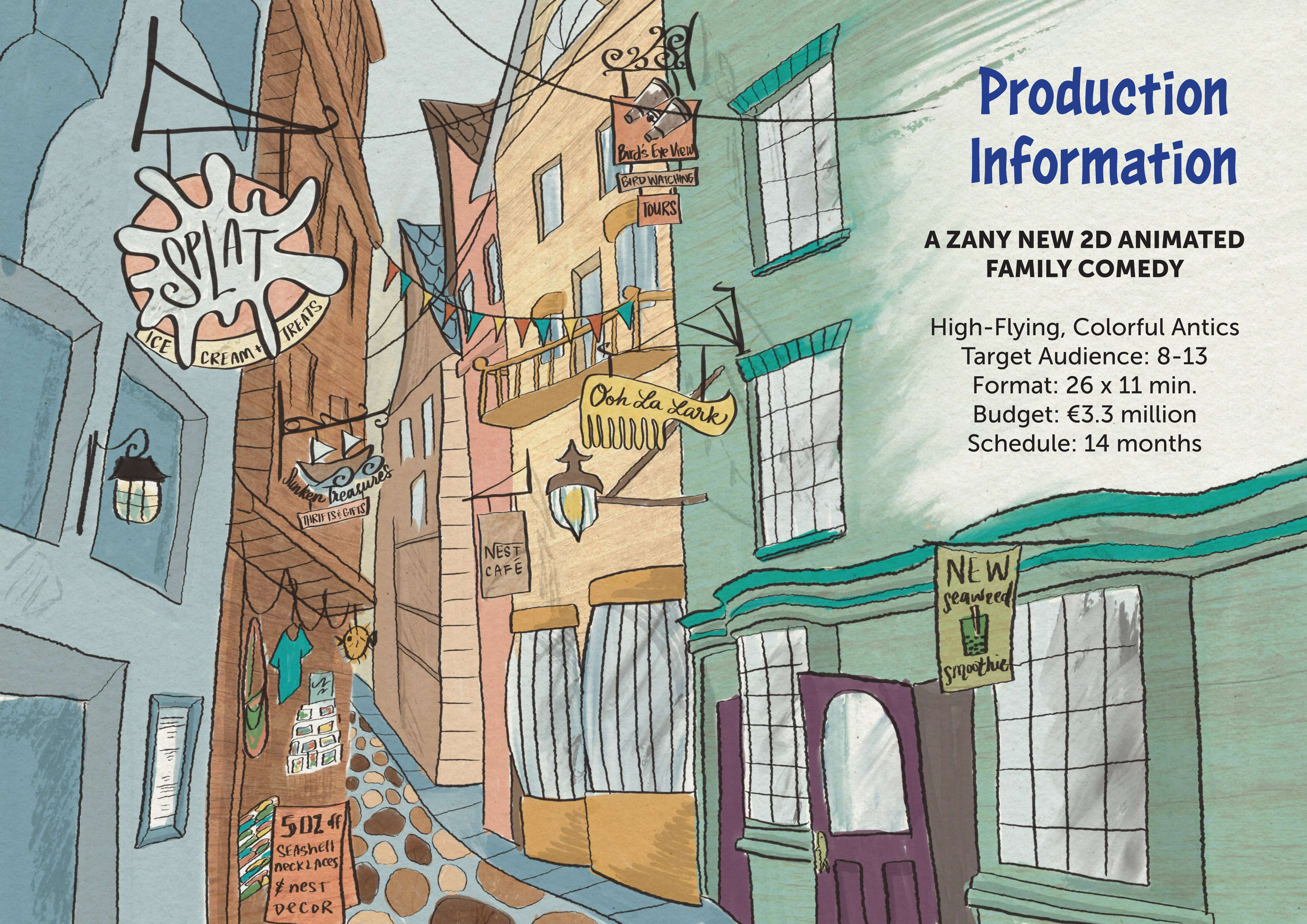
is the founder of The Big B Animation Co. GmbH. He is a Disney-trained, classical animator and one of the most accomplished animation directors in Europe. As Supervising Director on some of the most high-profile TV series ever produced in Europe, Jody's talents have defined such as hits as SimsalaGrimm, School for Vampires, Sherezade: The Untold Stories and, more recently, KiKa's new flagship 26 x 22min series development Mystery Museum.



# Production Information

**A ZANY NEW 2D ANIMATED FAMILY COMEDY**

High-Flying, Colorful Antics  
Target Audience: 8-13  
Format: 26 x 11 min.  
Budget: €3.3 million  
Schedule: 14 months





# Production Status

## NOTE of INTENT

*Gullibles* is just beginning development, with 26 storyline and concept character and location designs in progress. We are pleased to have been interested in this wacky series concept and a Letter of Interest in hand already for presale acquisition. We are in negotiations with potential co-producers in Canada, Germany and Ireland, and have every firm belief in the global market potential for this zany and colorful 2D family comedy, promising a long shelf life of adoring fans —and adorable plush dolls.



# Contact



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