**Famous Animators**

**Historical Contexts and Influence**

**Willis H O’Brien**



What was Willis H O’Brien’s most famous film?

King Kong

When was it made?

Made in 1933

Why was Willis so important?

Willis was important, because his use of stop-motion animation influenced a great many future filmmakers, most notably, Ray Harryhausen and Tim Burton.

**Ray Harryhausen**



Who inspired Harryhausen?

Willis H O’Brien

What was his most famous film?

Jason and the Argonauts

What country was Harryhausen from?

Harryhausen was born in Los Angeles, California on June 29th 1920 and died in London, England in May 2013.

**Jan Svankmajer**



What country was Jan Svankmajer from?

Czechoslovakia

What political system was this country ruled under?

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

What type of artist was Svankmajer?

A surrealist Czech animator

What themes often occurred in Svankmajer’s work?

Communism, political themes + issues, dialogue

**Hayou Miyazaki**



What country is Miyazaki from?

Tokyo, Japan.

What type of animation does Miyazaki produce?

Animes

What is the name of Miyazaki’s production company?

Studio Ghibli

What are the themes of *Grave of the Fireflies*?

World War 2 in Japan, animation for adults, themes of death, frightening scenes

Would you call *Grave of the Fireflies* a children’s film?

I would call Grave of the Fireflies a movie for adults.

**John Lasseter**



What company did John Lasseter work for?

Walt Disney Animation Studios, PIXAR Animation Studios

Which entrepreneur and technologist helped fund and create Pixar?

Steve Jobs

What role did Lasseter have at Disney?

What is John Lasseter’s legacy to animation?

Head of PIXAR Animation Studios

To completely change the world of animation