

This document contains [links](#) to online media e.g. Howard's [1-MINUTE ANIMATION SHOWREEL](#). Some links use Flash and are best viewed on a desktop computer.

Why don't grown-ups think like children?

Playing to our playful

Howard Vause is founder and co-director of *Frome Media Arts Community Interest Company* (Est. 2012). He is an award winning animator, prolific filmmaker, illustrator, musician and performer.



He believes that creativity and storytelling belong at the heart of life and learning:

“When creative sparks fly, we are alive. We learn better: faster, deeper and with improved recall. And we have more fun too!”

Matthew Taylor describes it as *The Power to Create*.

Howard's goal is to share his inspirations, inspire learning and encourage the playful, creative spirit in us all.

About his films

Distinctive short-form films that often merge animation with live action, graphic elements and typography. Soundtrack is primary. Accessible and entertaining, his films make excellent learning resources. They can communicate complex messages with playful precision and thus appeal to professional educators, commercial interests and learners of all levels, ages and abilities.

A bit about a boy

As a child Howard was baffled by the adult world.
Why do grown-ups forget how to think like children?
What happens to their Magic Powers?
He vowed to ALWAYS REMEMBER.

This promise pervades his work. He aims to bring “magic powers” to those organisations, groups and individuals with whom he collaborates.

About outreach

Howard also leads dynamic media arts outreach projects in collaboration with schools, businesses and community partners. His sessions challenge participants to explore their creative strength and to tell their own stories. Resulting in short films that often become learning resources in their own right.

Exciting highlights from recent years

Delivered in the present tense to make them sound even more exciting.

Health Connections / Mendip Symphony (2017-current)

NHS England commission 4 animated shorts to explain, promote and attract funding for an innovative adult social care model (in which departments collaborate rather than working in isolation!) - now being adapted for use across medical centres nationally. [Not yet public.]

This Student Life (2016) University of Bath commission 6 short films for a LIVE *info-show* aimed at “Freshers”. The 60-minute performance is delivered to a tight 3-month deadline, plays to 3000 students and features animation, interactive media and multimedia for performance throughout.

Maths Man (2014-15) HarperCollins Publishers extend their commission from one to three to *seven* 2-minute animations. ‘Maths Man’ - our not-so-superhero - is part of the Collins Connect online platform. Animation/live action, music and memorable narrative help students revise essential GCSE Maths.

Animated Shorts (2013 - on-going) People with ideas to share commission a compelling array of films. Examples include:

- *Peter Macfadyen* and *Independents for Frome (Iff: I'm for Frome)*
- Community Arts groups - like the anarchic *Street Bandits*;
- Heritage groups - like *The Last Tree Dreaming Project*.

VideoPoetry (2013 - on-going)

- *Liberated Words Poetry Film Festival (International/Bristol 2013)* award Best Music/Sound to “Greenspin” – collaboration with ecopoet *Helen Moore* follows. Narration, music, animated images, text and video elements. (e.g. *Kali Exorcism*)
- PoetryFilm sessions e.g. teenagers on Autism Spectrum (*Butterflies Haven, 2016*); healthcare (*The Golden Bird Project - RUH, Bath/Art, 2014*); and mainstream education (SW schools/colleges).



Some history

For 10 years (2002-12) Howard led outreach activities at Frome *Media Arts Specialist Community College*. He delivered 120+ outreach projects with community partners; established a network of energised educators and learners across South West UK; advised on a media arts curriculum and presented ambitious digital arts festivals and events. He produced over 200 short films including *How To Use A Digital Video Camera* (2004!), a stop-motion short commissioned by *Becta* (British Educational Communications and Technology Agency).

Some distant history

1980's: studied Graphics & Advertising in Manchester and made lots and lots of music.

1990's: Print & DTP/design industry; began running community education courses using creative technology.

Bio

Howard was born in Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire UK, 1962. He now lives and works in Frome, Somerset, UK.

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Awards

EBP Somerset Education Business Award (2008): Frome Community Media Arts – animated promotional shorts
Best Animation - "The Driver" *Shepton Digital Arts Festival* (2009)
Six-times winner of *Somerset Fellowship of Drama Trophy* for **Special Effects & Multimedia for Theatre** (2004-9);
Howard's interactive media for performance has enhanced shows from Bath, Somerset UK to Birmingham, Alabama USA.
Liberated Words, International Poetry Film Festival 2013: **Best Music/Sound** - "Greenspin"

Patronage

Arts • Heritage • Community • Ecology • Sustainability • Educational (mainstream and SEN) • Artists • Poets • Musicians • Theatrical and Live Performance
Health & Wellbeing • Independent Local Government • Video-poetry • Publishing • Business • Entertainment • Learning Resources