

Walter Beckett in...

# **PIGEON: IMPOSSIBLE**

a film by Lucas Martell

## Synopsis

"Pigeon: Impossible" is the tale of Walter, a rookie secret agent faced with a problem seldom covered in basic training: what to do when a curious pigeon gets trapped inside your multi-million dollar, government-issued nuclear briefcase.

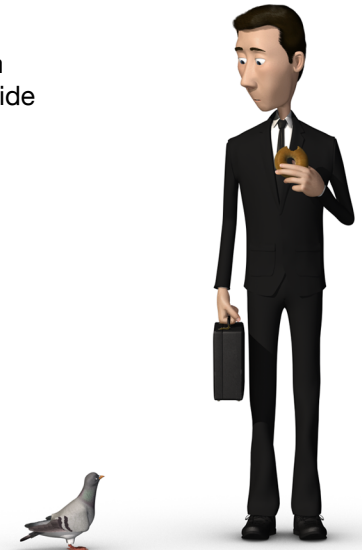
## About the Production

Production on the film spanned for nearly 5 years and is the first attempt at animation by writer/director Lucas Martell: "When the project started, it was really just an excuse to learn 3D animation, but by the end of the project I had spent so much time reworking and polishing the story that I just wanted people to laugh."

The end result is a hilarious 6-minute romp through the streets of Washington D.C. as our hero fights to save himself, and the world from the chaos reigned down by a hungry pigeon. Breathtaking visuals and a sweeping soundtrack showcase the work of nearly one-hundred talented artists and musicians, and the film stands as a testament to what can be accomplished by a team of dedicated volunteers working for the love of their craft.

## Technical Achievements

Although the project started out as a simple test animation, it quickly ballooned into a no-holds-barred attempt at studio-level CGI filmmaking. The repeated emphasis on solid storytelling meant that technical considerations often came second to what the story required. This resulted in a level of technical hurdles far beyond what most independent shorts attempt, especially one that was made for less than \$10,000 and created entirely in people's spare time. Countless weeks were spent optimizing assets in order to render the expansive environment, a pass-based look was developed to allow for the use of more expensive ray-tracing techniques, and hundreds of custom tools were written to accommodate the massive amount of data that had to flow through the pipeline.



*Even with all the technical complexity, the focus has remained on the story and the characters.*

Running time: 6m12s  
Format: 35mm & HDCam  
Color / Stereo

Release Date: June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Website:  
[www.pigeonimpossible.com](http://www.pigeonimpossible.com)

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**Lucas Martell (Writer/Director/Producer/Animator)**

Lucas is a freelance animator and VFX artist. After graduating from Millikin University with a bachelor's degree in Commercial Music, he moved to Austin, Texas and began production on "Pigeon: Impossible" in the summer of 2004. The film is his first animation, and took nearly 5 years to complete. Since then, he has also become widely known for his weekly podcast that chronicles the techniques and obstacles he's faced throughout production of the film: [www.pigeonimpossible.com/podcast](http://www.pigeonimpossible.com/podcast)



**Austen Menges (Editor/Additional Story)**

Austen began his editing career in 2003 with the short film "Toward the Near," which screened at the Director's Guild of America Theatre and the Houston Museum of Fine Arts. Most recently, Menges co-wrote and edited the short film/web series "Script Cops," a film industry favorite about cops who arrest people for bad screenwriting.

**Christopher Reyman (Composer)**

Christopher is a Ph.D. candidate in music composition at the University of Illinois. In addition to performing regularly with various jazz and chamber orchestras, Chris has written over 200 pieces and spent nearly a year composing the score for "Pigeon: Impossible" which was performed by two orchestras and required 74 musicians.

**Additional Story**

Scott Rice  
Gopal Bidari

**Animators**

Jason Lindsay  
Adrian Zambrano  
Rodney Brunet  
Adnan Chatriwala

**Models/Textures**

Tad Catalano  
Jason Nichols  
Don DeGrasse  
Ousama Itani  
Eric Burke

**Hair/Cloth**

Tad Catalano

**Environment Coordinator**

Ousama Itani

**Lighting/Rigging**

Lucas Martell

**Art Director**

Belal Hibri

**Additional Character Design**

Amalia Litsa  
Lindsey Villareal  
Magnus Skold

**Sound Design and Mix**

David Bewley  
Corey Roberts  
501 Audio

**Post Services**

501 Post

**Executive Post Producer**

George O'Dwyer

**eQ Artist**

Jim Reed

**Associate Producer**

Gopal Bidari

**The Millikin University Jazz Orchestra**

**Director:** Randy Reyman

**Engineers:** John Scott & Steve Andreas

**Mastering:** Caleb Willitz

**The Austin Wind Symphony**

**Conductor:** Patrick Phillips

**Vice President:** Shelly Eager

**Engineers:** Chris Keyland & Luke Lovett

**Videographer:** Graham Davidson

**Video Playback:** Gary Huff

Additional Support Provided by

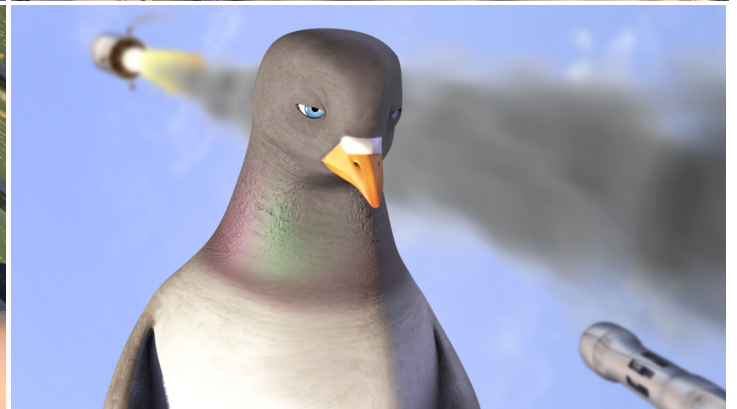
**The Austin Film Society**



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Full-size digital versions of these images and an up-to-date listing of festival screenings and awards are available at [www.pigeonimpossible.com](http://www.pigeonimpossible.com)

To request a DVD screener of the film, please contact:

Lucas Martell  
[lucas@pigeonimpossible.com](mailto:lucas@pigeonimpossible.com)