

## E! TTA Interview.



Then television came along and cut corners more cartoons but lower quality. Today Steven Spielberg is out to change all that bring back top quality cartoons to the small screen.

Babs: Pandemonium doesn't rain around her it pours.

Pandemonium definitely pours in Tiny Toons the weekday kids cartoons show centres at Acme Looniversity where young toons learns tricks of the cartoon trade from master like Elmer Fud.



Elmer Fud: You will remain suspended as long as you don't look down. Like so.

These Tiny Toons are not the offspring of the toons of which we are the familure with although Plucky Duck for instance does bears resemblance to Daffy according to the voice of Plucky Joe Alaskey.

Joe Alaskey: They said basically we like to hear Daffy Duck somehow but not the same Daffy Duck do something different but keep it the same so I said well...well lets see Daffy's usually like this with a frontal lisp so I just moved it to a lateral lisp.

"Pluky: oh, the Acme water authority is gona hear about this."

The veteran actors who voice these characters all a test to the high quality of the Tiny Toons series.

Hamton: "Please don't let the ball come to me, please don't let the ball come to me."

Hamton Pig is played by Don Messick a 30 year cartoons veteran.

Hamton: "I like to present you with this award."



Don Messick: "Its about the best animation I have seen short of the full length features of the old days."

Buster: "Enough in jokes already huh."

Charles Adler is the voice of Buster Bunny



Charles Adler: "This is my 30<sup>th</sup> series and this is the first time well not th.. well yhea the first time in 30 series where I have been just having the best time of my life working."

Buster: "Hiya fokes."

One reason given for the high quality of Tiny Toons is the ever present influence of the executive producer Steven Spielberg

Don Messick: "When the voices were being auditioned they taped over 1,200 and he lessened to every one of them and hand picked the dozen or so of us to do all the characters."

The music for the TV series is an example for its high standards unlike many TV cartoon series every episode of Tiny Toons is individually scored

Bruce (conductor): "It is very high quality stuff. We are not using a library it is the music in this episode will only go in this episode it won't go in another one."

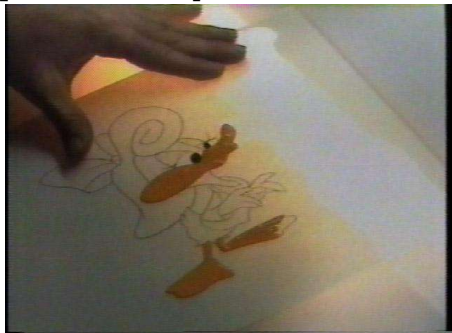
Another example of high cartoon quality is the fluent motion of the characters. Tiny Toon producers say that's because they put almost twice as many individual drawings in each episode as compared to standard TV animation.

Art Vittello (Animation Director): "On some shows you might watch a character and they are very still and their mouths are moving and their eyes are blinking and that's all they are doing. In our shows pretty much the pictures are going hey what's happening how you doing."



Babs: Thank you, I have always relied on the kindness of strangers

Will all these technical improvement be lost on the kids watching? Don't count on it. [Don Messick: I think today's children are certainly more sophisticated, after all look how much television they watch. In so they except ... they expect the best] [Plucky: Ridicule is the burden of genius] Tiny Toon Adventures primers in syndication this fall.



Host: Look out, Chicago! We're being taken over! The ultimate duo has hit town and this time they've were set loose on purpose.



Rob: (as Pinky) Egad, what are we going to do tonight, Brain?

Moe: (as The Brain) The same thing we do every night, Pinky...Try to take over Chicago!

Rob: (Pinky)Egad! And hello. My Name is Robert Paulsen. I'm more commonly known as the voice of Pinky -- HA HA, NARF!

Moe: (The Brain) And I am Maurice LaMarche. And I am the voice of The Brain. And I shall take over the world! YE-ESS!

Rob: I'm primarily a singer who decided to become an actor...(Pinky) I get to sing "Brainstem! Brainstem! (normal) eeh it beats working for a living -- what can I tell you?



Moe: As a type of kid who would walk to school doing the latest Warner Brothers cartoons (in a stupor) Du-aah! Which way did dey go, George? Which way did dey go? (normal) I couldn't do my own voice. People wondered what I really sounded like (as Captain Kirk) Annd.....I didn't know.

Rob: Pinky was designed after a fellow named Eddie Fitzgerald who has kind of an overbite. Brain is a fella named Tom Minton, who --

Moe: Who if you can believe actually looks... (points to a Brain figurine)

Rob: He does.

Moe: (pointing) Like this.

Rob: These are all said with love and respect, but, you guys...ya know...you all know what you look like.



Host: You know, cartoons are so looney with the music, the voices, the special effects -- where does it all begin?



Rob: (Pinky) Egad, Brain what are we going to do tomorrow night? (normal) is what I'll put on tape. And then the select tapes are sent off to be animated and the pictures are drawn to fit what we do -- that way we're not limited to what's on the screen.

Moe: (Brain) Pinky, are you pondering what I'm pondering?

Rob: They'll have periods of time where they'll just let the tape roll and let me come up with stuff (Pinky) We'll, I think so, Brain...But we'll never get a monkey to use dental floss.

Moe: I think regular actors kinda envy us. It's a lot of fun and, ummm, you get to stretch a lot.

Rob: One of the final bits that is done is after we've done our acting and the drawing is all sent back the music is done. And in our case Richard Stone, who's our musical director, and Julie and Steve Bernstein who are his assistants, do just a marvelous job. They have a thirty piece orchestra in the same studio in which all the old Warner Brothers cartoons were done. It's really neat to watch Wakko walking up the steps and the guy with the xylophone goes didil-didil-didil-didil-didill-loop.



Moe: It's amazing we get paid to do this because you can't have more fun than this.

Rob: It is truly a wonderful job, yeah.

Host: You see, a job doesn't have to be just work, the important part is to do something you like doing. It's not cool unless it's fun, it's that simple.

Rob: You know I'd love to sing something as Yakko (Yakko) Costa Rica, Belize, Nicaragua, Bermuda Bahamas, Tobago, San Juan, (clip from "Yakko's World")Paraguay, Uruguay, Surinam and French Guiana, Barbados, and Guam.

From @Random WCIU-TV Chicago 1996.

Transcribed by Narfpinky.

**Donny and Marie:  
Rob Paulson Interview**

(Here's the interview transcribed, it wasn't the best of quality so sorry about the holes and inaudible parts! I'm having difficulties taking screen captures so I'll try and send you the interview itself)

Donny: You're about to meet the man behind some of the greatest animated characters on tv today. He's the voice of Yakko on Animaniacs..

Marie: Yes..

Donny: Mr. Smarty Pants on Hystaria, and Pinky of Pinky and the Brain

Marie: Ya gotta love Pinky!

[Audience applauds]

Donny: (Something about Kids WB??) ..  
Take a look at this

[Clip from Pinky and the Brain is shown]



[Audience applauds]

Donny: Okay, please welcome Rob Paulson!

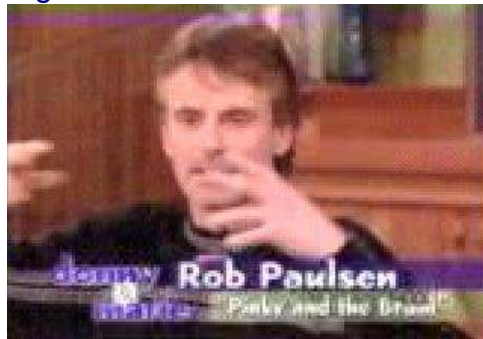


Rob: By the way, before we begin, congratulations on your news that is just wonderful..

Marie: Oh, well thank you

Rob: .. And thank you so much for contributing yet another opportunity for me to sell action figures to um.. a child (??) to help pay the mortgage on Acme Labs.

Donny: How many voices do you do all together?



Rob: You know, that's a good question. I don't exactly have a mental rolodex (??) I mean, um.. It's really no big secret. Once you.. [Pinky's voice] You've done Pinky like this; You've got this very strange voice..

[Audience applauds]

Rob: .. And um, of course he has a bit of an accent [switches voices to one that sounds like Yakko's] But if you loose the accent you can still talk like this and all of a sudden you've got another voice. So you've just, you know, you've got two more voices happening.

Donny: Right..

[Audience applauds]



Marie: Did you try, when you went in for the audition say for Pinky, did you try lots of different voices before they settled on that one?

Rob: Well, actually there was a couple. It was actually a pretty done deal, but Maurice LeMarche, the fellow who does the Brain, is amazingly talented and they pretty much knew he was going to do that because he does this incredible Orson Wells kind of knock-off thing and it was really..um.. I looked at it, and I thought, well let's see; he looks pretty stupid, I can handle that.

[Audience laughs]



Rob: [Like Pinky] He's got a severe overbite, and [inaudible].. [back to normal voice] I'm a big fan of Peter Sellers and the Pythons (??). [like Pinky] I stole a lot of stuff from there and I put it in [Something about Mr. Spielberg's infinite wisdom] .. to give me a job.

[Audience Applauds]

Marie: What's the very first voice you ever did?

Rob: The first voice I ever did would probably be mine

Marie: Ah ha, there you go

Rob: But I'm sorry. My wife's out there rolling her eyes at this very moment. Um.. ah.. The first big job that I did was I was Raphael for nine years on the Ninja Turtles.

[Audience Applauds]

Rob: I'd say things like [like Raphael] '[Inaudible].. come back here and taste cold turtle steel!'

[Audience Applauds]

Rob: I also get to do an animated version of the Mask, in which I get to be Jim Carey for a whole lot less cake

[Audience laughs and applauds]

Donny: Could you do a little bit of that for us?

Rob: I do, I pretty much say..uh.. I can do the essential [like the Mask] 'Somebody stop me!' and 'Smokin''



[Audience laughs and applauds]

Marie: Where do you come up with all these voices.

Rob: You know, it's um, it's like any other acting job, I mean it really is. You have an agent that sends you instead of doing on-camera stuff, which I've done a fair amount two years ago, but you know there are a million average looking white guys with sag cards (??) in L.A. and um, you know, and so to get an opportunity to do things that aren't just based on this,

[wipes hand across face] unless you're a regular on a series or a celebrity, the opportunity to make a living every day doesn't always present itself. So the great thing about cartoon stuff is you depend a little more on bringing something to party (??) and creative and you're not typed (?) so much. But um, it's just.. man, it beats the heck out of working!

Donny: Yeah



[audience laughs a bit]

Donny: Do is a favor?

[Audience applauds]

Donny: As Pinky..

Rob: [Like Pinky] As Pinky!

Donny: [Attempts to talk like Pinky] As Pinky!

Rob: [Like Yakko] Not Yakko?

Donny: No, not Yakko

Rob: [Like Yakko] Okay, not Yakko.

Donny: Take us to commercials, say..

Rob: [Like Pinky] Oh, you know what?

Donny and Marie, and um, whoever else is here, will be right back after this! Narf!

[Audience applauds; Donny and Marie shake Rob's hands and segment ends]



*Transcribed by Jamie Langevin*