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BUNKERS

An educational golf short

Directed by Ollie Anderson





Director's Statement

Thank you for this opportunity.

During the 2020 February-to-June time period, I made "Bunkers" while I was sheltered-in-place in San Francisco. It's an original short narrative that creatively challenges systematic education in America and pushes the boundaries and stigmas associated with homemade films.

Because of COVID-19, there's a lot more at stake than just my family and friends who work in the golf industry. Not one sport contributes more to charities than the Golf Industry. I made a pivot to create this short animated film to engage the 450 million golf fans to play more golf and for others to take up playing it.

Perhaps this narrative and my personal story can inspire homemade film makers and ignite a new segment of growth in the community of independent filmmakers. I made this film with whatever materials I could find at home to paint a time period in America of uncertainty and change into an expression of laughter and love.

You don't have to like golf to love this film because it's for anyone who needs laughter and love to get this Covid-19 experience.

Thank you for the opportunity to show "BUNKERS" at your Film Festival. We can make a positive impact through love, laughter, and play.

Ollie Anderson

Director's Bio

Ollie Anderson was born and raised in San Francisco. He has an extensive background in sports, edu-tech, and in motion pictures.

During college he earned his S.A.G./AFTRA status from guest starring on CSI: LAS VEGAS (suspected serial killer). He also co-founded the fastest growing student non-profit in the California State University system called the Environmental Business Society.



One of Ollie's notable achievements was becoming a patent-pending inventor of the first gamified golf fitting system in the golf industry.

As a side passion, Ollie created a micro-influencing social media account called @SanFrancisco_Toys on Instagram. He grew a cult following because of his innovative storytelling on a social media platform and his genuine, authentic, and extreme toy photography. San Francisco Toys has raised significant donations for 501c3s.

When he's not working, Ollie loves to rock climb, surf, play tennis, golf, garden, play PS4 games, watch martial arts movies and search for long lost treasures. "Ghosts of Tsushima is my favorite PS4 game in 2020."

"Bunkers" is Ollie's first short submitted to Film Festivals.

Log Line

During Covid-19, the worst golfer of the year discovers he can retrieve the treasure of eternal life from an ancient golf course in the jungles of San Francisco... if he can learn to play by the rules of golf.

Synopsis

After finding an ancient golf in the jungles of San Francisco, the worst golfer of the year, Starlo Von Sourdough, discovers he can recover the treasure of eternal life during the Covid-19 global pandemic. But first he's got to learn the rules of golf...and in particular...Bunkers.



Longer Synopsis

The worst golfer of the year, Starlo Von Sourdough, discovers an ancient golf course in the jungles of San Francisco. He is unable to study the course because of a shelter-in-place order during the global pandemic of the Corona Virus...Unless it was "essential work."

After translating some the native Ohlone scriptures, Starlo decrypted that if he were to play the course by the rules of golf, he would be rewarded with "the treasure of eternal life." Starlo figures it was essential he return to the course and learn the rules of golf.

Starlo returns to the course, tees off, and snap hooks his ball right into the bunker. He searches for his ball and identifies it but he's unsure what to do. His golf ball is surrounded by shark fins.

Starlo reaches into his pocket and pulls out a rules of golf app to guide him what to do next. He becomes worried and overwhelmed with these Bunker rules.

Starlo sweats into the bunker and causes the Western Stripe-backed Charcharodon Atrox (Bunker Shark) to emerge from the sand. Starlo uses the rules of golf to battle the creature until hysterical exhaustion. He realizes the Bunker Shark isn't as scary as what he learned from the app, but still very dangerous. The Bunker shark just wanted to play "fetch."



Longer Synopsis (cont.)

Suddenly a voice emerges, the Guardian of the Grass, and bestows new knowledge to help Starlo. He must make the right rules decision in order to escape the Bunker. The app gives three options and reveals a "caddy" going into the cave of wonders but never coming out.

Starlo makes his decision to take relief but a flying bat creature captures Starlo. Starlo fights his way free and the Bunker Shark saves Starlo from a terrible fall. The two become pals.

Starlo recognizes he made an incorrect translation of the native scriptures. It wasn't follow the rules of golf and you will be rewarded with the treasure of eternal life. It was follow the rules of golf, and you will be rewarded with the treasure of eternal love.

Back at the course we learn about what happened to the caddy who gained entrance into the cave of wonders. He entered the "Giant's" treasure chamber and escapes with a golden putter. Only one could enter, the diamond in the rough.



Top 10 Most Frequently Asked Questions

1) Why golf?

Not one sport contributes more to charities than the Golf Industry. Right now, because of COVID-19, there's a lot more at stake than just my family and friends who work in the industry. I hope this short animation engages the 450 million golf fans to play more golf and for others to take up playing it.

2) What did you learn about directing films?

It's a lot like climbing Half Dome when you're not super fit. The first half of it is exciting. Then when you're about to get to the top you flip out thinking you're gonna die. You don't actually die but when you've completed 3/4 of the way down you wish you did. You muster up the strength to finish and follow through no matter how painful it feels. Then when you get back to your tent you collapse swearing you'll never do it again. One week later you feel the greatest sense of accomplishment and can't wait to do it again.

3) What was your biggest challenge?

Isolation or possibly exhaustion. During Covid-19, I wasn't able to work with anyone and I didn't think I was going to make an experimental stop-motion short. Because I was the only person to execute, I also had to battle exhaustion. Feb to June in 2020, I wasn't able to rock-climb and the change in that exercise routine created a bigger challenge.

4) If you had to do it over again, what would you do differently?

I would surround myself with a talented crew right from the start. I didn't have the option to have animators, a DP, post production team etc... This made things difficult. I thrive in environments where I work with people and transfer energy to make magical experiences. If I could have hired any voice talent, it would be Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansson, Jeff Bridges, and Sam Elliot.

Top 10 Most Frequently Asked Questions

5) What was it like making a short film during a shelter-in-place order in San Francisco?

It was a test of courage, endurance, and creativity. So many weird and unknown things were happening during the beginning of Covid-19. Toilet paper was constantly sold out and rationed. My wife was furloughed from her job and unemployment was sky-rocketing. Communication from leadership was all over the place.

It's still scary because you never know how things will financially work out. One thing was very clear though, people need content and a way to escape from the terrible realities of Covid-19. Laughter and hope kept me going.

6) Who were your influences when you created the film?

When I was doing research, I learned a lot about the Bay Area Ohlone natives. I found an illustration (which you see in the film) of Ohlone dancers wearing stripes. Then I started finding cave drawings of giant snakes. The sum of that started to make me think of Tim

Burton's sand worm. When I created the Bunker Shark, I wanted to honor Tim Burton and give the audience something familiar but still make this Bunker Shark my own. The detail of my bunker shark is different and has real shark teeth and a more playful face. I was also influenced by the movies I watched when I was little and living in hospitals. I was born with some disabilities and shorts films from Walt Disney, and Jim Henson really helped me laugh when I was down. They have inspired me greatly.

7) How did you learn stop motion animation?

It was baby steps over the last 5 years. I started to build a following on my instagram account @sanfrancisco_toys because of toy photography and storytelling. I'd take toys into authentic and extreme environments, (helicopter rides, free-diving 30+ feet). This gave me the real technical experience to operate cameras and animate in nasty and nice conditions. I didn't learn Dragonframe or Final Cut Pro X until I started this picture. But I'm an avid and voracious learner who thrives on lofty challenges.

Top 10 Most Frequently Asked Questions

8) Where do you see the future of BUNKERS?

I see this short getting picked up by a major distributor to do an episodic series. I'm confident there will be great B2B opportunities for advertisers. There's over 450 million golf fans in the world and you don't have to like golf to love this short. I think BUNKERS sets the stage for a fresh platform to grow the game of golf, make investors a profit, and entertain the world in a time when they need love and laughter.

9) How did you create the characters voices?

Narrator: For the narrator I came up with a character I call Huckleberry Hashbrowns. To me, he's kind of like the Emperor from Star Wars meets the Colonel from Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Starlo Von Sourdough: Starlo's voice was going to be a bit muffled because he actually wears an animated mask. I tend to muffle my voice much of the time when I talk to my animals (in private of course).

Guardian of the Grass: How could I make a film about San Francisco and not have a Haight-Ashbury character? But really I was inspired by a guy I played high school baseball with in San Francisco.

Cave of Wonders: I was totally inspired by the voice of the Cave of Wonders from Aladdin. I mean, could you imagine trying to play your golf ball out of there? I've been a member of S.A.G. since I was 16 years old. I kept working at acting to a point where I needed to take a year off of college because I was blessed to be working so much (CSI:Las Vegas, Art School Confidential). But I only had that year because I wanted to finish college and not lose my scholarships.

10) What do you want people to know about this film?

There is more to this story than what you see on screen. This is a story about a young American who made an experimental stop motion short, sheltered-in-place, determined to help the golf industry and his family have a comeback from devastating life events.



Making of Behind the Scenes:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_VEZ786gHw

Teaser:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=WeE18FM8FjY

Trailer:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Lgja9FtzzY

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