



Shaun Tan : The Art of Story

Discovering The Lost Thing – Book to film

This exhibition, curated by Books Illustrated Gallery, is a visual exploration of the process of creating *The Lost Thing* story in picture book and animated film.

This exhibition is informed by Shaun Tan's art for both projects, his personal notes and comments. It begins with sketches, the dummy book, roughs and final original illustrations for the picture book, *The Lost Thing* published in 2000. It then moves through the collaborative process, with members of the film team at Passion Pictures, to create the animated film of the same story - a ten year creative journey! The DVD of this film was released in 2010.

The process of developing the animation is shown through Shaun's character sketches, pencil storyboards, soft pastel stills and texture paintings. A short film documents the complex stages of the digital development of the surreal place Shaun calls Utopia, its environment and inhabitants. It illustrates how the animation was created from early structural stages to the final digital masterpiece and incorporates alternate and experimental pieces of film and sound.

The Lost Thing animation has won many film awards in Australia and around the world including Best Short Film at the 34th Annecy International Animation Festival in France and the 2011 Academy Award, The Oscar, for short animation.

Shaun Tan is the multi award-winning author and illustrator of many illustrated books including *The Arrival*, *The Red Tree*, *Tales from Outer Suburbia*, *The Bird King* and *Rules of Summer* and *The Singing Bones*.



Exhibition

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MEDIA - Acknowledgments

All images have been supplied for promotional purposes for this exhibition by Shaun Tan

Acknowledgements are to be made for

Images from The Lost Thing book:

- The Lost Thing book cover
- The Lost Thing book image 'Saying Hello'
- The Lost Thing – Beach scene

Illustration by Shaun Tan from The Lost Thing, published by Lothian /Hachette Books, 2000.

Images from The Lost Thing film:

- Beach scene
- Pete's House
- Utopia

Image by Shaun Tan from The Lost Thing film produced by Passion Pictures, 2010

Photo of Shaun Tan:

Photo supplied by Shaun Tan

Books Illustrated Gallery, 121 Cobden St South Melbourne, Vic 3205 Ph: 03 96965036
www.booksillustrated.com.au