

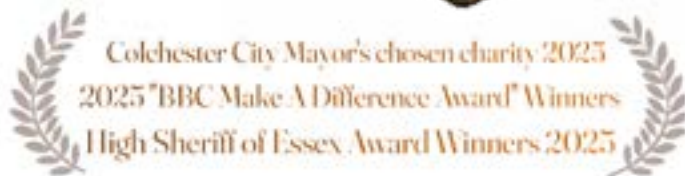
DON'T HUG ME
I'M SCARED

MEETS



UNDERDOG CREW STUDIOS

puppetry division



SEnergise
Where difference sparks brilliance
2025 milestone report



AUTISM & NEURODIVERSITY

Woody's World is a darkly whimsical, surreal puppet series set inside Château Curiosa: an ancient, forgotten shop of oddities hidden in plain sight. By day, it is silent. Abandoned. Boarded up. Just another strange little building no one looks at twice. But when the world goes quiet...

...the shelves begin to breathe.

Inside live a misfit crew of handcrafted puppets - imperfect, unwanted, and unfinished. They were made badly by Jake, a lonely puppet maker, and left behind like **forgotten dreams**. Shared pain breaths magical life into their stuffing and fur.

At the centre is Jake, a gentle, creative musician weighed down by self-doubt and isolation. One evening, he makes the mistake of eating the wrong cake... drinking the wrong potion... pressing the wrong button... And in an instant, he becomes Woody — a puppet version of himself.

**Suddenly, the shop awakens.
The puppets come alive.
The rules collapse.**



WOODY'S WORLD: CHARACTER BIBLE

All characters in Woody's World share the pain of being imperfectly made - the puppets nobody wanted. Their insecurity and longing for belonging lead them to trick Jake into becoming one of them, so he can truly understand their world.

Episode Theme:

Accepting yourself as you are.

Core Message:

Different minds, imperfect bodies, and misfit hearts belong in the story - and in the world.



'WOODY / JAKE'

Archetype: The Hero / Reluctant Everyman

WOODY: Cool, perfectly made puppet form of Jake. Deeply Empathetic. JAKE: Lost. Desperate to find love and his place in the world. To feel self worth and pride.

Wound: Crippled by guilt and imposter syndrome.

Quirk: Finds the music in everything. Sensory rituals, deletes songs he writes.

Episodic Theme:

Trying to right his wrongs as Woody.
Trying to finish a track.



'BUDDY'

Archetype:

The Shadow / Trickster Villain

Terrifying ventriloquist puppet. Plots chaos as revenge for being feared and rejected.

Wound: Believes he was made to be hated.

Quirk: Creepy politeness, sudden silence.

Episodic Theme: Shame and anger masking a need for love.



'SARGE'

Archetype: The Guardian / Wounded Protector

Disabled old army sergeant puppet.
Paranoid but brave problem-solver.

Wound: Hypervigilance, expects danger.

Quirk: Blunt non PC language.
Builds tools obsessively, counts exits and
makes daring exits plans.

Episodic Theme: courage in the midst
of PTSD anxiety.



‘GRANTLEY’

Archetype:

The Mentor / Wise Fool

Grandfather puppet from the 1920s. Sees magic and wonder in everything.

Wound: Escapes reality and abandonment through wonder.

Quirk: Calls any basic technology ‘wizardry’.

Episodic Theme: Finding beauty in the modern world.



ZIGGY

Archetype: The Herald / Innocent Spark

A playful Rastafarian showman puppet.
Hopeful and upbeat, hiding loneliness
behind joy.

Wound: Afraid nobody will stay.

Quirk: Speaks in half-songs, collects lucky
objects.

Episodic Theme:

Belonging even when you feel invisible.



'OOF'

Archetype:

The Heart / Loyal Companion

Loveable shaggy dog puppet. Nurturing, chaotic, ADHD-coded bursts of energy. Creates unity with his unbreakable optimism.

Wound: Fears stillness and abandonment.

Quirk: Constant movement stims, instant best-friend energy.

Episodic Theme: Connection without being 'too much'.



'LULA'

Archetype:

The Magic Maker.

Kind and just. Speaks less. Watches more. She speaks in whispers, every word a parable to humanity.

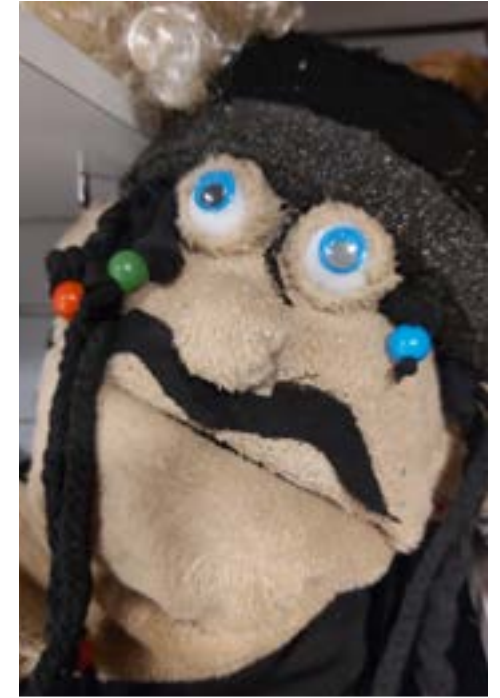
Wound: Loss of family. Fear of losing everyone.

Quirk: Hums. Dances. Sings creepy rhymes.

Episodic Theme: Provides the magic to make things happen.



MEET THE PUPPETS



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Underdog Crew Studios (The Underdog Crew CIC) is a multi award-winning community studio that harnesses the power of professional filmmaking as a vehicle to inspire, empower, and equip marginalised and at-risk young adults. By embedding industry-standard practice within an accessible and supportive environment, we create pathways into education, employment, and personal growth that might otherwise remain out of reach. Our programmes focus on those most in need, with a strong emphasis on supporting young carers and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

THE UNDERDOG CREW is a Community Interest not-for-profit organisation.
Company registration number: 14530067

www.underdogcrew.org

