

Why do so many people who have never used a Media 100 belong to the Media 100 Worldwide Users Group?

It's simple...

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As of August 20, 1996, there are nearly 6,000 fully registered members of the Media 100 Worldwide Users Group. But almost two-thirds of these members don't own one!



What brings these people to visit and join a group which started as a way for Media 100 owners and users to exchange creative ideas? Users which cover nearly every nation on Earth; there is hardly a nation that isn't represented in "The WWUG," as it has come to be known.

With articles available that explore the step-bystep techniques of creating digital video and computer animation, the Media 100 Worldwide Users Group has given members a way to look over the shoulders of other creative professionals. To see how others use the tools which make up today's digital design



studio. And like I pointed out in the WWUG's "Welcome" page when it first went online: "This site gives us all an opportunity to see the differences in how others use the tools, and it is in these differences where the real creativity is found."

One of our teachers, Daryll Fogal of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, has developed a series exploring character animation — using Hash Animation Master — that is so good that Hash has talked about the possibility of using it as the core for a new users manual. And WIRED Magazine asked Daryll to write some articles for them which have appeared in recent issues!

In a day when CD ROM technology is quickly becoming a mainstream market — rather than the niche market it was just a short while ago — Earl Caustin of Sunrise Multime-

dia in Palo Alto, California, penned an eight page bolt of lightning called: "Mastering Digital Video for CD ROM." While the market has changed since it was first presented to The WWUG in June of 1995, it is still some of the very best information that you will find on the topic. It remains our all-time download leader and counts among its friends, Charles Wiltgen, a member of Apple's QuickTime developers team, who considers it a great work.

In the Media 100 Worldwide Users Group site, you will find many technique based tutorials in "The College of Special Effects." Along with our articles just for Media 100 users, we also feature techniques for programs like Adobe After Effects and Photoshop, Strata MediaPaint, Specular's Infini-D, Hash Animation Master and V.R.L.I.'s Vistapro. We will be adding lessons on the soon-toship Strata StudioPro 2.0, as well as other study se-



ries from writers like Phil Bates, president of Artbeats, who has presented us with a series exploring mattes, bump maps, and morphing and animating textures to create custom broadcast quality backgrounds. You'll learn the principles so that you will know where to use them in other ways as well, in your own projects. We always strive to



present articles that break out the steps used by the designer, so that you can learn how to add them to your own arsenal of techniques.

We are pleased to be asked by Chris Athanas, the founder of DigiEffects[™], to tell you a little about ourselves here on the Berserk[™] product CD. Having known Chris since his days at Xaos Tools[™] — where he engineered my favorite Photoshop plug-in, Paint Alchemy[™] — I am excited to see him developing tools for After Effects users. With the enthusiasm he has for After Effects and for desktop video, in general, I expect to see DigiEffects become a real creative force in the hands of digital artists around the world in the days ahead.

And in keeping with the spirit of the Media 100 Worldwide Users Group, we'll be exploring some of the uses of the Berserk plug-ins in our new plug-ins section of "The College of Special Effects." (Maybe you can show us what you are up to using Berserk!)

Class is always in session at: http://www.callamer.com/~boomer/media100>

So, regardless of what brand of video board you use, (or even if you don't use a board at all!), feel free to log in! If you are excited about the new video technologies, join us;

we share your excitement about the future of digital broadcast communications.



Best regards,

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