

## Project #1: The Robot

The concept of “robots” has been part of world culture for many centuries.

*"If every instrument could accomplish its own work, obeying or anticipating the will of others . . . If the shuttle could weave, and the pick touch the lyre, without a hand to guide them, chief workmen would not need servants, nor masters, slaves."*

--ARISTOTLE



The word “robot” itself comes from one of my favorite plays “RUR” or “Rossum’s Universal Robots” written by the Czech playwright Karel Capek in 1921. The word comes from the Czech word “robota”, meaning drudgery or labor. The play takes place in the future on Rossum's island where mechanical drones are commercially made to complete heavy manual labor.

There is debate in the play over whether robots can have feelings or have a soul. Eventually the robots rebel against their leaders and decide to abolish mankind, leading to the destruction of the human race with robots as the dominant being.

Each generation develops their own understanding of the archetype “robot”

In the 1930’s robots were popularized in film by the “Flash Gordon” movies starring Larry Crabbe. In an underwater epic, Flash is captured by several robots, which look like mechanical men.

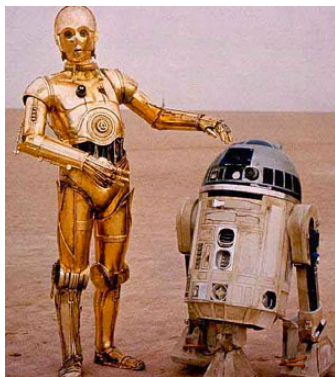


In 1956, the movie, “Forbidden Planet” was released, featuring “Robby, the Robot”, who became one of the most well-known robots ever. In the movie, a ship from Earth leaves in search of a missing expedition of which there were only two survivors. Robby the robot also appeared in several other movies and TV shows including “The Twilight Zone” and “Lost in Space”.

The TV show, "The Jetsons" (1962) is the first futuristic cartoon with robot characters. The show takes place in the future where there are high-tech advancements such as personal space ships which have taken the place of cars for there are no roads, humanoid robots doing human work including the Jetsons' robot maid, Rosie.

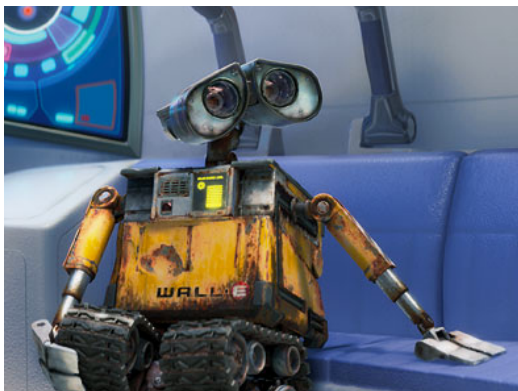


In 1966 the TV show "Lost in Space" debuts, about the various adventures of the Space Family Robinson and the helpful robot a.k.a. "B-9". ("Danger Will Robinson!")



Perhaps the most familiar (and most loved) robots to us today are the "Star Wars" robots R2D2 and C3PO

And:



And:



## **Project Objectives:**

The object of this project is to design, model and texture a robot.

Allow your Robot to spring from your own imagination. Give some consideration in the design of your robot to time, place and culture. Is this an ancient Egyptian robot?- a Bedouin robot? – a Ming Dynasty robot? – a English Victorian robot? etc... What is the robot's function? What work (if any) does it perform? What does the robot look like? Of what materials is it constructed? How does the robot see, or hear, or smell? How does it move about (or does it)?

## **Project Requirements:**

1- Your robot must be placed in some sort of environment that best displays its attributes. For instance, you might place your robot on a distant planet, a factory, a kitchen or any other scene that best suits your robot design. You will need to either model this environment or create such an environment with images.

2- Your modeled objects must have materials applied to them. Some of the materials must include textures (either image or procedural). You can download textures from the "Blender Materials Repository" link on our course site or download them from the web.

3- All of the objects in your model must be named (something other than the default mesh name). All of the Materials must be named and all of the Textures must be named.

4- Render 3 "PNG" image files of your robot. These 3 images should present your robot from different camera angles or different distances with an eye toward presenting your design to best effect.

Here are some examples of student Robot projects:

