

Mark G. Mitchell  
Feb 2016—Marks and Splashes Online Course

## **Assignment and Critique with Guest Instructor/Art Director Loraine Joyner**

**Please write a very short Personal Bio:**

Your name:

Web site or blog:

Are you an illustrator or author/illustrator

Education level & School

Are you published? When Where/Publisher

Personal publishing goal:

### **THE ASSIGNMENT: In Two Parts**

#### **NAMING CONVENTION FOR FILES SUBMITTED**

Please be consistent in naming your files so that I can find them easily (very important).  
REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR NAME DIRECTLY ON EVERYTHING YOU SUBMIT

GGC1-Image-Feb2016-Your Name.pdf (or .jpg)

GGC1-ImagePara-Feb2016-Your Name.doc (or .docx)

GGC2-CharacSpot-Feb2016-Your Name.pdf (or .jpg)

GGC2-SpotPara-Feb2016-Your Name.doc (or .docx)

#### **Part One—Review of Your Current Favorite (or Least-favorite) Finished Piece Due no later than FRIDAY, FEB 12. (Earlier if possible—Valentine’s is this same weekend.)**

1. Choose a piece that you’ve already produced or one that is very close to finished and that has not been reviewed in the past. It can be any size, any medium—b&w or color. Please submit as a jpeg or PDF and name the file as shown:

GGC1-Image-Feb2016-Your Name.pdf (or .jpg)

2. Please write a very brief paragraph explaining your piece and name it:

GGC1-ImagePara-Feb2016-Your Name.doc (or .docx)

**Please send this at the same time as your finished piece.**

**Part Two—Character Development for a Small Spot**

**Due no later than MONDAY, FEB 22. (Earlier if possible)**

The stories are public domain and are from *Hans Christian Andersen's* fairy tales for children. Many of his stories can be quite dark, with death and killings and the like, so I've chosen mostly the lighter ones. But feel free. If you think you can pull off something more *noir*, then by all means go for it. For the trade, that will be a lot harder to get past the KiddieSensibilities Police.

**Here are my picks:**

**The Emperor's New Clothes**

**The Constant Tin Soldier**

**The Little Mermaid**

**The Ugly Duckling**

**The Little Match Girl**

**The Flying Trunk**

**The Shepherdess and The Chimney Sweeper**

**Thumbelina**

There are boys, girls, animals, adults, objects—so there should be something that appeals to any artist/storyteller. Please pick a story you have never done before.

1. Choose a minor little incident or event that might serve as a *spot illustration* to transition from one major scene to the next. Decide what characters will be in the spot and begin drawing them.

Any medium is good, but I'm thinking no color at this point—just b&w in pen/ink, pencil, charcoal, Prismacolor grays, brush/ink or watercolor, digital. Draw them over and over, until they begin to take over your thoughts, and let the ideas flow.

Draw them some more. Do their personalities change or emerge? What are their motivations that drive the action? Which character(s) dominate? Why? How do they show it?

Backgrounds can be very minimal. I would love to see you create some interaction between the characters in the spot that convey body movement and some specific attitude such as high hilarity, exaggerated outrage, tenderness, fright, etc.

If you have time, a fairly tight final rendering would be great; if not, then we will look at and discuss advanced roughs (beyond the thumbnail stage). Please submit as a jpeg or PDF and name the file as shown: GGC2-CharacSpot-Feb2016-Your Name.pdf (or .jpg)

2. Please write a very brief paragraph explaining your piece and name it:  
GG2-SpotPara-Feb2016-Your Name.doc (or .docx)

**Please send this at the same time as your character/spot rough.**

**FEBRUARY 2016 GUEST GROUP CRITIQUE**

**WITH MARK MITCHELL AND LORAIN JOYNER**

**THURSDAY, FEB 25, 8:00 CST**

**9:00 EST, 7:00 MST, 6:00 PST**