



NICK PARK (Director/Producer) is a four-time Academy Award® winner, three in the category of Best Animated Short Film - *Creature Comforts*, *The Wrong Trousers* and *A Close Shave* and more recently in the category for Best Animated Feature Film for *The Curse of The WereRabbit*. All four films were created and produced at Aardman, where Park is a co-director with founders Peter Lord and David Sproxton.

Park became interested in animation as a child and started making films in his parents' attic at the age of 13. One of his earliest works, *Archie's Concrete Nightmare*, shot on standard 8mm film, was shown on BBC Television in 1975. He went on to earn a BA in Communication Arts at Sheffield Art School in

1980, before moving onto the National Film & Television School in Beaconsfield, England. At the NFTS Park began working on *A Grand Day Out*, marking the introduction of Wallace & Gromit. In February 1985 he joined Aardman where he completed the film. He then directed *Creature Comforts* for Aardman's Lip Synch series for Channel 4 Television.

In 1990 both *Creature Comforts* and *A Grand Day Out* were nominated for the Academy Award® - Best Animated Short film giving Park the rare distinction of having two films nominated in the same category in the same year; *Creature Comforts* won. Both films were also nominated for a BAFTA, this time *A Grand Day Out* was the winner.

Park won his second Academy Award® and second BAFTA for the *The Wrong Trousers* and his third Oscar and BAFTA for *A Close Shave*, both starring the much loved duo. *The Wrong Trousers* and *A Close Shave* have won over 100 prestigious international awards. In 1996, Park and Aardman were honoured with a BAFTA Special Award for Original Contribution to Television.

In 1997, Park was awarded a CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire).

In June 2000, Park's first feature film *Chicken Run*, co-directed with Aardman co-founder Peter Lord, was released worldwide to critical acclaim and box office success. *Chicken Run* has grossed over \$250m worldwide, it was the 'best reviewed film of the year' in the US and established the Aardman studio as a major force in animated feature films.

In 2005 the first Wallace and Gromit feature film *The Curse of the WereRabbit* was released worldwide. Along with co-director Steve Box, Park picked up his fourth Academy Award®, this time for Best Animated Feature Film (2006).

Park's current project and Wallace and Gromit's latest adventure is *A Matter of Loaf and Death* (formerly *Trouble At' Mill*), a half-hour TV special for BBC One. *A Matter of Loaf and Death* is directed by Nick Park and is co written by Park and Bob Baker, Baker co-wrote both *The Wrong Trousers* and *A Close Shave*. *A Matter of Loaf and Death* is scheduled to be completed in Autumn 2008.

Over the years with Aardman, Park has also served as a director and animator on numerous projects including pop promos, title sequences and inserts for children's television.

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