Synopsis
"Pigeon: Impossible" is the tale of Walter, a rookie secret agent faced with a problem seldom covered in basic training: what to do when a curious pigeon gets trapped inside your multi-million dollar, government-issued nuclear briefcase.

About the Production
Production on the film spanned for nearly 5 years and is the first attempt at animation by writer/director Lucas Martell: “When the project started, it was really just an excuse to learn 3D animation, but by the end of the project I had spent so much time reworking and polishing the story that I just wanted people to laugh.”

The end result is a hilarious 6-minute romp through the streets of Washington D.C. as our hero fights to save himself, and the world from the chaos reigned down by a hungry pigeon. Breathtaking visuals and a sweeping soundtrack showcase the work of nearly one-hundred talented artists and musicians, and the film stands as a testament to what can be accomplished by a team of dedicated volunteers working for the love of their craft.

Technical Achievements
Although the project started out as a simple test animation, it quickly ballooned into a no-holds-barred attempt at studio-level CGI filmmaking. The repeated emphasis on solid storytelling meant that technical considerations often came second to what the story required. This resulted in a level of technical hurdles far beyond what most independent shorts attempt, especially one that was made for less than $10,000 and created entirely in people’s spare time. Countless weeks were spent optimizing assets in order to render the expansive environment, a pass-based look was developed to allow for the use of more expensive ray-tracing techniques, and hundreds of custom tools were written to accommodate the massive amount of data that had to flow through the pipeline.

Running time: 6m12s
Format: 35mm & HDCam
Color / Stereo

Release Date: June 25th, 2009
Website:
www.pigeonimpossible.com
Contact:
Lucas Martell
lucas@pigeonimpossible.com
Lucas Martell (Writer/Director/Producer/Animator)
Lucas is a freelance animator and VFX artist. After graduating from Millikin University with a bachelor’s degree in Commercial Music, he moved to Austin, Texas and began production on “Pigeon: Impossible” in the summer of 2004. The film is his first animation, and took nearly 5 years to complete. Since then, he has also become widely known for his weekly podcast that chronicles the techniques and obstacles he’s faced throughout production of the film: www.pigeonimpossible.com/podcast

Austen Menges (Editor/Additional Story)
Austen began his editing career in 2003 with the short film “Toward the Near,” which screened at the Director’s Guild of America Theatre and the Houston Museum of Fine Arts. Most recently, Menges co-wrote and edited the short film/web series “Script Cops,” a film industry favorite about cops who arrest people for bad screenwriting.

Christopher Reyman (Composer)
Christopher is a Ph.D. candidate in music composition at the University of Illinois. In addition to performing regularly with various jazz and chamber orchestras, Chris has written over 200 pieces and spent nearly a year composing the score for “Pigeon: Impossible” which was performed by two orchestras and required 74 musicians.

Additional Story
Scott Rice
Gopal Bidari

Animators
Jason Lindsay
Adrian Zambrano
Rodney Brunet
Adnan Chatriwala

Models/Textures
Tad Catalano
Jason Nichols
Don DeGrasse
Ousama Itani
Eric Burke

Hair/Cloth
Tad Catalano

Environment Coordinator
Ousama Itani

Lighting/Rigging
Lucas Martell

Art Director
Belal Hibri

Additional Character Design
Amalia Litsa
Lindsey Villareal
Magnus Skold

Sound Design and Mix
David Bewley
Corey Roberts
501 Audio

Post Services
501 Post

Executive Post Producer
George O’Dwyer

eQ Artist
Jim Reed

Associate Producer
Gopal Bidari

The Millikin University Jazz Orchestra
Director: Randy Reyman
Engineers: John Scott & Steve Andreas
Mastering: Caleb Willitz

The Austin Wind Symphony
Conductor: Patrick Phillips
Vice President: Shelly Eager
Engineers: Chris Keyland & Luke Lovett
Videographer: Graham Davidson
Video Playback: Gary Huff

Additional Support Provided by
The Austin Film Society
Full-size digital versions of these images and an up-to-date listing of festival screenings and awards are available at www.pigeonimpossible.com

To request a DVD screener of the film, please contact:

Lucas Martell
lucas@pigeonimpossible.com