

## Why Woody isn't wooden

This summer, one of the most **versatile** performers working today returns to the screen. Over the past 24 years, he has proved himself a **consummate** comedian, a fearless action hero and a **compelling** leading man.

versatile 多才多艺的

consummate 完美的；至上的

He's Sheriff Woody, the **floppy**, knock-kneed, pull-string doll with the voice of Tom Hanks.

compelling 引人注目的；强制的

floppy 松软的；懒惰的

Since "**Toy Story**" began, Woody, the **diminutive protagonist**, has delivered what are, by any measure, delightful and engaging performances. Behind them are the combined efforts of **scores of** animators — around 100 on "Toy Story 4" alone.

Toy Story 玩具总动员

diminutive 小型的

protagonist 主角

scores of 大量

"It's the ability to really convey the interior world of thoughts and feelings of a character through movement," said Peter Docter, a central figure at Pixar since "Toy Story" and now the studio's chief creative officer.

A live-action performance occurs, often intuitively, in the moment, while animation can look more like the work of technicians than **thespians**. Laboring in dimly lit rooms on the Pixar campus in Emeryville, California, animators spend a lot of time staring at computer monitors. With Woody as something like their high-tech onscreen **marionette**, they **painstakingly contrive** one pose, one movement and one facial expression at a time — frame by frame, scene by scene — until he begins to resemble a living, breathing character.

thespian 演员；戏剧的

marionette 牵线木偶

painstakingly 费力地

contrive 设计；发明

Hanks himself freely admitted that there's more to Woody than his voice and line readings. "The team has poured the better part of three years of their lives into it, " he said. "There's so much work that I had absolutely nothing to do with."