

= It 's About Time ! ( Phineas and Ferb ) =

" It 's About Time ! " is the twenty @-@ first broadcast episode of the animated television series Phineas and Ferb 's first season . It originally aired on Disney Channel on March 1 , 2008 . The episode concerns stepbrothers Phineas and Ferb fixing a time machine on display in a museum and using it to travel back to prehistoric times . Meanwhile , Perry the Platypus deals with being replaced with a panda bear as the nemesis of the mad scientist Dr. Heinz Doofenshmirtz .

" It 's About Time ! " was written and directed by series co @-@ founder Dan Povenmire , and storyboards were constructed by multiple artists in the show 's production staff . The writers purposely left the time machine available to the boys at the end of the episode in order to reuse it later in the series , which they did in the season 2 episode " Phineas and Ferb 's Quantum Boogaloo . " Critical reception was generally positive , and multiple reviewers applauded Perry and Doofenshmirtz 's relationship in the episode , which they noted was portrayed with possible homosexual subtext .

= = Plot = =

Stepbrothers Phineas Flynn and Ferb Fletcher attend a museum , where they discover a broken time machine built in the 1880s on display . Endeavoring to travel through time themselves , they begin fixing it to work properly . This catches the attention of their sister , Candace , who desires to inform their mother of their activities to get in trouble . When she finally gets their mother Linda to follow her and view the machine , Linda becomes distracted while Candace continues to walk to the boys , just as their time machine activates . The three are sent back to the Late Cretaceous Period ( erroneously stated to be in 300 million B.C. ) , where a Tyrannosaurus rex immediately destroys the time machine . Now stranded , the three are forced to flee from the T. rex and are eventually saved by a herd of Alamosaurus lounging in a large pond .

Meanwhile , Perry the Platypus arrives at Dr. Heinz Doofenshmirtz 's hideout , where he discovers Doofenshmirtz has gained a new nemesis in the form of Peter the Panda , whom he met in Seattle , Washington . Downtrodden , Perry reminisces about previous battles with Doofenshmirtz when he was his nemesis , while Doofenshmirtz himself grows tired of Peter due to him being much less sympathetic than Perry . Perry and Doofenshmirtz decide to appear on the talk show Dr. Feelbetter , where they decide to once more become nemeses ; however , Doofenshmirtz reveals that the whole situation was merely a scheme to capture the world 's top agents ( who are in the audience ) and freeze them with a large ray . This results in a largescale battle where the agents come out victorious .

The boys and Candace return to a muddy area where the T. rex has left a massive footprint , which they recognize will eventually be on display in the museum in the present . Phineas leaves a message in the footprint for Isabella and the Fireside Girls to save them . The girls ? in the present ? immediately spot the footprint and the message and follow their handbook to create a new time machine . They use the machine to travel back in time and rescue the three . Upon arrival in the present , though , they realize a T. rex returned with them , so Candace flees and tries to expose it to her parents . A stray ray from Doofenshmirtz 's machine freezes the creature , so her parents merely believe it is an exhibit .

= = Production = =

" It 's About Time ! " was conceived by the series ' four major writers . At a weekly session that Monday , the concept was reviewed and deemed acceptable enough to create . Series co @-@ founder Dan Povenmire was assigned to develop the script , and simultaneously artists Jon Barry , Mike Roth , Kent Osborne , and Aliki Theofilopoulos constructed the episode 's storyboards . A walkthrough of the storyboards was presented to the production staff , whose reaction determined whether certain jokes remained in the finished product . Povenmire directed the episode , which was animated at Rough Draft Studios in South Korea .

In the conclusion of the episode , Phineas and Ferb 's time machine is left in positive condition and available for further use at the museum . The writing staff purposely ended it this way so that they could reutilize it later in the series . A concept was eventually conceived as a way to do so , having " Phineas and Ferb go into the future and actually see Candace as an adult ( which ) drags up all kinds of memories of not being able to bust them . " This idea was used for the second season episode , " Phineas and Ferb 's Quantum Boogaloo . "

" It 's About Time ! " featured two different musical numbers , entitled " My Nemesis " and " When We Didn 't Get Along . " During the storyboard stage , a note was simply made indicating that a song would be placed at a certain point in a sequence . As with most songs in the series , they were each written by series co @-@ founders Povenmire and Jeff " Swampy " Marsh over the course of approximately one hour . Povenmire and Marsh proceeded by singing their draft of the song into the answering machine of the series ' composer , Danny Jacob , that Friday night . Jacob performed both of the songs .

The episode was originally broadcast in the United States on the Disney Channel on March 1 , 2008 . " It 's About Time ! " became available on the DVD compilation Phineas and Ferb : The Fast and the Phineas in 2008 , along with fellow first season episodes , " One Good Scare Ought to Do It ! " , " The Fast and the Phineas , " " Lawn Gnome Beach Party of Terror , " " Flop Starz , " " Raging Bully , " " Lights , Candace , Action ! " and " Are You My Mummy ? " Both " My Nemesis " and " When We Didn 't Get Along " became available in 2009 on the official Phineas and Ferb soundtrack .

= = Themes = =

Multiple critics have noted that the portrayal of Doofenshmirtz and Perry 's relationship in the episode features a somewhat of a homosexual subtext . The concept behind it is a parody of stereotypical teen romance film , casting Perry and Doofenshmirtz ? two males who are of different species ? as the teenage couple who is " breaking up . " Perry 's initial suspicions over Doofenshmirtz having a new nemesis are portrayed as if a person discovers their significant other is cheating on them . Perry discovers a paw print on Doofenshmirtz 's face , resembling a lipstick mark on the cheek as if from a lover , and Peter the Panda emerges from Doofenshmirtz 's closet . Doofenshmirtz initially tries to deny having a new nemesis , but eventually admits to the accusation , noting that he " didn 't want [ Perry ] to find out this way , " overtly detailing a common way couples discover their partner is cheating on them . Perry is depressed about their " break up " and reminisces about their past " relationship " together , while music resembling a love song plays in the background . After feeling depressed himself , Doofenshmirtz " dumps " Peter and reunites with Perry on a talk show prone to featuring romantic confrontations .

= = Cultural references = =

" It 's About Time ! " features multiple cultural references . Aspects of the time machine are based on H.G. Wells ' famous novel The Time Machine . During the " My Nemesis " musical number , caricature of The Archies , a fictional garage band in the animated television series The Archie Show , are shown and begin to sing and play instruments during the course of the sequence . The song itself parodies the style of musician Elvis Costello . The Dr. Feelbetter show incorporates elements of confrontational talk shows Dr. Phil and The Jerry Springer Show .

= = Reception = =

The episode was mostly well received by critics . Blogcritics reviewer Aaraon Peck applauded the Perry and Doofenshmirtz B @-@ Plot , considering it as both the official Pret episode and an example of the series ' ability to allow " adults [ to ] enjoy the humor " and not strictly focusing on the entertainment of younger viewers . Conversely , Ed Liu of Toon Zone was critical of the episode and other early episodes available on The Fast and the Phineas , calling them " way too manic for their

own good , never giving a gag enough time to develop a proper laugh before ripping off to the next one , and refusing to sit still for any length of time . " The production staff reacted positively to the episode , and said that they " really liked " its outcome .

Reaction to the episode 's melodies were also positive . Wolfen Moondaughter wrote in her Sequential Tart article , " Five Reasons : Phineas and Ferb , " that both " My Nemesis " and " When We Didn 't Get Along " were among her personal favorite musical pieces from the series , despite the former resembling the styles of Elvis Costello , whom Moondaughter noted she carried a distaste for . A Wired magazine review of the series ' soundtrack observed that despite being drastically different from tracks that proceed and precede it , " When We Didn 't Get Along " " fit perfectly " due to " the genius of the malleable songwriting style of Phineas and Ferb 's musical brain trust . "