

= Jeff " Swampy " Marsh =

Jeff " Swampy " Marsh (born December 9 , 1960) is an American animator associated with several animated television series . Marsh was born in Santa Monica , California , where he grew up with a heavily blended family dynamic . Marsh has been and continues to be a driving force behind several animation projects , working for over six seasons on the animated television series The Simpsons . Marsh continued to work on other animated television series , including King of the Hill and Rocko 's Modern Life , before moving to England in 1996 .

While in England , Marsh worked on several animated programs , including Postman Pat and Bounty Hamster , and worked for BKN New Media Ltd. to produce several feature films . After six years living in England , Marsh was asked by his longtime partner Dan Povenmire to help produce Phineas and Ferb in 2007 , a concept the two had while working together on Rocko 's Modern Life . Marsh accepted and moved back to the United States ; the series has since garnered Marsh two Emmy Awards nominations for songwriting . According to an original pitch extra of Phineas and Ferb , he prefers having " Swampy " in his name , because it made his name 15 letters long and longer than most other people 's names . As of 2015 , he and Povenmire are currently producing a new series for Disney entitled Milo Murphy 's Law .

= = Early life = =

Marsh was born on December 9 , 1960 , in Santa Monica , California . Marsh was raised in a large and complicated blended family , which included his stepfather Bill . Growing up , he never felt the dynamic was treated in the media coherently enough to make it seem " normal , " which Marsh felt was unjustified since the majority of his friends were from either divorced or blended familial structures .

Marsh spent his summer vacations being active , going outside and digging trenches and tunnels , building tree houses , and constructing forts . He and his family were engrossed in several musical activities , with musical background dating back to Les Brown , Marsh 's grandfather . His household was filled with several different musical instruments and over the years , Marsh learned to play the banjo , trombone , trumpet , and guitar . As Marsh recalls , he would " sing into fake microphones and create full rock bands with [his] friends and family . "

In both high school and college , Marsh took architectural drawing courses and also took part in a few theater productions , which each helped him understand the view of a set builder .

= = Career = =

= = = Early career = = =

As an adult , Marsh became a vice president of sales and marketing for a computer company . One day , he " freaked out " and decided to quit . A friend of his helped him put together a portfolio and go into the animation business . He eventually found himself working on the animated television series The Simpsons as a background layout artist in 1990 . Marsh worked on the series for over six seasons and three episodes he helped produce won Emmy Awards . To help him with his animation efforts on the show , Marsh utilized several books about art , architecture design , and artistic rendering which he kept in his household library . His desk in the series ' office placed him opposite of fellow layout artist Dan Povenmire ; the two bonded over shared tastes in humor and music and quickly formed a friendship .

By 1993 , Marsh was working as a writer and director on Nickelodeon 's animated series Rocko 's Modern Life ? the channel 's first " in house " cartoon production ? for four seasons . He found himself working alongside Povenmire again , this time as a writing partner , a choice Marsh claimed was made by the crew in hopes of making Povenmire 's neatness offset his own sloppy storyboarding . The pair developed a distinctive style , including in their stories characteristic musical

numbers and chase scenes . Together they won an Environmental Achievement Award for a 1996 Rocko episode they had written .

In 1996 , Povenmire and Marsh conceived the series Phineas and Ferb , based on their similar experiences of childhood summers spent outdoors . Povenmire went through several unsuccessful pitches to get the series picked up . In 1997 , Marsh was hired as one of the first artists for the Fox Network animated series King of the Hill , serving as both a storyboard artist and designer .

= = = Move to England = = =

After working on Rocko in 1996 , Marsh moved to London , England , which he considered to be " absolutely fantastic . " Marsh spent six years in the city , working on several animated television productions which included Postman Pat and Bounty Hamster , along with other projects produced by major companies , BBC , ITV and Carlton TV . He also served as a large contributor and producer for several British feature films , working for the company BKN New Media Ltd .

Around 2005 , Povenmire contacted Marsh , notifying him that a pitch for Phineas and Ferb had been somewhat successful and The Walt Disney Company had shown interest in producing the series but wanted to see an eleven @-@ minute pilot . Marsh immediately accepted and began packing . He had already booked a vacation to Los Angeles , while Povenmire had plans to travel to France ; while Povenmire set up a sidetrack to travel to England , Marsh flew down to Los Angeles for two days where he devised a plot outline for the episode " Rollercoaster . " When Povenmire went to France , he drew the storyboards and plotted out how it would all come together , and then went to England where the pair touched up the dialogue and checked to make sure it came out how they had planned it .

= = = Phineas and Ferb = = =

Marsh moved back to the United States where Disney accepted the pilot episode and ordered a full 26 episode season . The pair still needed to convince overseas Disney executives to pick up the series , so instead of a conventional script , they recorded the storyboards for " Rollercoaster . " Povenmire then spent time dubbing over it with his voice for each character , along with sound effects and narration . When the recording was sent to the executives , they accepted and the series was officially green lit for the company 's cable network Disney Channel . It officially began broadcast on February 1 , 2008 and the cartoon name was called Phineas and Ferb .

Marsh and Povenmire wanted to incorporate into the show the kind of humor they had developed in their work on Rocko 's Modern Life . They included action sequences and , with Disney 's encouragement , featured musical numbers in every episode after " Flop Starz " . Povenmire described the songs as his and Marsh 's " jab at immortality " , but the pair have earned two Emmy nominations for Phineas and Ferb songs to @-@ date . A third Emmy nomination , for the episode " The Monster of Phineas @-@ n @-@ Ferbenstein " (2009) , pitted the show against SpongeBob SquarePants , although neither nominee received the award due to an unspecific technicality .

The distinctive style of Tex Avery influenced the show 's artistic look , which includes geometric shapes in both the characters and the background . The style was determined by Povenmire 's first sketch of title character Phineas Flynn , who he doodled on the butcher paper covering the table during dinner with his family in a restaurant in South Pasadena , California ; he was so taken with the sketch he tore it out , kept it , and used it as the prototype for Phineas and the stylistic blueprint for the whole show . Other than being an executive producer and co @-@ founder , Marsh voices the character of Major Francis Monogram . Marsh based his performance of the character on broadcast journalist and anchorman Walter Cronkite .

= = Personal life = =

Marsh currently lives in the city of Venice , California , where he frequently goes surfing . He has two children , who have borne him four grandchildren . His nickname , " Swampy , " was given to

him while living in England after attending college in reference to his last name , " marsh . " He added the nickname as an intertitle in his credited and preferred name , Jeff " Swampy " Marsh , as a means of making it longer than most other 's names , at fifteen letters .