

= 12 oz . Mouse =

12 oz . Mouse is an American animated television series created by Matt Maiellaro for Adult Swim . The series revolves around Mouse Fitzgerald , nicknamed " Fitz " (voiced by Maiellaro) , an alcoholic mouse who performs odd jobs so he can buy more beer . Together with his chinchilla companion Skillet , Fitz begins to recover suppressed memories that he once had a wife and a child who have now vanished . This leads him to seek answers about his past and the shadowy forces that seem to be manipulating his world .

In producing the series , Maiellaro crudely designed the characters as a cost @-@ cutting measure ; the series is animated by Radical Axis . He intended for the series to lack continuity starting from the pilot , but established a serial format after starting the second episode . He had constructed an ending for the series as well as a detailed map of characters ; however , the series finale concluded differently from planned . Maiellaro cast people around his office for the characters , starring himself as the protagonist and Nine Pound Hammer vocalist Scott Luallen as the voice of Roostre ; the band also performs the opening theme .

The pilot episode for 12 oz . Mouse , " Hired " , premiered on June 19 , 2005 . The series became a regular staple of Adult Swim 's lineup on October 23 , 2005 and ended on December 17 , 2006 . Critical reception was mixed ; some praised the series ' experimental nature , while others felt confounded by it .

= = Premise = =

The show revolves around a mouse named Mouse Fitzgerald (voiced by Matt Maiellaro) , nicknamed " Fitz " , who is fond of beer and caught in a world of espionage , love and the delights of odd jobs . The show employs a serial format , and its ongoing storyline developed from absurdist comedy to include mystery and thriller elements . Fitz begins to recover suppressed memories that he once had a wife and a child who have now vanished . This leads him to seek answers about his past and the shadowy forces that seem to be manipulating his world .

Fitz suspects there is a sinister conspiracy which appears to revolve around fields of " asprind [sic] " pills beneath the city , and Shark (Adam Reed) , Clock , and Rectangular Businessman 's (Kurt Socolich) attempts to control the nature of time and reality . Fitz and Skillet receive help from Liquor (Matt Harrigan) , Roostre (Scott Luallen) , Stoned Peanut Cop (Nick Weidenfeld) and others as they engage in gun battles , blow things up , and try to understand cryptic hints . The show also sometimes contains surreal " subliminal " images that flash across the screen during key plot moments , including skulls , mustached snake beasts and people screaming .

The series concludes the revelation that Fitz has been kidnapped and placed into a simulation by the Shadowy Figure . He is about to be killed by Shark and the Rectangular Businessman , in their true forms outside the simulation , when he is rescued by the true form of Peanut Cop and a nurse who works in the simulation chamber . They kill Shark and Rectangle Businessman , but it is unknown if they are truly dead because the simulation in which most of the show takes place is probably taking place in another simulation . One of the purposes of the simulation seen in most of the show was to extract information from Fitz . The conclusion to episode 20 is ambiguous as to whether or not it is actually the end of the series , as some aspects of the plot remain unresolved ? Golden Joe says " I thought this was done , " to which Fitz replies , " I thought so too . I guess we 're not . "

= = Development = =

= = = Production = = =

According to Maiellaro , the series was pitched as a table read to the network . He jokingly stated that they accepted it after claiming that production costs would total " five dollars and will take some

of the paper sitting in the copier . " Maiellaro borrowed inspiration from surrealism and the films of David Lynch . He intended for the series to lack continuity starting from the pilot , but established a serial format after starting to work on the second episode . He had constructed an ending for the series as well as a detailed map of characters ; however , the series finale concluded differently from planned .

Radical Axis provided animation for the series using Final Cut Pro . Described as " lo @-@ fi animation " , Maiellaro crudely designed the characters as a cost @-@ cutting measure , with the exception of Amalockh , a many @-@ armed monster summoned in the season two episode " Corndog Chronicles " , which was drawn and animated by Todd Redner at the studio , and Shark , which was borrowed from the Space Ghost Coast to Coast episode " Kentucky Nightmare " . In a behind @-@ the @-@ scenes clip of the show , Maiellaro explained that to animate the series , he would first grab a nearby sheet of copy paper , draw something , and then scan it , followed by him sending the file to an animator . Rhoda , a character from the series , was drawn on the back of a script page for Perfect Hair Forever . A scan of the paper revealed the textual contents behind it , which Maiellaro decided to leave in .

== = Cast = = =

Maiellaro cast people around his office to voice the characters . He provides the voice of the protagonist , Mouse Fitzgerald . He originally only gave the scratch dialogue for the character during production of the pilot episode , but chose himself to voice Mouse regularly after hearing his lines assembled in the final cut . Kurt Soccolich was chosen by Maiellaro to voice Rectangular Businessman , who " already had that sort of smooth arrogance in his voice " , making him a " perfect " fit for him . Matt Harrigan was selected to voice Liquor , who is " always looking to make light of a situation " , according to Maiellaro .

Nick Weidenfeld provides the voice of Peanut Cop ; Melissa Warrenburg portrays an annoying woman in a green sweater , who Maiellaro dubs " Robogirl " . Bonnie Rosmarin voices Man / Woman , picked for what Maiellaro stated is a " pouty , stand @-@ offish quality " in her delivery . Nick Ingkatanuwat voices The Eye and Adam Reed plays Shark . Vocalist of Nine Pound Hammer Scott Luallen voices Roostre ; the band also composed the opening theme song for the series . Golden Joe is voiced by Vishal Roney ; after hearing his first take on the character , Maiellaro explained that he was left unable to write any of his lines . He proceeded to only provide the basic structure of his lines in the script , instructing him to retroscript the rest .

== = Title sequence and music = = =

Maiellaro spent three weeks working with Ingkatanuwat on putting together the set for the opening title sequence . The set was filmed with a motion control camera , and was inserted with miniature explosives and smoke bombs for special effect . Nine Pound Hammer composed the opening theme song ; Maiellaro sought for a song representing the " carefree " lifestyle of Mouse who " does things like drive drunk , film porno and shoot guns . " Maiellaro , who plays the electric guitar in his free time , also composed the song " F @-@ Off " , featured in the first episode , which he wrote while working on Space Ghost Coast to Coast .

== = Episodes = = =

The pilot episode for 12 oz . Mouse , " Hired " , premiered on June 19 , 2005 and became a regular series in the Adult Swim lineup in October 2005 . An Adult Swim bumper shown with the sixth installment claimed that twenty additional episodes were being produced and taunted viewers who had complained they couldn 't understand the absurdist presentation . On December 31 , 2005 , a marathon of the series aired , replaying all six episodes followed by the premiere of the then @-@ unfinished seventh episode " Adventure Mouse " . The second season aired on Adult Swim on Monday mornings at 12 : 45 a.m. EST from September 24 , 2006 to December 17 , 2006 . On May

16 , 2007 , the 21st episode , entitled " Enter the Sandmouse " , premiered as a webisode .

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

The season two episodes , " Auraphull " and " Meat Warrior " , were respectively seen by 460 @, @ 000 and 431 @, @ 000 viewers upon broadcast . In addition , the episodes ranked as the thirteenth and twelfth most watched episodes aired by the network for the week of October 23 , 2006 , also respectively .

= = = Critical reception = = =

The series has received mixed critical reception ; About.com 's Nancy Basile gave the series four out of five stars , opining that the series is " what Adult Swim should be ... experimental , but in a cheap , simple , not @-@ trying @-@ to @-@ be @-@ cool way . " She found the crude animation " refreshing " but joked that the series " can kill " viewers not used to the slow pace . Writing for AOL TV , Adam Finley regarded the show as " the most simplistically drawn of all the Adult Swim shows , and yet the most complex in terms of story . " He contrasted it with other Williams Street productions , finding it to " instead unravel [1] slowly , revealing a little bit more of what 's underneath the surface while also piling on more and more questions . " Rob Mitchum of Pitchfork Media called it " the asymptote of the block 's crude style " .

Justin Heckert of Atlanta magazine opined that " the animation and art look like they were done by daycare students " , while Lucy Maher of Common Sense Media rated it one star , criticizing Fitz 's " anarchist " qualities and ultimately stated that " parents with teens who are interested in watching should preview an episode or two before letting them tune in on their own . " Felix Staica of Impulse Gamer gave the DVD release 8 @. @ 3 out of 10 , stating he was " left confounded " after watching and noted the video transfer as " decidedly and deliberately rough , with weird unfocused pixilation [sic] cropping up frequently . "

= = Other appearances = =

The hip hop duo Danger Doom have produced a song inspired by 12 oz . Mouse entitled " Korn Dogz " from their EP Occult Hymn . The song uses audio clips from the episode " Rooster " , with the line " Corn dogs for the pickin ' " being recited by Danger Doom 's MC MF Doom and Mouse Fitzgerald . A scene from the episode " Sharktasm " is visible in Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters .

= = Home release = =

A DVD release of the complete series was released February 29 , 2008 , exclusively on the Williams Street shop . The DVD cover depicts Leonardo 's The Last Supper with the series ' characters replacing Christ and the twelve apostles . However , under a black light , the cover depicts the skeletons of the characters , as well as letters and symbols which make out an email address . The series is presented as a single , continuous movie , with newly produced footage bridging the gaps between episodes . It also features production footage , new music , the episode " Auraphull " in its entirety and collected fan art .