

## Hoffmaniada

Written by Marc Spess

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Stanislav Sokolov is directing his latest film, since 2006.

Due to financial reasons, Hoffmaniada was put on hold. But, since 2008 it's back on track, and still being produced to this day. Stop motion films take a very long time to make, and this one is no exception. So if your film seems to be trudging along slowly, it happens to everyone.

The film is based around three of Hoffmann's tales, one of which was the Sandman. For those who remember Colin Batty, Ian MacKinnon and Paul Berry made their own version of that film, so it seems Hoffmann attracts stop motion film makers. Maybe it's because visually the designs are so nice. From the looks of it, Hoffmaniadas' puppets are very well made. I'm not even sure how the female puppets mouth was made to move. Possibly an entire face replacement system? It's hard to know, especially since the film is made in Russia.

Soyuzmultfilm is the production studio creating the over 150 puppets. Since the film is now government funded, it has come almost to a halt as workers are paid hardly anything. So hopefully someone will help them out with a little cash so they can finally complete the project.

There is a great behind the scenes video on YouTube showing all the various puppets. It has English subtitles, however you'll need to visit the YouTube page and click the CC button at the

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bottom of the video. You can [go there to see it here](#) , or watch without subtitles below.

{youtube}TRCFPJeeZ8g{/youtube}

There is even a trailer showing some of the animation and puppets. You can watch it below, and it has an English narration to it.

{youtube}mJVNnAv2wEk{/youtube}

The studio has put together a very sparse web site with only a few pictures. But it's worth checking out if you want to bookmark it in case they finally post some behind the scenes pictures or videos. You can see it [by clicking here](#) .