WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH

WITH 20 BRAND-NEW INTERVIEWS WITH CAST AND CREW, WE DARE TO RETURN TO ISLA NUBLAR FOR A TOUR OF THE PREHISTORIC RESIDENTS — Paddock by Paddock

NICK DE SEMLYEN

ADDITIONAL INTERVIEWS: IAN FREER, OLLY RICHARDS, CHRIS HEMMITT

DIGITAL ARTIST: JUSTIN METZ
**GENUS OF HERBOVOROUS SAUROPOD, ALSO KNOWN AS “VEGETARIANUS.”** The largest dinosaurs in Jurassic Park, the brachiosaurus encloses freely, grazing on tall trees and occasionally doing epic sneezes.

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**Phil Tippett** (dinosaur supervisor): The first scenes we did were the Brachiosaurus ones. They were very difficult because the technology was so new. We wanted to see the flesh moving, so when the foot goes down you see tremors through the muscles.

**Dean Cundey** (cinematographer): To get it nifty, we attached a cable to the top of the tree and pulled on it to get the branch to react and snap. The animators carefully coordinated the animation with that.

**Dennis Muren** (self-motion dinosaurs): We’d go on a scout and find a beautiful ranch owned by a guy named Dennis Muren — no connection with George Lucas — no connection with George.

**JURASSIC PARK**

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**BRACHIOSAURUS**

Genus of herbivorous sauropod, also known as “Vegetarianus.” The largest dinosaurs in Jurassic Park, the herd roams its enclosure freely, grazing on tall trees and occasionally doing epic sneezes.

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**Goldblum:** There was a door where its bum was. And if you waited, out of its bottom would come three or four grown men.

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**TENACIOUS DNA**

The evolution of cinema’s greatest exposition scene

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**I’LL NEVER FORGET THE DINO DUNG.** Jeff Goldblum

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**TRICERATOPS**

Genus of herbivorous ceratopsid, also known as “the most beautiful thing I’ve ever seen.” When healthy, a Triceratops is capable of battling a T-Rex. The one in Jurassic Park is too awfully big to do much except lie down or poop.

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**Kurtz:** “You talk to him in your room, and he doesn’t answer: ‘I’ll never forget the dino dung.’”

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**Ian Freer**

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**Goldblum:** “I’ll never forget the dino dung.”

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**Kurtz:** “I presented it to Spielberg while he was eating,” says animator Bob Kurtz about his first iteration of Jurassic Park’s Mr. DNA animation. “He jumped up with a mouthful of food, waved his arms in the air and said, ‘I’ve got a cartoon in my mouth! He didn’t make any changes.’”

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**Ian Freer**

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**Kurtz:** “To this day, Steven calls me Mr. DNA,” he says. “That’s probably easier than Bob.”

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**Bob Kurtz**

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**Ian Freer**

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**Kurtz:** “When I went to Jurassic Park, they had the idea of creating the kind of educational film he remembered from school, a creepy instructional animation built around a character named Mr. DNA. To create the short Spielberg sought out Kurtz, who’d just created the sequence for City Stickers and Honeymoon in Vegas. ‘The thing he wanted was, “My DNA was correct.”’ Kurtz also informed the short with a nod to animation history — the animators’ fascination with Winsor McCay’s Gertie The Dinosaur.

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**Bob Kurtz**

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**Kurtz:** “I had one of my animators animate a baby thing going into the background over and over. It’s gorgeous, but when it started, ‘Steven cut it. It’s a reaction shot of the actors,’ I made that animator work so hard he froze in the cutting-room floor.”

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Lantieri: to accommodate the sculpture.
The T-Rex was enormous.
theropod, also known as “Do-you-think-
Genus of carnivorous coelurosaurian
tyRAnnOSAURUS Rex

The T-Rex was enormous. We had to raise the roof in our building to accommodate the sculpture.
Lantieri: It actually commanded the fear and respect a real one would have. It did not take long for it to play just as a character.

Goldblum: I grew up in Pittsburgh and used to take art classes at the Carnegie Museum. I’d always go through the dinosaur exhibit and stare at the T-Rex.

It was magical and mysterious and completely dreamy. So to meet a real one was very thrilling

Candy: They controlled it with what they called a Waldo, a very small replica of the T-Rex. They could manipulate it and the machine would respond exactly.

Rosengrant: The one fly in the ointment was that the T-Rex was never supposed to be in the rain. The machine was one-tuned into how much it weighed. Once we introduced the rain to it, it didn’t respond properly. Between takes, we had to run in with towels. We had a team of people at night drying the thing out.

Marin Ferrero (Donald Gennaro): If he wasn’t completely dry, he’d shudder and shake like he was in The Lost Weekend.

Noël: When it was attacking the children, it would lose teeth from time to time. They’d be littering the roof of the car.

Mazullo: They tried for 30 minutes to glue one back in, but they couldn’t. So there’s a shot in Jurassic Park where you can see a can of pepper spray hooked onto my belt. I said, “Hey Steven, when the dinosaur’s coming down, maybe I could spray this in its face?”

Steven went, “That’s interesting, but no.”

Rydstrom: There’s a truth in sound design that sometimes it’s better to record something small and slow it down to make it feel big. So I got my Jack Russell terrier Buster to shake a rope toy in his mouth, because I knew the T-Rex would kill the Gallimimus and the lawyer like that. Buster also provided the sound for the T-1000 eye-spiking the prison guard in Terminator 2.

Denn: When we were doing the T-Rex stuff, Steven would be on a megaphone going, “RAAAAARRGGGHHHHH!” I’ll never forget Sam, Jeff and I all cracking up.

Goldblum: Steven’s dinosaur roars are not just decent, they’re spectacular.

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Muren: I said, “Steven, ‘Objects in mirror are closer than they appear’ in the driver’s side mirror.” He said, “I don’t care, it’ll be fine.” And sure enough, nobody ever said anything about it.

Goldblum: That joke’s referenced in Toy Story 2? That’s funny. I’d like to see that.

Rydstrom: When the movie came out, there was a scientist in Japan who claimed I got the T-Rex sound exactly wrong.

The only sound it would have made, according to his research, is the gurgling of a stomach. Can you imagine if the T-Rex attack had been just stomach gurgles? There’s a difference between science and art.

Muren: I don’t think a real T-Rex would look much like one our. It wouldn’t be nearly as aggressive. If you’ve ever seen pictures of huge bears fighting while standing on their hind legs, they can do that for six or seven seconds, then they collapse. That’s much more the way it would have been with dinosaurs.

I just think they’d wear out.

**WE’VE GOT DODGSON HERE!**

**Empire tracks down Jurassic Park’s real villain**

> *HE MAY APPEAR IN ONLY ONE short scene, but Lewis Dodgson, the shady corporate stooge who bribes Nedry to steal dinosaur embryos, is Jurassic Park’s true anti-hero.*

> “I know, man!” laughs Cameron Thor, the 53-year-old who bagged the role. “I know, man!” laughs Cameron Thor, the 53-year-old who bagged the role.

> “I’m the guy who started it all. Maybe that’s why Dodgson has a following.”

> The scene, in which Dodgson and Nedry (Wayne Knight) meet at a Central American café to hatch their scheme, is there to test the plot wheels in motion. But the actors’ fun interplay — Dodgson’s nervousness, Nedry’s whistling laugh — spawned a cult following. Check YouTube for fans’ recreations of the scene and bizarre electric tunes sampling the line, “We’ve got Dodgson here!”

> Having worked with Spielberg on Hook, Thor felt in his blood that Malcolm, before returning to vie for the role of Malcolm’s brightest. “It just made sense,” he says. “That’s the stuff kids like.”

> “I was a barbasol canyon kid,” he remembers, “so I spent endless time in a drug store to find the most photogenic. I went with Barbasol, which ended up in the movie. I was a big fan of Malcolm, before returning to vie for the role of Malcolm’s brightest. “It just made sense,” he says. “That’s the stuff kids like.”

> He may appear in only one short scene, but Lewis Dodgson, the shady corporate stooge who bribes Nedry to steal dinosaur embryos, is Jurassic Park’s true villain. He may appear in only one short scene, but Lewis Dodgson, the shady corporate stooge who bribes Nedry to steal dinosaur embryos, is Jurassic Park’s true villain.

> “Dodgson is buried in the past. But if the new Jurassic Park needs more face-foam mischief, he’s ready.”

> But if the new Jurassic Park needs more face-foam mischief, he’s ready.

> “I’d come out of fricking September 30, 2013.”

> **September 30, 2013**

> **Nick De Semlyen**

> "STEFAN WOULD BE ON A MEGAPHONE GOING, ‘RAAAARRRRGHHH!!’" LADIA BERN

> Tyrannosaurus Rex

> Genre of carnivorous coelurosaurian theropod, also known as “Do-you-think-theropod, also known as “Do-you-think-

> *King of the dinosaurs.*

> *Genus of carnivorous coelurosaurian*
*Dilophosaurus*

**Genus of carnivorous theropod, also known as “nice boy”. A flesh-eating predator capable of spitting venom a great distance. It dislikes stick-fetching by making it smaller, it fits the story.**

**Dilophosaurus**

**Gallimimus**

**Genus of herbivorous ornithomimosaur theropod. Also known, inaccurately, as “Moustasaurus.” These ostrich-like beasts are speedy but none too bright, judging by the fact that they stampede towards a T-Rex.**

**Gallimimus**

**Rip-roaring friller:**

The Dilophosaurus

• Dennis Nedry’s
• Nedry: I felt like an absolute rattlesnake. You can’t get any more scary than that. The crotal version of the Dilophosaurus makes the little hopping chrips of a snake.

• Dennis Nedry's Chirping Death Scene.

**“WE’D NO IDEA WHAT IT WOULD LOOK LIKE!” SAM NEIL**

he made his feelings known.

**Mazzello:** Wherever we looked, they put in a dinosaur later. We were really the decision-makers on that.

**Tipett:** Steven was working with the actors, trying to find more in the scene than was on the page. When the herd takes a right-hand turn, I suggested that Joey says, “I think we’re going to get flocked!” Steven said, “He can’t say that.” So he changed it. “I think they are flocking this way.”

**Lantieri:** Every bit of the log the dinosaurs touched was painstakingly rigged by wires or miniature explosives.**

**Rydstrom:** The Gallimimus vocals are horses. I recorded a female horse. They said, “She makes really interesting sounds if we bring a male horse.” So they bring a male horse out and the female horse made this high-pitch squeal. The stampeding is running horses or cattle getting herded.

**Tipett:** Since they were supposed to be a precursor to birds, they would have had very sophisticated flocking mechanisms. So we worked out a nice scenario where the parents keep the small Gallis in the middle of the group as though they were protecting them. There were little details like that to enhance the scene subliminally.

“Re-opening in 2015...”

A status report on Jurassic Park IV

**Could the new Jurassic Park be a reboot or a sequel? Sam Neill claims it’s a “total rejig”, director Colin Trevorrow recently tweeted a locationscout photo with the tag “Nublar” (the island in the first film) and a teaser poster at June’s LA Licensing Expo simply bore the legend “Jurassic Park.” If the 2015 movie does wipe the dino-stale clean, may we suggest Ryan Reynolds as Alan Grant, Rosamund Pike as Ellie and Benedict Cumberbatch as Ian Malcolm?**

The story, according to official reports, will see a finished theme park up and running, with thousands of tourists flooding in to see such attractions as a lagoon filled with aquatic dinosaurs who feast on great white sharks. It also, apparently, will feature trained raptors, used by park security to keep the other dinosaurs in line. No this all with a pinch of salt for now, but writers Rick Jaffa and Amanda Silver (Rise Of The Planet Of The Apes) do have form in super-smart beasts. With the shot likely to happen later this year or early next, the film is shrouded in more secrecy than an Inca pyramid. “I can’t say anything,” standwells paleontologist consultant Jack Horner. “I’ve been working with the writers and the model-makers, trying to figure out what the animals look like. That’s... about as far as they’ve gotten so far.”

As for the original cast, they claim not to have been approached. “Never say never,” says Laura Dern, “but I don’t think that’s in the plan.” “Never say never,” says Jeff Goldblum, a chaotician to the end, is ready for anything: “A finished park is exactly what we’re gunning for now...”
Hammond hasn’t thought the MT: DNA show through, unless he’s planning to be on stage for every single performance and never take a day off or receive a phone call ever again.

Nick is paid to get 15 dinosaur embryos off the island. But the Barbasol island is nonsensical. People who would have gone to Hawaii and shot a big thing to — hunting in a group. The real ones, we know now, would have been more colourful and feathered.

Richards: The kitchen scene is probably my favourite. We were in there for two weeks, and of course the Velociraptors were really there most of the time. Sometimes it was a guy in a suit.

Rosengrant: The famous scene when one ‘raptor is hoisting at the kitchen door. I am inside the suit. You could only be in it for about 15 minutes, because you’re bent over in a down-hill-skiiing position. It’s a lot of physical work.

Mazur: On my birthday, we were doing the moment where I run into the freezer. The ‘raptor was on wheels, with someone pushing him. And one time they cut it a little too fine and the claw hit me on the forehead. I fell to the ground and got a little dizzy. But when they saw it was okay, Steven decided the whole crew should sing happy birthday to me. My birthday present was getting hit in the head by a Velociraptor.

Goldblum: I did the scene with the creepy baby ‘raptor, but I didn’t get to tangle with the adults until Jurassic Park 2. I missed all the fun.

Samuel L. Jackson (Ray Arnold): I was supposed to go to Hawaii and shoot a big death scene, and then the hurricane went through and destroyed the set. So I never got to shoot the demise of Ray Arnold. You were going to see me get physically chased by the ‘raptors and then be slain by one of them. I wanted to do it!

Dorn: The ‘raptor attack in the tunnels was so much fun to shoot. I guess I just like screaming. Maybe this is why I have laryngitis so much.

Gennaro’s line, “Forty-eight hours from now, if they’re not convinced, I’m not convinced,” doesn’t make sense. Surely it should be: “If not convinced, they’re not convinced.”

Despite his talk of not sparing any expense, Hammond has bought some of the shoddier signposts ever seen in film.

Ten things that occur to you when you’ve seen the dinosaur epic too many times

1 JURASSIC NITPICKS
Ten things that occur to you when you’ve seen the dinosaur epic too many times

2 JURASSIC NITPICKS
Ten things that occur to you when you’ve seen the dinosaur epic too many times

3 JURASSIC NITPICKS
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10 JURASSIC NITPICKS
Ten things that occur to you when you’ve seen the dinosaur epic too many times

Hammond’s decision to bring a charter to the island is nonsensical. People who would have been more useful: a structural engineer, David Attenborough, anyone with a gun.

Forget opening doors — how many raptors would it take to balance Ray Arnold’s arm exactly the right way so it would fall on Ellie’s shoulder? See also Ben Garth’s head in Jaws.

Dinosaur eggs: Forty-eight hours from now, if they’re not convinced, I’m not convinced. ‘Raptors do not eat plants.

Ellie’s run to the power station is really weird.

 rápido is clicking its toenails, that’s me walking around and taking stuff in, he saw it one night. And I’ve never heard screams like in my life. So that ‘raptor is in storage, safely tucked away. One day it’ll be time — hunting in a group. The real ones, we know now, would have been more colourful and feathered.

Richards: The crawl space fall has even more punch when you see it in 3D. This lovely shout person from Cuiraus do Soual did it, but I’m sometimes tempted to take the credit!

Tippett: The ending as written was that a rib from the T-Rex skeleton skewers one ‘raptor and the jaw drops and kills the other one. That just fell like the pointiest thing in the world to me. John Bell, one of the art directors, Dennis Muren and I went down with lumps in our throats and asked for a meeting with Steven. We said, “We should come up with a better ending.”

Lani: Steven knew what he was doing. He knew the T-Rex needed to be the star at the end.

Rydstrom: People often ask me why you don’t hear the T-Rex creep into the visitor centre. If you look at that scene, a bigger issue is how did he get there? There is not a door big enough.

Richards: All the cast members were given the same ‘raptor model, signed by Steven, as a gift. It’s quite heavy. I enjoy having it in my house as a little shock to people coming like a guard animal, a guardian at the gate.

Goldblum: I don’t keep a lot of stuff from movies. I’m a non-accumulator — I like to donate, recycle or otherwise stay current and minimal. But the ‘raptor has got the prime spot in the house. It’s a cherished object.

Dorn: I put mine in my son’s room, near his crib. When he was old enough to look around and take stuff in, he saw it one night. And I’ve never heard screams like in my life. So that ‘raptor is in storage, safely tucked away. One day it’ll be time for them to make friends.

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