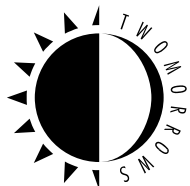


The Magazine for LEGO® Enthusiasts of All Ages!



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Journal

people • building • community

Masks and More: The LEGO Creations of Felix Jaensch

*Bryan Benson's
Kermorvan
Lighthouse*

*Alex de Jong's
Tinkerbell*



**Instructions
AND MORE!**

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Bryan's layout at BrickSlopes 2018.

Bryan Benson's Kermorvan Lighthouse

Article by Joe Meno

Photography by Kirk Benson and Joe Meno

Bryan Benson is a new builder on the block. His layout of the Kermorvan Lighthouse was first displayed at BrickSlopes in Utah, then at BrickCon in Seattle, where it got accolades from builders and public visitors. BrickJournal got to know the builder and took a good look at the layout. Both have a lot more to them than meets the eye.

How old are you?

I am 33, originally from California, but have spent most of my life in Utah. Utah is a great state, a secret that I hope stays that way from the rest of the world. There are a lot of really creative people here, which gives us some great LEGO talent to draw from.

What do you do in real life?

I am in banking, nothing to do with money though. I work in risk and fraud management, trying to keep up with, and catch, the bad guys. I also own a small custom furniture business called Benson Family Furniture: Another creative outlet for me. It is fun to make people's dreams become reality and provide heirloom pieces that will get passed through their family's generations. And lest I forget, I work part-time for LEGO.

When did you start LEGO building?

I've been building LEGO-produced sets for as long as I can remember. LEGO Castle and LEGO Explorians were the ones I recall being drawn to the most. I received the Planetary Decoder one year for Christmas and was in seventh heaven. That same year my best friend, Kirk, got the Explorien Starship and I remember thinking that it was the biggest set I had ever seen. Building and playing with that gift is a big part of my childhood memories.

accomplished something really cool. And really, it just makes me happy. It a passion that I think is hard to explain. Creating MOCs, although I am new to it, is something more. When I have a MOC rattling around in my mind, it's all I can think about. I think about it while I drive, at work, before bed, always! The only way to get it out of your mind, like a song stuck in your head, is to build it. Of course, it never ends up like you thought it would. As you build, the MOC takes on its own shape and you kinda just help it along. Everyone says building LEGO sets is creative, but really, the designer was creative. Until you build a MOC, you are just being told what to do. Folks who tear those sets apart and create their own visions are creative. I have got a long way to get to the point where I truly feel like I am among their ranks, but I will keep trying.

What inspired you to build the lighthouse and layout?

So, the lighthouse is my first MOC. BrickSlopes, in Salt Lake City, Utah had just ended, and I was on an inspiration high after seeing all the amazing MOCs at that show. Of course seeing all the trophies being handed out to these builders didn't hurt. BrickSlopes also had the best prizes for winners. They recognized the best builders in a major way. Watching the closing ceremony, I just thought, I need that to be me one day. And that's never going to happen if I don't get started. I needed to build something, anything, start small and work my way up. My mind was in the perfect zone to figure out something to build. As I recall, I saw a photo of Kermorvan Lighthouse on Instagram and immediately knew that was what I needed to build. So, I started. And... maybe failed at the start.

How did you plan the build?

First I started by looking up as many photos as I could find. I tried to get photos on all sides, in different weather, artsy and plain, videos, anything! There wasn't a lot, really. There also wasn't too much information in general about the lighthouse. Apparently, it's not a big deal in France. I tried to build the lighthouse in LEGO Digital Designer, but realized pretty fast that rockwork wasn't going to be easy to design, especially for a newbie to the tool. Instead, I just sat down with my brick and started building. Heights, shapes, and so on became more important. I got as close to minifig scale as I could, which dictated dimensions.

It was important for me to design the entire layout to be easy to move and reassemble. Most components are 1x1 small baseplates, there are a few 1x2, and two 2x2 plates. In order to make all of the rockwork around the base of the lighthouse line up right, I made negative impressions in the base and positive bricks on the modular pieces. I made sure that the patterns only lined up with one plate. Assembly was a breeze.

I knew I wanted to make the light spin as well. I researched the pattern used and discovered that in real life, a full rotation takes five seconds. I used a PFX brick (a third-party electric brick) to recreate this motion. An LED spotlight from Brickstuff helped make it as realistic as possible.

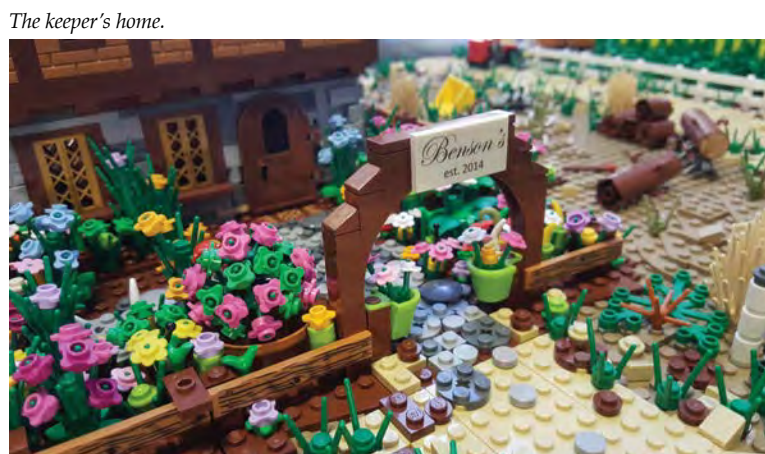
I did not originally intend the land adjacent to the lighthouse to get quite so out of control. In the beginning I only planned the bridge across the small bay, and that was all. In real life, the land near the lighthouse is quite boring. Lots of weeds and rocks. But, go big or go home, right? So I



The lighthouse's beacon turns and lights up.



Nearby, there's a picnic on the shore.



The keeper's home.



People

If I conferred with our furry friends,
Think of the

Builder Profile

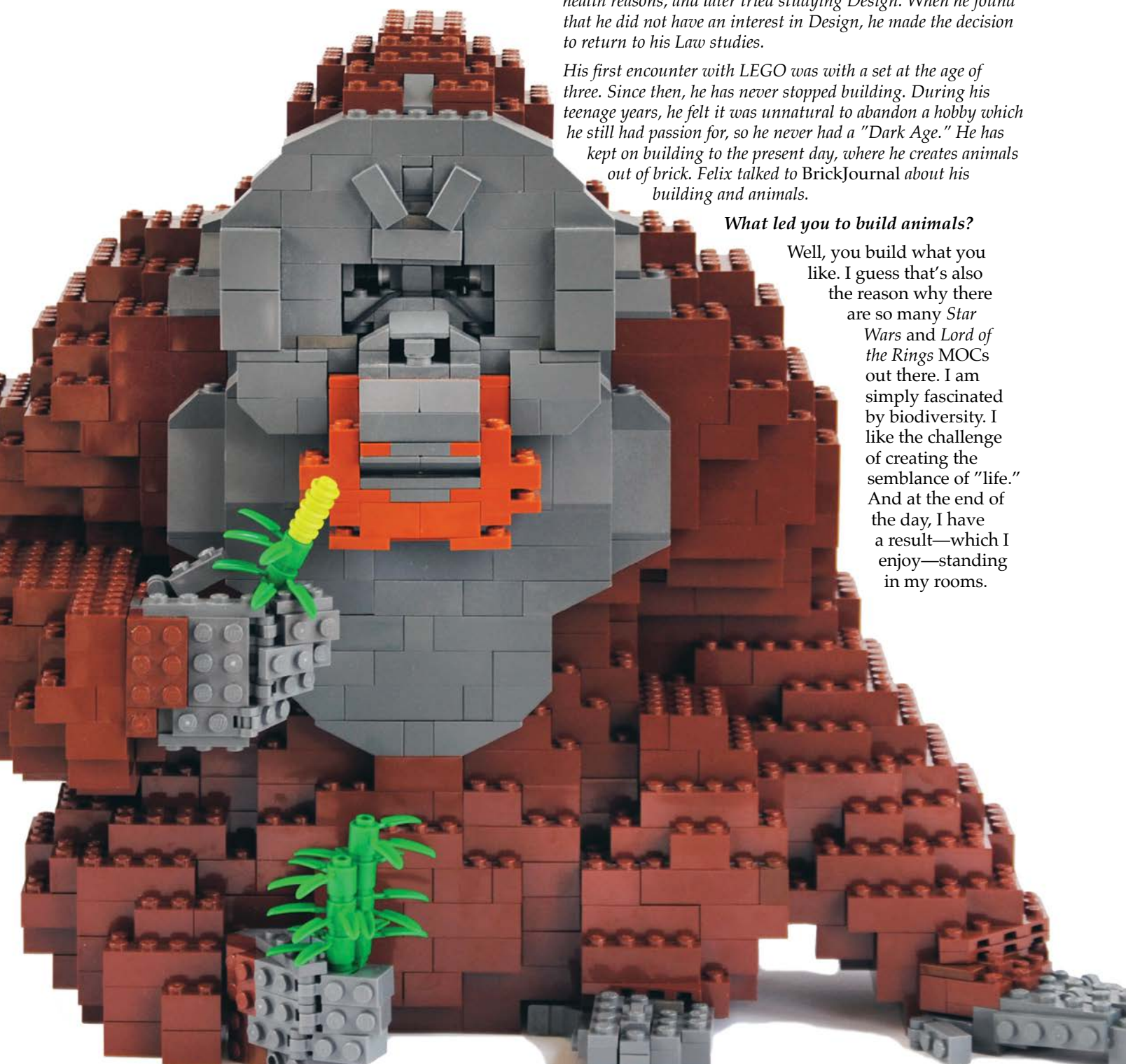
Felix Jaensch

32-year-old Felix Jaensch is a German LEGO builder whose work you may have viewed online. He is currently studying Law. After passing his first bar exam, he paused his studies for health reasons, and later tried studying Design. When he found that he did not have an interest in Design, he made the decision to return to his Law studies.

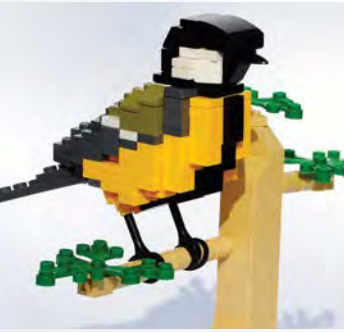
His first encounter with LEGO was with a set at the age of three. Since then, he has never stopped building. During his teenage years, he felt it was unnatural to abandon a hobby which he still had passion for, so he never had a "Dark Age." He has kept on building to the present day, where he creates animals out of brick. Felix talked to BrickJournal about his building and animals.

What led you to build animals?

Well, you build what you like. I guess that's also the reason why there are so many *Star Wars* and *Lord of the Rings* MOCs out there. I am simply fascinated by biodiversity. I like the challenge of creating the semblance of "life." And at the end of the day, I have a result—which I enjoy—standing in my rooms.



If I could walk with the animals Grunt, squeak,



The birds Felix builds are well proportioned, and at times can turn out to be the actual size of the true bird itself.

*Above: Greater Tit
Below: Sulphur-Crested Cockatoo
Below Right: Felix at work on one of his new works, a Rhesus Macaque.*



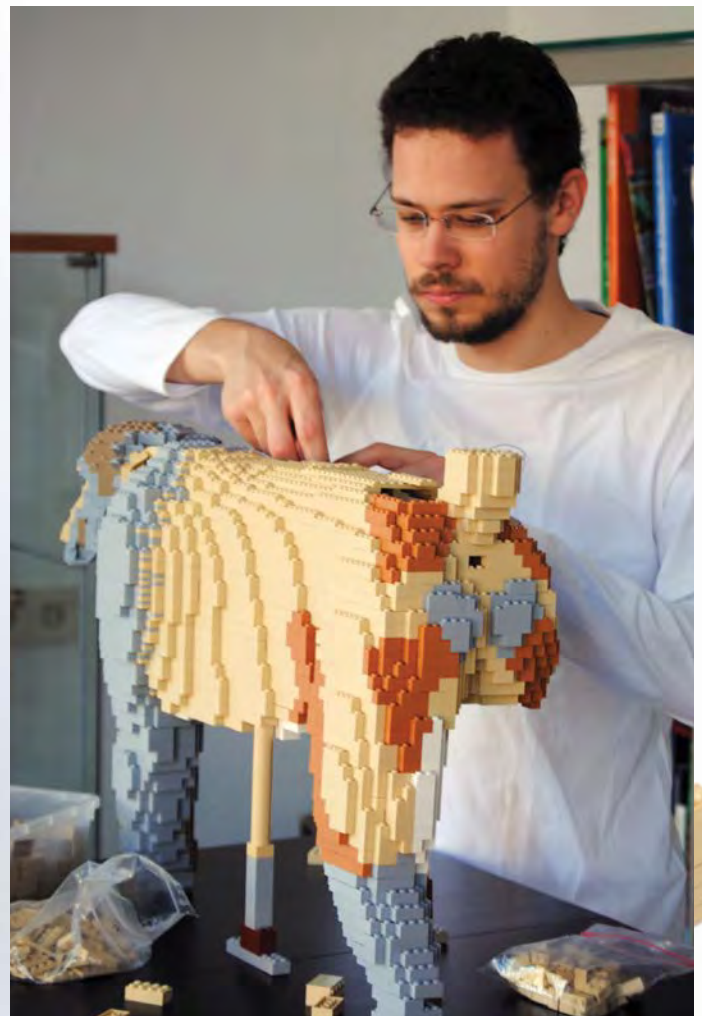
How do you plan your builds?

Do you sketch them out, or just build until you get what you want?

At first I wonder what could be a nice model. Then I think about the critical parts and if it's possible to realize the model properly in the first place. It stands or falls with suitable parts or techniques for the eyes. I collect reference material and start building. Unfortunately, bigger models need some plain sketches for the size and proportion. I don't like to do them, but it's very difficult to get an impression of the size without a sketch—and when I start with the head, I need to know the proportions right from the beginning.

What is your building style? You don't seem to use SNOT techniques to make your models.

I am an opportunist. I use every technique I know to build a model. Whatever works is fine. For very specific structures like faces, hands, paws, etc., I use slopes, SNOT, hinges, and every technique that is actually possible with LEGO. It turns out that surfaces, no matter how big or curved, look much better by traditional methods.





Amado Canlas Pinlac in front of the Yellow Zone display case at the LEGO House in Billund, Denmark. Among the display are a few of the seven creations he had accepted by the LEGO Community Engagement team. Right: Purple Wildflowers
Inset below: Yellow Coreopsis

Builder Profile

Amado Canlas Pinlac

From Star Wars To Nature MOCs

Amado Pinlac is a builder well known for his Star Wars creations and layouts. He has been spotlighted in books, websites and magazines (including BrickJournal), and his work has also been seen at LEGO fan conventions. However, some completely different creations took Amado overseas to display at the LEGO House. Here is the story, as told by the builder himself:

It all started innocently enough with an e-mail that I received in early May 2017, from the LEGO Community Engagement Team in Billund. They were asking if I would be interested in displaying some MOCs at the Lego House in time for the September grand opening. I do not recall how many times I re-read the e-mail that day.

My wife, Marleth, and I were already making plans for the rest of the year to decide which brick conventions to attend, and now everything immediately was on hold. We had to contain our excitement as I responded to find out more details about the invite—which, strangely enough, did *not* mention anything about *Star Wars* at all.

Through the weeks that passed, the constant flow of communication with the LEGO House design team continued. The team and I were finally able to agree upon



which creations were to be exhibited around mid-July. All of the pictures for the models that I had submitted were from an online post, which featured only *one* set of flowers in the final Flower Box arrangement as seen on a Brothers Brick post: <https://www.brothers-brick.com/2017/06/06/the-power-of-a-flower>.

There was some confusion on my side, so I had to confirm that I understood where the models would be set up in the layout of the Yellow Zone display case. I also had to confirm that I needed to bring so many of my creations. The enthusiastic response I got back was, "Yes, seven (of your) MOCs were to be part of the exhibit."

The LEGO Community Engagement team had chosen these from my submissions:

- *Birds on a Tree*
- *Black-Eyed Susans*
- *Purple Wildflowers*
- *Bouquet of Flowers*
- *White Flowers*
- *Flower Box*
- *Yellow Coreopsis*



Of The Brick – The LEGO House. At the LEGO House, in the Masterpiece gallery, the Yellow and Green Zones were the areas where our creations would be on display for a year until the next batch came along. Afterwards, we attended the AFOL Grand Opening on September 22, 2017, where over 700 AFOLs attended (including many who came from the Skærbæk Fan Weekend nearby)!

The entire week was a blur—there was a whole program of events for each of the days that we were there! On top of that, I was meeting and exchanging ideas with the other AFOLs who were displaying their creations, and those in attendance for the Grand Opening.

For me, a fitting end to all the activities of the AFOL Grand Opening day was to be able to write a message to all fans who visit the Home Of The Brick. My message, along



Left: Amado staging his MOCs during the installation in the Yellow Zone display case at The LEGO House.

Above: Leaving a message on the Six Bricks wall.

Bottom: White Flowers MOC installed in the Yellow Zone Display case.





You Can Build It

Flower Model



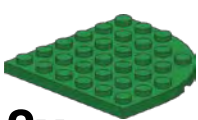
Parts List (Parts can be ordered from Bricklink.com by searching by part number and color)


Qty	Color	Part	Description
1	White	75937.dat	Plate 2 x 2 with Rod Frame Octagonal Reinforced
3	Red	3742.dat	Plant Flower
3	Red	33291.dat	Plate 1 x 1 Round with Tabs
8	Orange	6091.dat	Brick 2 x 1 x 1 & 1/3 with Curved Top
8	Orange	49668.dat	Plate 1 x 1 with Tooth In-line
1	Yellow	4740.dat	Dish 2 x 2 Inverted
8	Yellow	61252.dat	Plate 1 x 1 with Clip Horizontal (Thick C-Clip)
1	Green	3022.dat	Plate 2 x 2
1	Green	3062b.dat	Brick 1 x 1 Round with Hollow Stud
3	Green	3741a.dat	Plant Flower Stem
1	Green	4032a.dat	Plate 2 x 2 Round with Axlehole Type 1
1	Green	4032b.dat	Plate 2 x 2 Round with Axlehole Type 2
2	Green	6003.dat	Plate 6 x 6 with Round Corner
1	Green	19119.dat	Plant Flower Stem with Bar and 6 Stems
1	Green	30093.dat	Plant Sea Grass
3	Green	30239.dat	Plant Leaves 6 x 5 Swordleaf with Clip


Yellow Coreopsis



Design by Amado Pinlac
Instructions by Joe Meno

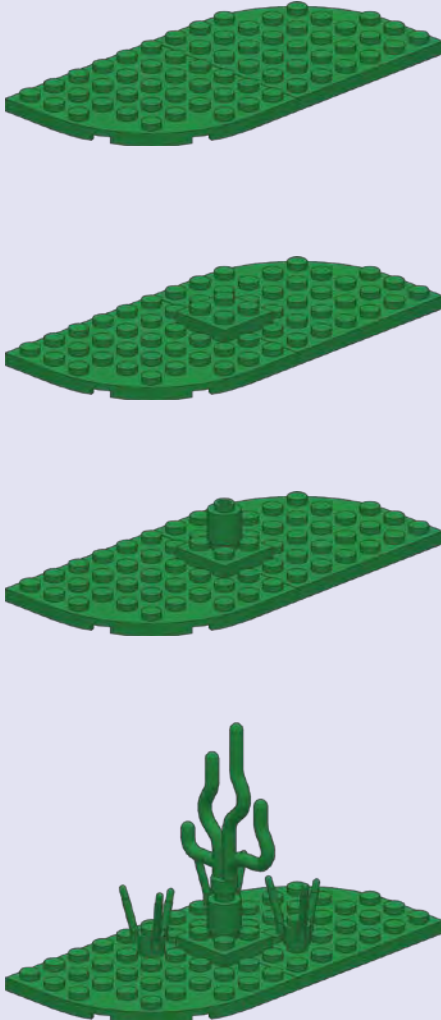
Here's your chance to build your own Yellow Coreopsis. The main inspiration for the Yellow Coreopsis and the other floral breeds came from my neighborhood where I've seen them blooming during the Spring of 2017 while doing gardening chores. At night I gathered the bricks to create these flowers, which eventually got the attention of the public and the rest of the LEGO community. 

1  **2x**

2  **1x**

3  **1x**

4  **1x**  **3x**





The village on display at BricksLA 2018, where it won "Best In Show", as voted on by fellow builders.

Dave Schefcik's Winter Village

Article by Joe Meno

Photography by Joe Meno
and Dave Schefcik

Dave Schefcik apparently likes Winter. His layout, the Winter Village, is an effort that took three years and close to 200,000 bricks to complete. Over 500 minifigures are on the layout, which is six feet deep and 20 feet long. There's also a powered train, a lit town, and even a Rebel stronghold under attack by mini AT-AT walkers. This is interesting, as Dave runs his own business as a public relations consultant, helping technology companies prepare for and work through security and privacy issues.

His favorite toy while growing up was LEGO, but he went through a "Dark Age" like many fans. Dave got back into building when one of his cousins lent him his original *Harry Potter* collection and some Ultimate Collectors Series *Star Wars* sets to display at his office. This hooked him, as he found that LEGO building was a good way to relax from dealing with the stress of crisis communications.

When asked about his favorite theme, his answer is obviously the Winter Village. "This whole layout is built as an homage to the line, with each holiday set represented in some way," he said. "For example, the church is made from two Santa's Workshops. But the Architecture line is a close second."



An overhead view of the layout gives you an idea of its size.

Townspople gather at the chapel for the holidays.



Terri Landers came up with the brilliant technique of using loose white flowers as snow to break up the studs. The end result is what Dave really likes: "I love when a kid stops to look at the village and spends an hour discovering all the fun scenes and hidden references."

The layout's size makes it challenging to move from event to event. However, Dave came up with a solution. He specially ordered cardboard boxes to fit 48x48 baseplates and created a simple grid labelling system to help know where everything was. It takes one person almost 14 hours to set the layout up, because all the detail on the outside of the main core has to be set up by hand. Luckily there are always some amazing people in the LEGO community who are there to help.

Dave's next projects will be a little while in coming—he will most likely take a break and focus on some smaller creations the next few years. Eventually he would like to make a big forest floor with over-sized flowers and bugs, all motorized and moving.

Dave's grid system is on each box, so he knows what goes where.





People



Builder Profile **Jake Sadovich**

Jake Sadovich is a builder that has an unique distinction. He is one of a few LEGO fans that have had their LEGO Ideas submission make it to production! He is the designer of the Ship in a Bottle project that is now the 21313 Ship in the Bottle set! He also displays at LEGO fan conventions and was recently spotted at BrickSlopes, a fan event in Utah. BrickJournal got the chance to talk to him there.

BrickJournal: What do you do when you're not building?

I work at an escape room currently. I'm in charge of designing and building props and any other thing that needs to be built, as well as coming up with puzzles and game play.

When did you start building?

I don't recall exactly how old I was, but I started building quite young. I remember going to my grandma's house and other various relatives' who would have a variety of toys on hand for us kids to play with. I always gravitated toward the constitution toys, LEGO in particular.

Did you have a Dark Age?

Not much of a Dark Age, really. When my kids were little I didn't have much time or money to put into LEGO, but I had all my creations up on shelves, so it was still around, but I just couldn't build much. As the kids got bigger and started getting their own LEGO, I was able to build with them, and occasionally on my own. Then around five-to-six years ago, I really began focusing on building as a serious hobby, and attended my first LEGO convention, Brickslopes, as an AFOL in 2015.

What is your favorite theme?

Space/Star Wars.

What was your first MOC?

The first MOC I can recall was an *A-10 Warthog* out of Duplo when I was very young. Looking back, I must admit it really didn't look like an *A-10*; it barely looked like an airplane, but I had a pretty big imagination. The first one I did a few years ago to begin my serious hobby was a Technic figure-scale Podracer.

What has been your biggest MOC?

My biggest MOC so far is probably my Technic figure-scale moonbase.

Some of Jake's other works, where he build in various scales.

Above: Technic figure scale Naboo Fighter.

Opposite Page: A few views of the Galidor figure scale Pitts Special Biplane.



One of many Star Wars themed creations from Jake: A Jawa, with lit eyes.

Star Wars, Jawa TM & ©Lucasfilm

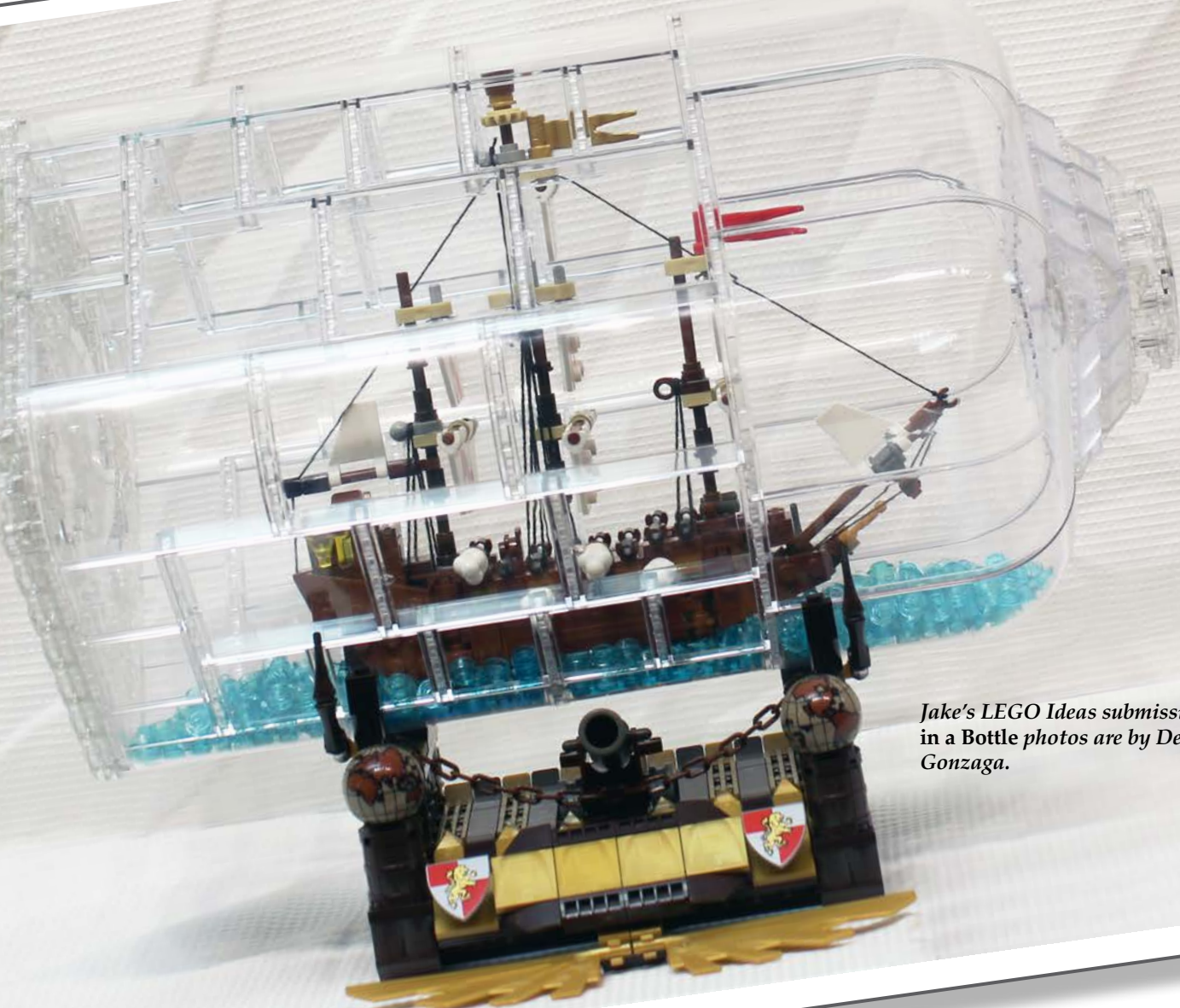
Can you tell me about the Ship in a Bottle? How did it become an Ideas set? Did you expect it to get 10,000 votes? How did the set translate out to the LEGO version, as opposed to your submission?

Several years ago I assembled a small ship in a bottle kit that I had come across at a thrift store. I had it on a shelf for a while and wondered if I could do a LEGO version—just kind of a thought at first, with no real plan.

Once in a while, over the next year-and-a-half or more, while I was doing other projects, the thought would come up and I'd think more on it for a bit and move on. I debated between building a LEGO ship in a glass bottle and doing the whole thing in LEGO several times. In mid-2016, I was starting a very ambitious Steampunk Dirigible. I got sidetracked when I decided to do an Aerobatic Biplane, which I in turn tabled in early October to finally attempt the *Ship in a Bottle* idea.

It took three very busy weeks of all evening and weekend hours, late nights, and scheming all day while at work—but I managed to complete the build. I was very excited to show it to my local LUG (Lego Users Group) friends—one of whom suggested I put pictures of it on "AFOLS of Facebook." I had been in the Facebook group for a while, but hadn't really posted anything at that point, so I got some hastily taken photos (if I recall correctly, the nameplate was missing a couple of parts still) and posted them. I hoped people would like it, of course, but I was quite surprised by the overwhelmingly positive response!

In the few groups I shared it with, there were so many reactions and comments. Many of the comments were suggestions to put it on LEGO Ideas. So I looked into the rules, and the process



Jake's LEGO Ideas submission Ship in a Bottle photos are by December Gonzaga.



Just another Summer night at the Sarlacc Cinema.

Three Things to Know about Steve Peterson

*Article by Joe Meno
Photography by Steve Peterson
and Joe Meno*

Steve Peterson is in many ways a typical person you would meet at a LEGO fan event. Outside of events, he owns an insurance agency, which is something as far away from LEGO building as one can think. But once a person talks to him and takes a look at his work, one finds out how much he puts into his hobby and the community. So, for you the reader, here are...

Three Things to Know about Steve Peterson

1. He's a *Star Wars* builder.

At a LEGO fan event, such as BrickSlopes and BrickCon this year, Steve isn't that far from his creations. His favorite building theme is *Star Wars*, and it's pretty obvious from his displays how much he loves building—his creations are large, but his layout is huge. All of his creations have something to do with *Star Wars*, which got him out of his Dark Age. When asked about how he started back into building, he replies, "I had a Dark Age from about 1999 to 2015. I was walking through Target looking for Christmas gifts for my nephew, and Poe's X-Wing (75102) caught my eye. The orange and black color scheme on what was traditionally a white/grey/red X-wing was amazing to me."

After his Dark Age ended, he began to collect more and more sets. He discovered two things: The task of collecting retired sets in particular could be daunting and costly, and more importantly, that the designs released by the LEGO Group were largely cyclical. As he noted, "Once you have one version of the X-Wing, TIE Fighter, AT-AT sets, etc., you realize they are all mostly the same."

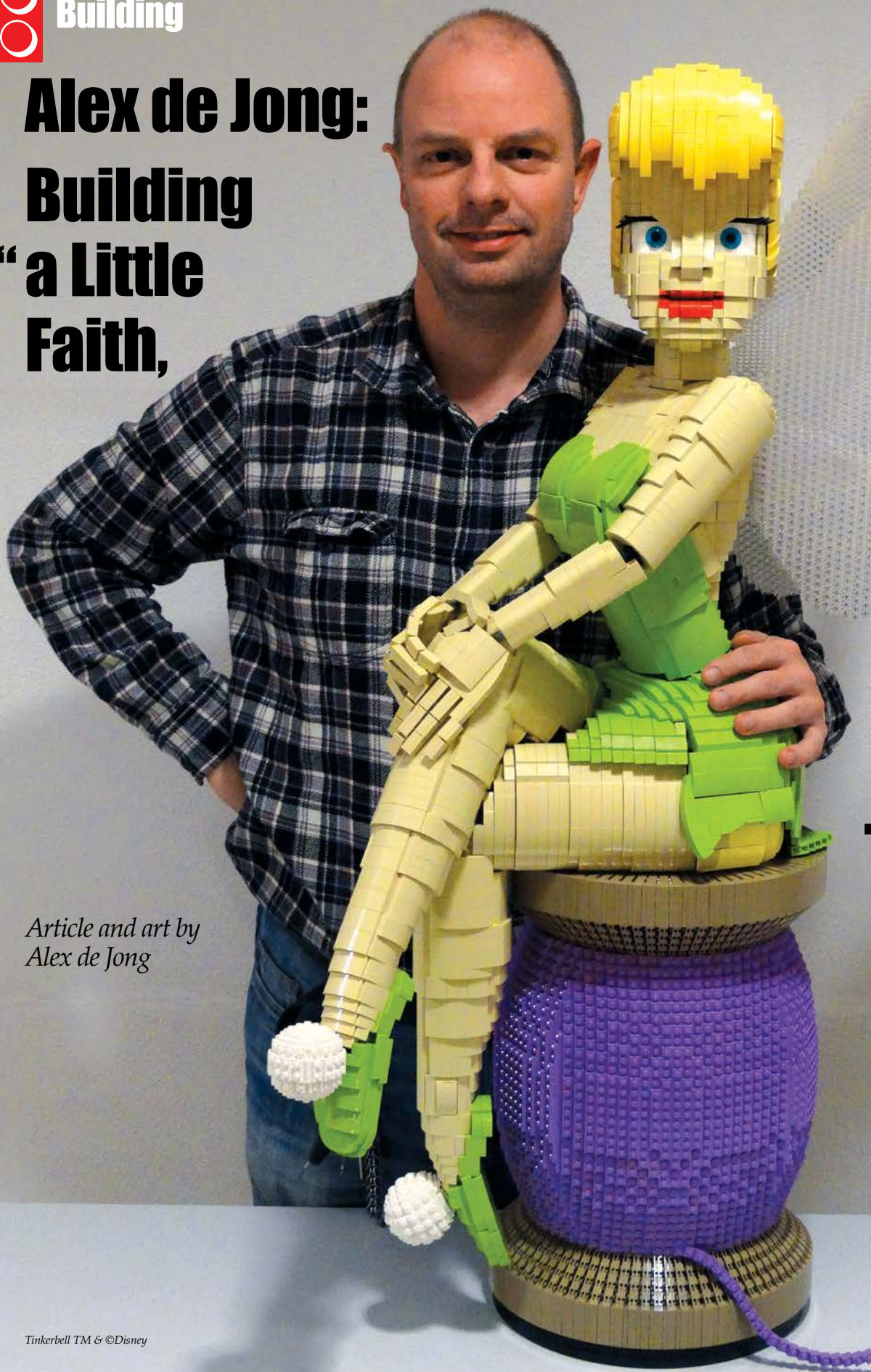


Building

Alex de Jong: Building “a Little Faith,

*Article and art by
Alex de Jong*

**Trust,
and a
Little
Pixie
Dust!”**





Fishing Bear




Design and Instructions
 by Tommy Williamson



Tommy Williamson is no stranger to *BrickJournal*, having been featured previously for his Jack Sparrow miniland scale figure. Since then, he has gone farther into building, making some remarkable *Star Trek* props and other models. He's now doing a column for *BrickJournal: DIY Fan Art*. Here, Tommy

takes a little time out from his busy schedule at BrickNerd.com to make a model of his choosing for the magazine.

About this issue's model:

Here in California we don't get much snow, and the lakes don't freeze. Well, at least not where I live. And we certainly don't have polar bears. So this comes completely from my imagination, but I have it under good authority that bears fish, and I like to think they wear hats when they do. 

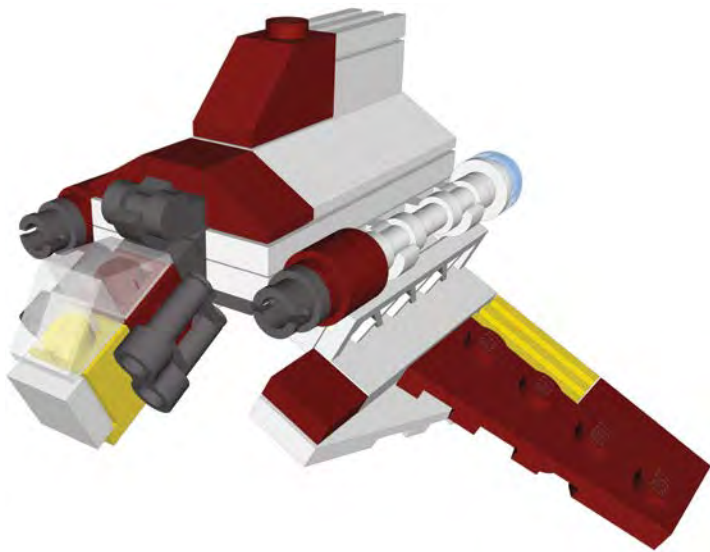
Parts List (Parts can be ordered through Bricklink.com by searching by part number and color)

Qty	Part	Color	Description
2	2341.dat	White	Slope Brick 45 3 x 1 Inverted Double without Inner Stopper Rings
2	2450.dat	White	Plate 3 x 3 without Corner
1	3005.dat	White	Brick 1 x 1
1	3010.dat	White	Brick 1 x 4
1	3021.dat	White	Plate 2 x 3
2	3022.dat	White	Plate 2 x 2
2	3023.dat	White	Plate 1 x 2
6	3024.dat	White	Plate 1 x 1
2	3035.dat	White	Plate 4 x 8
2	3037.dat	White	Slope Brick 45 2 x 4
8	3040b.dat	White	Slope Brick 45 2 x 1
4	3045.dat	White	Slope Brick 45 2 x 2 Double Convex
1	3460.dat	White	Plate 1 x 8
4	3623.dat	White	Plate 1 x 3
4	3710.dat	White	Plate 1 x 4
1	3794a.dat	White	Plate 1 x 2 without Groove with 1 Centre Stud
1	3937.dat	White	Hinge 1 x 2 Base
1	3938.dat	White	Hinge 1 x 2 Top
2	4081b.dat	White	Plate 1 x 1 with Clip Light Type 2
2	4286.dat	White	Slope Brick 33 3 x 1
5	6091.dat	White	Brick 2 x 1 x 1 & 1/3 with Curved Top
1	6141.dat	White	Plate 1 x 1 Round
2	43710.dat	White	Slope Brick 2 x 4 Triple Left
2	43711.dat	White	Slope Brick 2 x 4 Triple Right
2	43722.dat	White	Wing 2 x 3 Right
1	43723.dat	White	Wing 2 x 3 Left
6	47905.dat	White	Brick 1 x 1 with Studs on Two Opposite Sides
2	49668.dat	White	Plate 1 x 1 with Tooth In-line
8	50746.dat	White	Slope Brick 31 1 x 1 x 0.667
2	64225.dat	White	Wedge 4 x 3 Triple Curved without Studs
7	87087.dat	White	Brick 1 x 1 with Stud on 1 Side
1	93273.dat	White	Slope Brick Curved 4 x 1 Double
1	2614.dat	Black	Minifig Tool Fishing Rod
1	3878.dat	Black	Minifig Top Hat
1	50746.dat	Black	Slope Brick 31 1 x 1 x 0.667
2	98138.dat	Black	Tile 1 x 1 Round with Groove
2	41539.dat	Medium Blue	Plate 8 x 8



You Can Build It

MINI Model




Nu-Class Attack Shuttle

*Design and Instructions
by Christopher Deck*

Hello everybody, it's my pleasure to be here again for another mini model building session featured in our fantastic *BrickJournal!* Today we want to build a Nu-Class Attack Shuttle, a very popular and recognizable design seen throughout the animated *Clone Wars* TV series. My first version of this shuttle dates back to the year 2009, the same year when the official system-scaled playset (set no. 8019) was released by the LEGO group. It was followed by an official mini model (set no. 30050) one year later in 2010. I bet you will guess which one I liked better.

So why do we build another version of this shuttle nine years later? First of all, because it's still a remarkable shuttle design where you can already see strong similarities to the later Lambda Shuttle, one of the most famous *Star Wars* ships of all time. Plus, we didn't build one of these together here. Second, because a builder's attitude and skills change over the years, as well as the available piece shapes. With more new pieces and increasing building skills, you tend to update or completely rebuild your models. It's an ongoing circular flow of renewal and a real mammoth task if you have more than 300 mini models...

But with all the new shapes we are getting recently—no doubt, the new piece forms are incredibly useful, and allow for building techniques you didn't even think of before—I am also a fan of old piece shapes: For example the 1x4x1 fence piece (part number 3633) which plays its role as bracket piece perfectly in the shuttle's wings.

I wish you happy building and hope to meet you again next time! 

Parts List (Parts can be ordered from Bricklink.com by searching by part number and color)

Main Body

Qty	Color	Part	Description
2	Dark-Red	3062b.dat	Brick 1 x 1 Round with Hollow Stud
1	Dark-Bluish-Gray	87087.dat	Brick 1 x 1 with Stud on 1 Side
1	White	3004.dat	Brick 1 x 2
4	White	3938.dat	Hinge 1 x 2 Top
3	White	3024.dat	Plate 1 x 1
1	Dark-Bluish-Gray	3024.dat	Plate 1 x 1
4	Trans-Light-Blue	6141.dat	Plate 1 x 1 Round
4	White	85861.dat	Plate 1 x 1 Round with Open Stud
3	White	3023.dat	Plate 1 x 2
4	White	2540.dat	Plate 1 x 2 with Handle
1	Dark-Bluish-Gray	60478.dat	Plate 1 x 2 with Handle on End
2	White	3623.dat	Plate 1 x 3
1	White	3021.dat	Plate 2 x 3
1	Dark-Bluish-Gray	54200.dat	Slope Brick 31 1 x 1 x 0.667
2	Dark-Red	54200.dat	Slope Brick 31 1 x 1 x 0.667
4	White	85984.dat	Slope Brick 31 1 x 2 x 0.667
1	Dark-Red	3040b.dat	Slope Brick 45 2 x 1
1	Dark-Bluish-Gray	3665.dat	Slope Brick 45 2 x 1 Inverted
2	Dark-Bluish-Gray	32002.dat	Technic Pin 3/4
1	Dark Red	3070b.dat	Tile 1 x 1 with Groove
1	White	2412b.dat	Tile 1 x 2 Grille with Groove

Wings and Cockpit

Qty	Color	Part	Description
1	Yellow	4070.dat	Brick 1 x 1 with Headlight
1	Dark-Red	4733.dat	Brick 1 x 1 with Studs on Four Sides
2	White	3633.dat	Fence Lattice 1 x 4 x 1
2	Dark-Bluish-Gray	30162.dat	Minifig Binoculars with Round Eyepiece
1	Dark-Bluish-Gray	6019.dat	Plate 1 x 1 with Clip Horizontal
4	White	11476.dat	Plate 1 x 2 with Clip Horizontal on Side
2	White	3022.dat	Plate 2 x 2
2	Trans-White	54200.dat	Slope Brick 31 1 x 1 x 0.667
1	Dark-Bluish-Gray	3070b.dat	Tile 1 x 1 with Groove
2	Dark-Red	3070b.dat	Tile 1 x 1 with Groove
1	White	3070b.dat	Tile 1 x 1 with Groove
2	Yellow	2412b.dat	Tile 1 x 2 Grille with Groove
2	Dark-Red	3069b.dat	Tile 1 x 2 with Groove
2	White	43723.dat	Wing 2 x 3 Left
2	White	43722.dat	Wing 2 x 3 Right
1	Dark-Red	41770.dat	Wing 2 x 4 Left
1	Dark-Red	41769.dat	Wing 2 x 4 Right



Minifig Customization 101:

Does Something Smell Like Fish?

Article and Photography
by Jared K. Burks



For this article, I found myself searching for inspiration. Halloween was upon us here in Texas and my family was dressed as PJ Masks; my 20-month-old son was Gecko, my 3-year-old daughter Owlet, my wife Luna Girl, and I was the mad scientist Romeo. My eldest daughter was Chewie, the shortest Wookiee I have seen, but it did my heart proud to see her representing the original *Star Wars* trilogy. This got me thinking of the past year's costumes and how I could make a related figure. I still recall the movie *Boxtrolls* from Laika, which was one of the first daddy-daughter date movies I saw with my eldest daughter. She actually enjoyed the movie so much we dressed as Fish the Boxtroll for Halloween in 2014, when Branwen was 6 years old. At that time, I had found this amazing pdf with the art from the film containing the labels of multiple characters. This is what we used to make the labels for the box in the photo below. I was able to reuse these labels in this project. Every project starts with great research to find all the little details; this one just benefited from past research.

I had previously made the main character of the *Boxtrolls* film, Eggs, after seeing this film. The figure, or more accurately, his box, was lost to hurricane Harvey. The character's box was made from an actual cardboard box, which did

not take kindly to water. The *Boxtrolls* film tells the story of Eggs, a human boy raised by trash-collecting trolls, known as "Boxtrolls", as he attempts to save them from Archibald Snatcher, a pest exterminator. I was lucky, through my work on the *Coraline* project, to discover treasure troves of Laika high resolution imaging at an auction house that sold some of the film props and characters.



Branwen as Fish



Eggs from Boxtrolls.



Stages in whittling and cutting.

I carved out the mouth and eyes using the X-Acto and I shaped the ears with the knife. I added the nose with a tiny piece of clay that I cured with a heat gun. Then it was time for priming! I used Games Workshop Skull White primer as I was using the Red Brick Suit, which I was worried, would skew the color of the brown box and make it appear orange. I also primed the sculpted head, legs, and arms. I used the yellow Woody arms, white legs, and the Krusty head is a bright light yellow. I primed to try to get more uniform color to the final parts and allow the paint to attach to the smooth LEGO surface better.

I then used a new type of spray paint to give the base color to the LEGO figure, Eden Green and Flat Burlap. These were used trying to recreate LEGO olive green and LEGO dark tan. I painted all parts because I wanted the colors to match. These two paints were Rust-Oleum universal spray paint. This paint is not designed for what I was using it for, and while the Burlap paint sprayed well, the Eden green spit a bit, so I had to use good technique where you start spraying and then move the paint over the part and stop. This allowed the paint to spit initially before covering the part more uniformly.

Once all the parts were individually painted, I started the process of designing the decal for the front of Fish's box, and started hand-painting the head and designing the eyes for Fish. Let us complete the painting before describing the decaling. For Fish's head, he has a white-ish smile, a raccoon-style mask, green hair tuft, pink nose and ears. Using a brush, I painted the smile white and hair and mask dark green. From there I layered dark grey onto the mask, and finally black on the mask. Then on a piece of scrap paper, I mixed a little white and red to make the pink for the nose and ears. I then took a small styrene rod, dipped it into the black, and touched it to the nostril region of the nose to highlight the nostrils. I then printed the eyes I have drawn for Fish at various sizes to compare once printed. I chose the size that seemed to fit and applied to the head with water and decal setting solution. I let the head dry for about an hour and then clear-coated the whole head.



Primer paints for the figure.



Parts primed for painting.



Painting the head.

SANTA MARIA
DEL FIORE
DAL 1296



**MATTONCINI LEGO
PER COSTRUIRE
IL DUOMO
DI FIRENZE**

**LEGO BRICKS
TO BUILD UP
THE DOME**

20.000
MATTONCINI LEGO
PER RIPRODURRE
IL DUOMO DI FIRENZE!
CONDIVIDI L'EVENTO!
USANDO I TAG
LEGO BRICKS TO REPRODUCE
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Giacinto Consiglio's model of Florence Cathedral.

Giacinto and the Cathedral

Article by Giacinto Consiglio

*Photography
by Claudio Giovannini*

I'm Giacinto Consiglio, a 18-year-old student and LEGO builder. My love for LEGO is also sided by a strong passion for architecture, and every trip I go on is a unique opportunity to appreciate new building solutions and to feel the power of iconic landmarks standing in front of me. One of these is undoubtedly the Florence Cathedral, that I visited for the first time in 2014. Its multicolored marble decorations, the imposing bell tower, and the glorious dome, totally captivated me, so I decided I'd take the challenge to build it out of LEGO bricks. My first attempt failed due to a number of factors, such as the excessive size I chose and the marble colored stripes I didn't know how to reproduce. It wasn't until 2016, with my second visit to the birthplace of the Renaissance, that I managed to successfully begin a LEGO replica of the church.

The walls begin to take shape.

