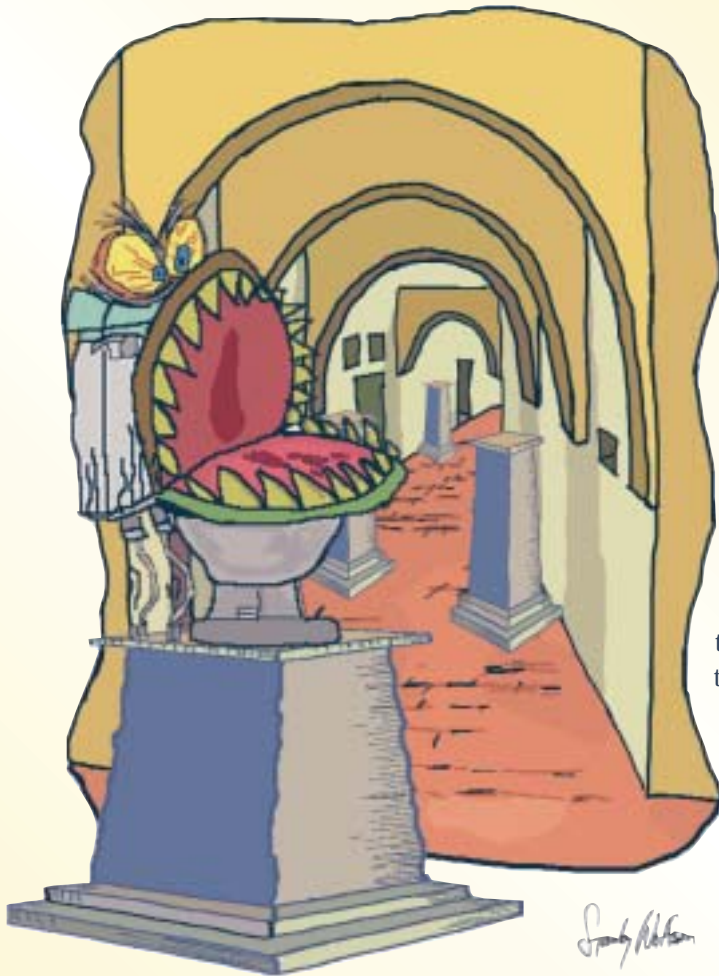


The ASPE Museum of Fantasy Fixtures

Man-Eating Toilet



This one-of-a-kind, custom-made water closet is a unique specimen from the obfuscated creative minds of Hollywood. It is one of 10 custom animatronic toilets constructed for a genre horror film on the dangers that lurk within the typical home. The film proved too violent for release to its intended audience—preschool-age children—and so it remains locked away in the production company's climate-controlled film vault.

As can be seen from the illustration, this toilet was designed to put the fear of Satan into children so they would avoid playing in or around toilets. As the film attempted to demonstrate, an open toilet can be a dangerous playground. Many small children drown each year after falling into a toilet during unsupervised play time.

The original, unreleased film used the man-eating toilet in an attempt to scare little kids by showing them a toilet that is "alive" and "dangerous." In the film, the animatronic toilets can be seen gobbling little children, small animals, toys, and other items. Test showings of the film resulted in children being so traumatized they required several hours of therapy a week for the next few years.

All but two of the original animatronic toilets have now been destroyed. ■

On the Lighter Side

Three biblical scholars are at a religious retreat. They decide to go fishing together. Two of the scholars are close friends who had been to the retreat before. The third is a "new friend."

After they fish for about two hours, the boat drifts near an island. One of the repeat retreat scholars says to the others, "I think I am going to go over to that shore and sit down." So he gets up, puts his

hands together in pious supplication, bows his head, steps out of the boat, then walks across the water and sits down on the shore.

The other repeat retreat scholar says to the new friend, "I think I am going to go over there to join him." So he does the same: he gets up, puts his hands together in pious supplication, bows his head, steps out of the boat, then walks across the water and sits down on the

shore next to the first scholar.

The third scholar thinks to himself, "Well, if they can do it, so can I!" So, he gets up, puts his hands together in pious supplication, bows his head, and gets ready to climb out of the boat.

The two scholars on shore notice what their new friend is about to do. One turns to the other and asks, "Do you think we should tell him where the rocks are?"

Know a good joke or a funny story? Send it to "On the Lighter Side," Plumbing Systems & Design, 8614 W. Catalpa Avenue, Suite 1007, Chicago, IL 60656, or psdmagazine@aspe.org.



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