

Human Avatar Project: Video Shot List

NOTES: You will be facing front, and I will be assisting you in keeping your head still for most of these shots. This whole thing is supposed to be surreal and the mixing of facial components will most likely produce a comical effect in some instances, so the expressions don't have to be totally natural or realistic. In fact, it may help to actually exaggerate some of the facial movements, particularly the eyebrow movements. We'll take a couple hours to shoot a lot of takes, so you'll have plenty of time to get to something that works. Wear a solid colored shirt with a collar – white, black, or any muted color except for medium or royal blue because it may get lost against the blue screen.

1) Neutral

Establish a solid neutral expression (no emotion, mouth closed) that you can retain and come back to easily.

2) Arousal

Focusing on the eyes, display a gradually escalating level of arousal in your face. It should happen slowly and involve the eyes starting out sleepy and glazed and becoming more and more open and alert.

3) Joy/ Happiness

Neutral -> Extremely Joyful

Concentrate on communicating a calm, serene contentment that escalates into a joyful/ elated state. Make sure to involve all aspects of your face if possible. This means eyebrows, forehead, eyes, mouth, cheeks, and nose. I'd like to see a full beaming smile or laugh at the end of the spectrum.

Random shots

We'll do some random shots in which you express these various degrees of happiness in a more spontaneous way. For a few, I might let you move your head around a bit (ie: you can nod, sigh, turn to the side, crane your neck toward the camera, etc.)

4) Depression/ Sadness

Neutral -> Excruciatingly Sad

Concentrate on communicating a slight depression that escalates into a state of extreme mournfulness and agony. Once again, involve all aspects of the face. Think about doing the classic upturn of the eyebrows as the sadness escalates. If you can induce tears at the end of the spectrum, that would be great.

Random shots

We'll do some random shots as we did for happiness.

5) Anxiety/ Fear

Neutral -> Terrified

Concentrate on communicating a slight anxiety or apprehension that escalates into a state of extreme terror. I am thinking that the eyebrows will get raised here. And the mouth may become more and more agape and/or tightened/clenched.

Random shots

6) Anger

Neutral -> Enraged

Concentrate on communicating a slight resentment or bitterness that escalates into a state of utter rage. I'd like to see your brows become knit together here. Maybe you can make your face turn red and convulse as well.

Random shots