

## **The Review of “Pui Pui Guinea Pigs Cars” The Anime Masterpiece**

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‘Pui Pui Guinea Pigs Cars’ is a Japanese stop-motion short anime series produced by Shin-Ei Animation and Japan Green Hearts in cooperation with Bandai Namco Entertainment. The series is directed and written by Tomoki Masato, with Masato and staff in Japan Green Hearts designing the characters as well as models, and Shota Kowatsu composing the music.

The series is aired as a two-minute-plus short animation segment on YouTube. Each story focuses on a world where people drive sentient vehicles that are hybrids of guinea pigs and motor vehicles. Though each episode’s story varies, the core focus of the series is on the guinea pigs cars antics and sometimes a bit on solving problems for their friends and drivers. Episodes sometimes include parodies of famous movie genres for comedic effect.

In late 2020, Tomoki Masato began working with ‘Pui Pui Guinea Pigs Cars’ after Bandai Namco Entertainment approached him with an offer to produce a short animation series. According to Masato himself, the series’ quirky design and animation as well as its premise came from an idea back in 2019. He recalled that, “If the car were a cute guinea pig, would the frustrating events that occur while driving be solved?” He also added, “To act on a society that is easily swept away by people, I also want to convey the fun and importance of it.” Almost all of the episodes of the series were directed and written by Masato himself.

The series took him a year and a half to produce. The majority of the characters in the series were made using cotton and wool with some of the effects done using both cotton yarn and some flashlights. In addition, pixilation and time-lapse photography were also used in the series to include live-action actors inside the guinea pigs cars in some episodes, as well as recordings of real guinea pigs squeak for the guinea pigs cars’ voices. The series also incorporates elements of traditional 2D animation in the form of snippets.

The “Pui Pui Guinea Pigs Cars” is now becoming famous because of the cute voice of guinea pigs and the appearance of the cars. This attracts people to watch. The

storyline is also simple. It doesn't have many characters and each episode has different topics. So, the people who watch it would not feel bored. Last but not least, the length of each episode doesn't last more than three minutes. Consequently, the viewers feel relaxed, thinking it doesn't take a lot of time to watch.

I think the ideas of the design for this anime series are good. The Guinea pigs are cute and lovely. So, I would recommend it to others who haven't watched this anime.