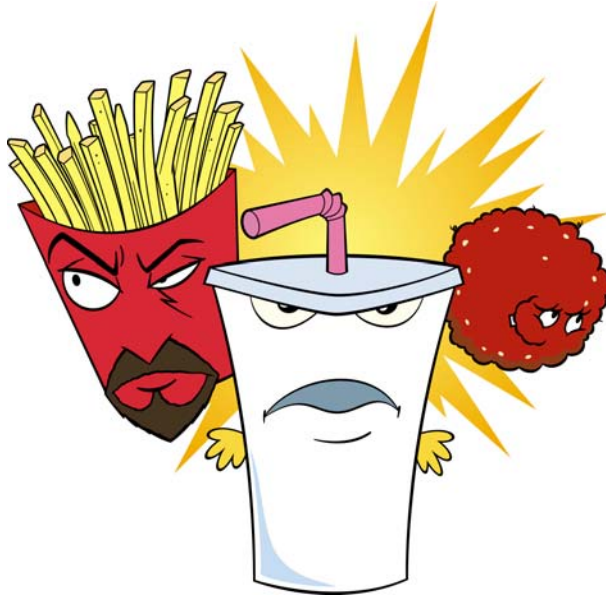


**FIRSTLOOK  
PICTURES**



**AQUA TEEN HUNGER FORCE COLON  
MOVIE FILM FOR THEATERS**

87 minutes / Dolby SR/SRD / 1:78 / Flat / Rated R

For photos:

<http://www.firstlookstudios.com/films/athf/>



## CREDITS

**Written and Directed by**

Matt Maiellaro and Dave Willis

**Produced by**

Dave Willis  
Matt Maiellaro  
Jay Wade Edwards

**Executive Producers**

Mike Lazzo and Keith Crofford

**Producers:**

Matt Maiellaro  
Dave Willis  
Jay Edwards  
Ned Hastings

**Supervising Editor**

Jay Wade Edwards

**Art Director**

Bob Pettitt

**Animation**

Radical Axis, Inc.

**Line Producer**

Vishal Roney

## VOICES

**Dana Snyder**  
**Dave Willis**

Master Shake  
Meatwad  
Carl  
Ignignokt  
Video Game Voice  
Frylock  
Oglethorpe  
Emory  
Err  
Cybernetic Ghost  
Satan  
Time Lincoln  
Chicken Bittle  
Dr. Weird  
Steve  
Space Ghost  
mc pee pants  
Walter Melon  
Himself

**Carey Means**  
**Andy Merrill**  
**Mike Schatz**  
**Matt Maiellaro**

**Fred Armisen**  
**Bruce Campbell**  
**C. Martin Croker**

**George Lowe**  
**mc chris**  
**Chris Kattan**  
**Neil Peart of Rush**



## SYNOPSIS

*Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters* is an action-adventure epic that tackles the mysterious circumstances that brought Meatwad, Frylock and Master Shake together. An immortal piece of exercise equipment threatens the balance of galactic peace, and it is up to the Aqua Teen Hunger Force to run away from it. Complicating matters, the Plutonians team up with the Cybernetic Ghost of Christmas Past for ultimate control of the deadly device.

Spanning the globe, outer space and even time itself, *Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters* was written and produced by Matt Maiellaro and Dave Willis. It is based on their successful Adult Swim series. Reprising their roles in the movie will be Willis (voice of Carl, Meatwad and Ignignokt) and Maiellaro (Err, Cybernetic Ghost of Christmas Past), Dana Snyder (Master Shake), Carey Means (Frylock), Andy Merrill and Mike Schatz (The Plutonians). Guest stars including Larry Blackmon and T-Man of platinum-selling funk band Cameo, Neil Peart of power trio Rush and Bruce Campbell.



## THE SERIES

Let's get a few things out of the way. The title *Aqua Teen Hunger Force* has absolutely nothing to do with the show. Ignore it. The three leads consider themselves crime-fighters; the truth is they never fight crime. Please also try to ignore that the three leads are sentient fast-food products. This also has very little to do with the story.

The story is about three roommates living in the crappy suburbs of New Jersey and dealing with surreal and absurd circumstances. The universe in which they exist is one of monsters, mythical creatures, aliens, robots, ghosts, and freaks. The three leads react to these characters and situations with a blasé attitude because, in this world, these things are the norm.

*Aqua Teen Hunger Force* (also known as ATHF or simply *Aqua Teen*) is an animated television series shown on the Cartoon Network as part of its Adult Swim late-night programming block. The show was co-created by Dave Willis and Matt Maiellaro, who write and direct the show together. Much of the dialogue is supplemented with adlibs and improvisation by the vocal talent, and the show is edited and animated to include this improvisation. ATHF is one of the four original series produced by Williams Street Studios that aired on Adult Swim in 2001 (along with *Sealab 2021*, *The Brak Show*, and *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law*). ATHF is the longest running original series on the network alongside *Harvey Birdman*.

ATHF is about three human-sized fast food products, Master Shake, Frylock, and Meatwad, and their life together in New Jersey. Despite its title, the show doesn't involve teenagers or any particular emphasis on water (although many episodes do revolve around the Aqua Teens swimming without permission in their neighbor Carl's pool). While it is true that many of the characters often get the munchies and there is a lot of aggressive behavior, there is no formal Hunger Force on the program. Indeed, on the commentary for one of the ATHF DVD's, it is said that the concept was originally added to appease the executives at Cartoon Network, who "didn't want to air a show about food just going around and doing random stuff."

The Aqua Teens were originally detectives, but as the series progressed the crime-solving aspect of the show was quickly abandoned. There is very little continuity between episodes, and all but one of the recurring cast members (Frylock) have died at least once. The focus is instead on the interaction between the characters and brutal, sarcastic, and often surreal humor.

The Aqua Teens were originally created for an unproduced episode of *Space Ghost Coast to Coast*, an animated spoof talk show on the Cartoon Network. (Many, if not all, of the crew and cast members, including Willis and Maiellaro, formerly worked on *Space Ghost Coast to Coast*). The episode, "Baffler Meal" (a parody of McDonald's Happy Meal), featured a prototypical version of the ATHF that resembled the future characters but differed in appearance, personality, and voice. The Aqua Teens had their actual debut in "Rabbot," the pilot episode of ATHF, which aired on December 30th, 2000. A full first season of ATHF was put into production shortly thereafter; and its first regular episode was shown on September 16, 2001. 68 episodes have been produced to date. A fifth season of 15 episodes wrapped up this January.

The main characters on the show include the Aqua Teens' fat slob neighbor, Carl, who tries unsuccessfully to keep the Aqua Teens away from his house and his pool; the mad scientist Dr. Weird and his lab assistant Steve; and two villainous pairs of dastardly villains--Ignignokt and Err of the dreaded Mooninite Army, and Oglethorpe and Emory of the Plutonian League.

However, the cosmology of the program is profound and far-reaching, encompassing a vast list of supporting characters, far too many to mention. A greatly abbreviated selection includes: MC Pee Pants (a



rapping spider who is frequently killed and reincarnated); the Cybernetic Ghost of Christmas Past (a lunatic robot who tells elaborate tall tales); Ass Head (an alien frat pledge); Dusty Gozongas (a busty stripper who moonlights as a service repairwoman); Eggzilla (a giant fire-breathing Easter egg with reptile legs who torches Santa Claus); Handbanana (a genetically-engineered "dog" created in Carl's pool by the members of ATHF who has great skill at pastry-making, can "mind-link" and frequently rapes Carl); Mr. Wongburger (a giant, bespectacled alien resembling a penis who uses a contest at his fast food restaurant to steal men's genitalia, which he uses to build a giant spaceship to return to his "dick planet."); Mucus Men (giant man-shaped blobs originally made of Shake's mucus who enslave the earth and make everyone produce more mucus); Randal (a man genetically merged with a pork chop by Dr. Weird); Robositter (an abusive robot—voiced by Sarah Silverman—built by Frylock to babysit Meatwad); and Willie Nelson (a four-legged monster—no relation to the singer Willie Nelson—who seems nice until he tries to devour Carl).

The *Aqua Teen Hunger Force* theme song is written and performed by Schoolly D. Among the many celebrities to make appearances on the show are The Misfits' Glenn Danzig, the Los Angeles Clippers' Jay Edwards, actor Seth Green, Ted Nugent, adult actress Tera Patrick, and Black Label Society's Zakk Wylde.



## THE CAST



**MASTER SHAKE** is a giant milkshake. He is the self-appointed leader of the group and is the biggest jerk imaginable. He is heartless, rude, and self-serving. He loves TV, money, hot women, and hot food. He also loves verbally and physically abusing Meatwad.



**FRYLOCK** is a flying box of french fries. Frylock is a scientific genius, a straight man to the cruelty of Master Shake and the idiocy of Meatwad, and usually the only person to understand anything that is happening.



**MEATWAD** is a pathetic expired meatball. Meatwad is caring, loveable, and remarkably stupid. He loves dancing, listening to hip-hop, and playing with his dolls (an apple, a box, and a cardboard cylinder).



**CARL** is the next-door neighbor of the Aqua Teen Hunger Force and the personification of every Jersey stereotype. He's a crass slob who loves prostitutes and classic rock



**DR. WEIRD** is a mad scientist who lives in an abandoned mental asylum on the Jersey Shore. Dressed in a colorful outfit reminiscent of 1960s cartoon villains, replete with glass space helmet, he started many ATHF shows by presenting his latest creation with his catchphrase "Gentlemen, behold!" to his lab assistant Steve. His inventions included a giant rabbit robot called the "Rabbot" and a rainbow-making machine that functions as a powerful tractor beam.



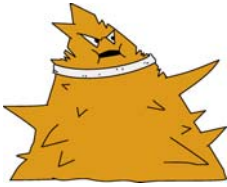
**STEVE**, Dr. Weird's assistant, is always pictured in a lab coat while holding a test tube. Steve is willing to do anything Dr. Weird tells him to, including beating Dr. Weird's head off with a baseball bat, putting on foot lotion that mutates his feet into giant gorilla paws, having his brain removed, and being assaulted twice by animated corn



**IGNIGNOKT** is a two-dimensional creature from the moon. Large and green, Ignignokt speaks with a haughty, condescending air and is openly selfish and solipsistic. Often, his voice will suddenly go off pitch, mimicking the sounds of the old Atari video games on which his design is based. As the Aqua Teens' chief tormentor, he concocts various nefarious plans, including: stealing a belt that will give him the powers of the rock group Foreigner and giving Shake and Meatwad some "moonajuana."



**ERR** is second in command of the Mooninite Army (although he and Ignignokt are its only members). He is purple and smaller than Ignignokt, and fits precisely into the notch on Ignignokt's head. He is known for his trash talk, and he is usually the one who coerces Meatwad into going along with Ignignokt's schemes.



**OGLETHORPE** is the leader of the Plutonian League, although, like the Mooninite Army, it has only two members. He is fat and orange, and is not actually from Pluto, but from *beyond* Pluto, from the "Austrian Region of Pluto and Nian." Oglethorpe plans to conquer Earth. He went to high school with Ignignokt, although they despise each other and are currently at war (which seems to consist of the Plutonians and Mooninites trading insults and pranks).



**EMORY**, the other Plutonian, is green, and taller and thinner than Oglethorpe. He also appears to be far more intelligent and logical, but, being the soft-spoken sort, goes along with the more commanding Oglethorpe's hare-brained schemes. Emory can squirt a foul-smelling "soap" from his spikes, which he claims to use to clean their ship.



**CYBERNETIC GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST** is a robot who claims to be the Ghost of Christmas Past. He first shows up in Carl's house and tells Carl "what Christmas was like" when Carl was eight, in which he was made to eat carpet by his father and his house was destroyed by robots and lasers. He then fills Carl's pool with elf blood and tells the Aqua Teens and Carl about the original Santa Claus, an ape named "Sir Santa of Claus." He claims that the only way for Carl to get rid of the blood is for Carl to have sex with the Great Red Ape in Space. The CGOCP is completely nuts.



**MC PEE PANTS** is a crazy, eight-foot spider who wears a shower cap and a diaper. He is known for his overly convoluted schemes, all of which use rap as a cover for his criminal tendencies. He is frequently killed, after which he is revived by Satan in a new form. In his spider form, he posed as a child rapper and used his song "I Want Candy" to get people wired on sugar, then used the sugar-high populace as a power source to run a giant drill that tunneled to Hell to release an army of demons to use as minions in his diet pill scam. MC Pee Pants has been reincarnated in turn as the hip-hop cow Sir Loin, a worm, and Little Brittle, an aging rapper living in a retirement home.

*Please note: Pretty much all of the information in these character notes was blatantly plagiarized from Wikipedia.*



## THE CREATORS

**DAVE WILLIS** was born in Wichita Falls, Tex., in 1970, but spent most of his youth in Conyers, Georgia. Willis graduated from Wake Forest University, with a degree in political science. Throughout high school and college, Willis created short films, worked as a local production assistant and did graphic arts. He eventually began working at Cartoon Network, slowly moved through the ranks and became the producer of *Space Ghost Coast to Coast*. There he began working with his writing partner, Matt Maiellaro. Maiellaro and Willis pitched *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*, based on three talking fast food products that appeared in a never produced *Space Ghost* episode. Cartoon Network miraculously OK'd the almost unexplainable show, which has now become the most popular Adult Swim original.

**MATT MAIELLARO** was born in Pensacola, Fla., in 1966. He attended the University of Central Florida, the University of Southern Mississippi and received his associate's degree at Pensacola Junior College. His entertainment career began at a public television station based at Pensacola Junior College. After a brief stint working at TBS answering viewer mail, Maiellaro worked on the feature film *Darkman* as a production assistant. He also served as assistant director on *Hellraiser III*, *Basketcase III*, *Children of the Corn II*, *Ruby in Paradise*, *Mr. McAllister's Cigarette Holder*, *Ring of Steel* and *Kleptomania*. He then moved to San Francisco to develop video games. In 1993, he returned to Atlanta as a writer on *Space Ghost Coast to Coast* where he met fellow *Aqua Teen Hunger Force* co-creator, Dave Willis.



## Q & A

### How did you two meet?

Dave Willis: It's interesting. Matt and I didn't meet until we worked together over here, but when I was in college, Matt was filming *Hellraiser III* on my campus. We never met, but they were busy blowing up the new student life building or the business administration building or something.

Matt Maiellaro: I worked on *Hellraiser III*, *Children of the Corn 2*, *Basketcase 3*...I sort of sought out the pictures and got myself a job on them. I was a big horror fan growing up.

DW: Matt helped start *Space Ghost*. I came into that in the middle. I worked on a Cartoon Network shoot, and they hooked me up with Andy Merrill, who is the voice of Brak and was a *Space Ghost* producer in the early years and throughout a big chunk of the '90s. But I sent him a letter. My sister's a Special Ed teacher, so she had one of her students copy a letter I wrote. It basically says "Dear Sirs. My name is Robert. I am 8. I recommend Dave Willis without reservation. He's a fine, upstanding..." and then there's a picture of a car and then "Love, Robert." I got hired off that and worked my way up. It's weird. I'd just gotten hired, and Matt had just quit three weeks earlier to do some movie stuff in L.A., and then he came back...So I'd been working on *Space Ghost* from '96 to '98, and then Matt came back to write for it, so we started working together...We'd just written this *Space Ghost Coast To Coast* script...

MM: *Space Ghost* had gone to a fast food restaurant and he'd ordered a ton of food. He didn't have the money to pay for it, so in lieu of money, the burger chain said: "We're going to put our mascots on your show." That was going to be Master Shake, Meatwad and Frylock, and they were gonna just sort of hijack the show.

### So that's how *Aqua Teen Hunger Force* was born?

DW: I think it showed maybe how bored we were with *Space Ghost* and *Zorak* that these fast-food characters came in and sort of took over the show. It never got made, because there wasn't enough *Space Ghost* in there, and Master Shake and Meatwad and Frylock just took it over completely. We always liked that script. It seemed like it dawned on us a couple of months later that it'd be a cool show on its own.

MM: You don't see this in the show as a whole, but in the process of coming up with the show, there was an idea that maybe they were corporate mascots that a life of their own. That's not even part of the show, but I think that was part of the thought process.

DW: In the beginning, we had to throw a detective angle onto it. The network kind of wanted that. "What do they do?" "I don't know, they just kind of hang out."

MM: It was like pitching to a brick wall.

### How did *Aqua Teen* develop once the pitch was accepted?

DW: I think we did everything wrong in the beginning, but we believed in the idea, and they gave us enough rope to see if we could pull it off.



MM: The first season was one show. It took an entire year to develop, animate and put one show together. And it aired like Dec. 31, at 1 a.m., so it would hit that year's budget. We totally did it the wrong way. We had

come from producing *Space Ghost*, so we figured, well, that'll be an easy way to do this show, and of course it was exactly the wrong way to do it. We learned a lot of expensive lessons.

DW: We had already started the second one before the first one was done, to ensure that we got picked up. We took it upon ourselves to record number two, and I remember our boss Mike was like: "You did what?! I haven't even seen number one yet!"

MM: But they gave us the money to do it, so at the end of the day, they must have believed in it and believed in us. But it was really awkward. It called upon qualities that neither one of us has in spades, to kind of sell yourself and sell this product. It's a lot easier just to do it.

### **What has your experience been working for Adult Swim?**

DW: I think we're pretty blessed.

MM: There's not a lot of great comedy out there on TV. With this stuff, if it's not funny, at least it's weird and unexpected. Maybe we're not successful every time out of the gate, but at least we try to do something completely different. Most of network television is so homogenized by the time it's reached the air. There are few hurdles we have to clear before getting something on the air. Once we write it and put it together, that's about it... We get to do things nobody else would let us do. I wrote a spec for *Third Rock From the Sun*, and they just look at it like: "There's no way, it's too bizarre, the kind of things you do." Everybody else out there is scared, they're spending so much money that they want to make sure your idea fits this template that's been working forever. Over here, we get to come up with crazy ideas. Food items have a show. We do have more freedom here. You can feel it. It's not like we're making it in a basement for eight other people. It's definitely a business, with a business model and ad sales and all that. But to make an analogy, I keep hearing it's like roulette. Instead of putting all your chips on one thing, it's all about spreading out the chips. These shows have such small budgets. As a viewer, if a 15-minute show sucks, just stick around. There'll be something else on soon. No one else is making these short shows out there that I can think of.

DW: We were using this editor from LA on this one show, and he was talking to us about the third act, and we were like: "What, the last 90 seconds?" People talk about trying to end on a cliffhanger, but we've gotten to a point where we just instinctively go to a non sequitur and that just wraps it up. If we went to half an hour, we'd actually have to have...

MM: An outline.

DW: Yeah, we'd actually have to outline stuff.

### **Can you please talk a little bit more about your creative process?**

DW: We get together on a Monday, crank out the script, maybe get together on a weekend to write and rewrite. We tend to not invest too much time in it. We record on a Friday, not really word for word, just mess around with it. Then give to an editor who messes with it for a couple of weeks, sort of an audio cut. After that, we'll look at it, Matt and I, and give suggestions and make changes, since we've got to write the next



week, it takes about six weeks, and they work on it on their own. They'll put a rough picture to it, using Photoshop, and basically make an anamatic. Then we'll send it to these guys down the street who spend

three weeks or so giving it all the animation. Then we'll spend a few days with another guy, adding sound effects and music, and then we're done...We pitch in with voices whenever we can because it's too hard to audition and hire and direct. It's a lot easier to just do it yourself...The guy who's the main voice of Master Shake, Dana Snyder, is really really talented, and helped us take that character in a totally different direction. We try to encourage as much improvisation inside the studio as possible. But the story stays the same, and the lines for the most part stay the same; they just get tweaked and made more real.

**In conclusion, how would you describe *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*?**

MM: They just hang out, and stuff happens to them. It's sort of like 'Three's Company' on acid.