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EA Drops In On CG Skateboarding

Video game developer and publisher Electronic Arts are jumping on the skateboarding band wagon with their latest development SKATE for Xbox360 and PlayStation 3



Pegged as the closest thing to being on a skateboard without actually getting up from your sofa, Electronic Arts have announce that SKATE will be released for the PlayStation 3 system and the Xbox 360TM video game and entertainment system in 2007.

SKATE will deliver the feel of skating through innovative controls, authentic cameras and a fully reactive skateboarding city. The gam features professional skaters such as Darny Way and PJ Ladd, as well as a reactive city and relevant in-game cameras that capture and deliver the most authentic skateboard videogame experience to date.



"Our game offers a skate mecca for both skaters and gamers in search of the definitive authentic skating video game experience," said Scott Blackwood, executive producer, EA Black Box. "We're focused on capturing the actual feeling of skating with the innovative control system, the physics driven animations, the intelligent cameras working together to really deliver the closest thing to being on a board."

SKATE's unique control scheme captures the true feel of skating versus the typical button mashing gameplay of past skating games Featuring physics-driven animations, gamers will have a unique gaming experience every time they pick up the controller since no two tricks will lever be the same.

To add to the game's authenticity, EA used motion-capture technology to digitize each individual pro's style. Plan B pro Danny Way says the producers did an amazing job making sure that all of the characters reflected the styles of the skaters they were based on. With the technology EA has and the amount of skill sets and experience they have in making games, they can create something that looks pretty realistic," says Way.

To add another level to the game's credibility within the skate community, EA brought in skateboard-tegend-turned-musician Tommy Guerrero to put his own musical spin on some of the levels. "I did a twenty-minute score for the level inspired by San Francisco," says Guerrero. "It's all original stuff, too. It was a really cool project to be a part of."

Developed by EA Black Box in Vancouver, British Columbia, SKATE will deliver all the style, fun, creativity and culture of skateboarding without the countless hours of practice, broken bones and hospital visits. SKATE has not yet been rated by PEGI or USK.

Skate will be shipping later this year for Xbox 360 and PlayStation 3





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