When it comes to unconventional art in Indiana, Doug Jones might be the most unique. If you saw him on the street, you wouldn’t recognize this actor who has starred in some of your favorite movies. Jones is an expert contortionist and mime who is often times built up in heavy makeup to create some iconic movie monsters.

Doug Jones was born in Indianapolis and attended Bishop Chatard High School. When he attended Ball State University, he was able to use his talent as a mime in playing the school mascot, Charlie Cardinal. One of his first roles where he was under intense makeup was that of Billy Butcherson, in Walt Disney’s *Hocus Pocus*. Some of the work that he is most known for is working with Academy-Award winning director Guillermo del Toro. Jones played two monsters in del Toro’s *Pan’s Labyrinth* and played the star monster in *The Shape of Water* which won the Oscar for best picture in 2017.

Jones has said of acting as a monster, “I think about flexibility and mobility when I play a character; all my body parts are employed that day so I want the character to be embodied from head to toe. I want to explore how much I can do, as well as how much is appropriate for that character.

Playing monsters has made Doug Jones famous, but in a 2019 interview he explained his dream role, “I would love to be in a Hallmark Christmas movie, playing the dad offering his daughter some safe advice while wearing an ugly Christmas sweater.”