In actuality, who storyboarded and directed the infamous shower scene in Psycho? Why was it so effective?

Saul Bass was working on the storyboards for it and Alfred Hitchcock walked by and asked him to direct that sequence.

Why are storyboards important?

Because they break down each scene into how it is going to be shot.

Who created storyboards and what were they initially called?

Walt Disney animator Webb Smith is credited with creating them. He called them story sketches.

How did the Wachowskis get their start and how did they meet Steve Skroce?

Making comics like Hellraiser, Nightbreed, and EctoKid they met and started working with an illustrator named Steve Skroce who has storyboarded and designed everything for them since.

Compare and contrast Ridley Scott’s storyboards for Alien and Martin Scorsese’s storyboards for Taxi Driver.

Ridley’s storyboards for Alien were very detailed and ended up getting him more funding for the film because they started to see every detail of what he was creating. Scorsese hand draws his which are much less detailed but give the DP and cinematographer a blueprint for how it will be shot.