

## Volker Engel Biography

Volker Engel is an *Oscar* and *Emmy* Award winning Visual Effects Supervisor. He also produced or co-produced several films and mini series'.

He is Co-Producer and Visual Effects Supervisor (with his long-time business partner Marc Weigert) of the 2009 Columbia Pictures production *2012*, directed by Roland Emmerich.

After obtaining a *Master's Degree in Graphic Design* at Germany's acclaimed Academy of Fine Arts in Stuttgart, he started his film career in Germany in 1988 as Visual Effects Supervisor for Emmerich's "Moon 44".

Emmerich hired him again in 1995 to supervise the visual effects for the blockbuster movie *Independence Day*. Volker's work earned him an *Oscar* for Best Visual Effects in 1996. He then went on to lead a team of 500 artists for Emmerich's production of *Godzilla*.

In 1999, he co-founded the production company *Uncharted Territory, LLC* [www.uncharted-territory.com](http://www.uncharted-territory.com) in Los Angeles with Marc Weigert to develop and produce feature films. The first of these independent projects was an adventure movie titled *Coronado* that was released in over 40 countries in 2003.

In 2004 Uncharted Territory co-produced the four-hour mini series *Dark Kingdom – The Dragon King* (starring Max von Sydow) that aired on the SciFi Channel.

In 2005 they were producers for the \$20 Million six-hour mini series *The Triangle* (starring Sam Neill and Eric Stoltz) together with Bryan Singer and Dean Devlin for the SciFi Channel. It was aired in December 2005 and broke ratings records for the network. They were honored with an *Emmy* award for "best visual effects in a mini series" by the Television Academy.

In 1998 Volker received the highest honor for a citizen of his home country, the *Order of Merit*. He was awarded this medal in Berlin from *German President Roman Herzog*.

Several years ago he has been given the title of *Professor* by the Senate of his home state Bremen. He teaches Film and Media Production whenever his schedule allows.

He is a member of the *Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences*, the *Academy of Television Arts and Sciences*, the *British Academy for Film and Television Arts* and the *European Film Academy*. He also has served for three terms as a member of the board of directors of the *Visual Effects Society*.

Volker lives in Los Angeles, California.