

## VES Summit: Dean Devlin Urges Hollywood to "Tear Down Walls" With VFX Departments

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**"There are too many layers between me and the VFX artists," said the writer-producer-director.**



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Getty Images  
Dean Devlin

Addressing what many VFX artists see as a lack of respect in Hollywood, producer-writer-director **Dean Devlin** asserted that he sees respect growing and "it would grow [further] with closer interaction [with the filmmakers]. I would lobby for some of the walls being torn down."

The founder and president of Electric Entertainment addressed this topic during his Visual Effects Society Production Summit keynote, Saturday at the W Hollywood.

"The problem is the way filmmakers interact with VFX people," he elaborated. "For me, I feel there are too many layers between me and the VFX artists. I find the more the individual artists can interact with the editor, the director of photography ... the [better for the creative] and there are also less change orders."

During the conversation, he also weighed in on virtual reality, which is a growing area of interest in the VFX community. "We are starting to see this on some of the films we are doing," he acknowledged.

"The problem is it's not yet established enough to make it financially viable," he said. "That will change (as VR head sets become more accessible and cheaper). Probably in 2017 it will be a viable financial model. I think we are going to see a lot of uses for [movie] promotion right now."

Devlin is director, as well as writer-producer, of upcoming *Geostorm* starring **Gerard Butler**, and is in development with his longtime collaborator **Roland Emmerich** on *Independence Day: Resurgence*, though he declined to share new story information about the anticipated sequel.

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