Visual Effects Society Announces Nominees for 11th Annual VES Awards

Los Angeles – The Visual Effects Society (VES) is pleased to announce the nominees for the 11th Annual VES Awards, which recognize outstanding visual effects artistry in 24 categories of film, animation, television, commercials and video games. Nominees were selected Saturday, January 5 by VES members at SPY/ a FotoKem Company in the Bay Area and at FotoKem in Burbank in California; and at Blue Sky Studios in New York, Weta Digital in New Zealand, Fuel VFX in Sydney, Molinare in the UK and Image Engine in Vancouver.

Jeffrey A. Okun, Chair of the Visual Effects Society, comments, "Visual effects have helped define the experience of going to the cinema. Every year, visual effects artists put their technical skill, ingenuity and passion to work in the creation of images that astound and move us. We congratulate all of our nominees on their amazing accomplishments in – and contributions to – the worlds of film, animation, television, special venue and games."

As previously announced, acclaimed director Ang Lee will be honored with the VES Visionary Award. Richard Edlund ASC, VES will be presented the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The 11th Annual VES Awards will take place on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

The nominees for the 11th Annual VES Awards are as follows:

Outstanding Visual Effects in a Visual Effects-Driven Feature Motion Picture

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey
  Joe Letteri
  Eileen Moran
  Eric Saindon
  Kevin L. Sherwood

Prometheus
  Paul Butterworth
  Charley Henley
  Allen Maris
  Richard Stammers
Life of Pi
    Thomas Fisher
    Susan Macleod
    Guillaume Rocheron
    Bill Westenhofer

The Avengers
    Susan Pickett
    Janek Sirrs
    Jeff White
    Guy Williams

Battleship
    Grady Cofer
    Pablo Helman
    Jeanie King
    Glen McIntosh

Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects in a Feature Motion Picture

Rust and Bones
    Béatrice Bauwens
    Cédric Fayolle
    Nicolas Rey
    Stéphane Thibert

The Impossible
    Felix Bergés
    Sandra Hermida
    Pau Costa Moeller

Argo
    Matt Dessero
    Leslie Hough
    Gregory Mcmurry
    Tom Smith

Flight
    Kevin Baillie
    Michael Lantieri
    Chris Stoski
    Ryan Tudhope

Zero Dark Thirty
    Geoff Anderson
    Chris Harvey
    Jeremy Hattingh

Outstanding Visual Effects in a Broadcast Program

Game of Thrones: Volar Morghulis
    Rainer Gombos
Steve Kullback  
Sven Martin  
Juri Stanossek

*Once Upon A Time:* The Stranger  
Dale Fay  
Laura Jones  
Nathan Matsuda  
Andrew Orloff

*Falling Skies:* Worlds Apart  
James Hattin  
Suzanne Maclellan  
Curt Miller  
Andrew Orloff

*Curiosity*  
Nathan Larouche  
Lon Molnar  
Geoff Scott  
Bojan Zoric

*Munsters: Mockingbird Lane*  
Leslie Ekker  
Jonah Hall  
Livia Hanich  
Jason Zimmerman

**Outstanding Real-Time Visuals in a Video Game**

*Call of Duty: Black Ops II*  
Jason Blundell  
Barry Whitney  
Colin Whitney

*Halo 4*  
Mike Cronin  
Brien Goodrich  
Kiki Wolfkill  
Jon Wood

*Dirt Showdown*  
Peter Asberg  
Peter Clark  
Nathan Fisher  
Julie Mcgurren

*Forza Horizon*  
Michel Bastien  
Terrance Newell  
Gareth Richards  
Andrew Sage
Outstanding Animation in an Animated Feature Motion Picture

Brave
  Mark Andrews
  Steve May
  Katherine Sarafian
  Bill Wise

ParaNorman
  Chris Butler
  Sam Fell
  Travis Knight
  Brad Schiff

Rise of the Guardians
  Nancy Bernstein
  David Prescott
  Peter Ramsey
  Christina Steinberg

Wreck-It Ralph
  Sean Jenkins
  Scott Kersavage
  Rich Moore
  Clark Spencer

Hotel Transylvania
  Lydia Bottegoni
  James Crossley
  Mike Ford
  Daniel Kramer

Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects in a Broadcast Program

Hemingway & Gellhorn
  Nathan Abbot
  Kip Larsen
  Chris Morley
  Christopher Paizis

Boardwalk Empire: Episode 308
  John Bair
  Parker Chehak
  Paul Graff
  Lesley Robson-Foster

Men Who Built America: Episode 2
Glenn Allen  
Matthew Conner  
Eran Dinur  
David Reynolds  

*Hell On Wheels: Blood Moon*  
Matt Von Brock  
Jason Fotter  
Tim Jacobsen  
Bill Kent  

*Hawaii Five-O: La O Na Makuahine*  
Gevork Babityan  
Jon Howard  
Armen Kevorkian  
Ricardo Ramirez  

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Commercial**

Pepsi: *Crowd Surfing*  
Martin Aufinger  
Russell Dodgson  
Abby Orchard  
Chris Redding  

Nike: *Biomorph*  
Rafael Colon  
Aladino Debert  
David Liu  
Nicola Wiseman  

Lady Gaga: *Fame*  
Kait Boehm  
Juan Gomez  
Kurt Lawson  
Greg Teegarden  

Norfolk Southern: *City of Possibilities*  
Chris Bernier  
Kyle Cody  
Jeff Lopez  
Boo Wong  

Call of Duty: *Surprise*  
Steve Beck  
Chris Knight  
Robert Sethi  
Christina Thompson  

**Outstanding Animated Character in a Live Action Feature Motion Picture**

*The Hobbit: Goblin King*  
Jung Min Chan
James Jacobs
David Clayton
Guillaume Francois

*The Hobbit: Gollum*
Gino Acevedo
Alessandro Bonora
Jeff Capogreco
Kevin Estey

*The Avengers: The Hulk*
Marc Chu
John Doublestein
Cyrus Jam
Jason Smith

*Life of Pi: Richard Parker*
Erik De Boer
Sean Comer
Betsy Asher Hall
Kai-Hua Lan

**Outstanding Animated Character in an Animated Feature Motion Picture**

*Brave: Argument*
Travis Hathaway
Olivier Soares
Peter Sumanaseni
Brian Tindall

*Hotel Transylvania: Dracula*
Bill Haller
Tim Pixton
Jorge Vigara

*Wreck-It Ralph: Vanellope*
John Kahwaty
Suzan Kim
Michelle Robinson
Tony Smeed

*The Pirates: Band of Misfits*
Will Becher
Jay Grace
Loyd Price

**Outstanding Animated Character in a Commercial or Broadcast Program**

*Ted: Jimmy Kimmel Live!*
James W. Brown
Brad Fox
Ross Nakamura
Jeff Woo
Sinbad: Episode 1
  Andy Guest
  James Moxon
  James Reid
  Greg Spencer

Hallmark: Motherbird
  Vince Baertsoen
  Kevin Ives
  Laurent Makowski
  Joshua Merck

Game of Thrones: Training the Dragons
  Irfan Celik
  Florian Friedmann
  Ingo Schachner
  Chris Stenner

Outstanding Created Environment in a Live Action Feature Motion Picture

The Hobbit: Goblin Caverns
  Ryan Arcus
  Simon Jung
  Alastair Maher
  Anthony M. Patti

Prometheus: LV-233
  Julien Bolbach
  Marco Genovesi
  Martin Riedel
  Marco Rolandi

The Avengers: Midtown Manhattan
  Richard Bluff
  Giles Hancock
  David Meny
  Andy Proctor

Life of Pi: Open Ocean
  Jason Bayever
  Sho Hasegawa
  Jimmy Jewell
  Walt Jones

Outstanding Created Environment in an Animated Feature Motion Picture

Brave: The Forest
  Tim Best
  Steve Pilcher
  Inigo Quilez
  Andy Whittlock
ParaNorman: Graveyard
Phil Brotherton
Robert Desue
Oliver Jones
Nick Mariana

ParaNorman: Main Street
Alice Bird
Matt Delue
Caitlin Pashalek

Rise of the Guardians: The North Pole
Eric Bouffard
Sonja Burchard
Andy Harbeck
Peter Maynez

Outstanding Virtual Cinematography in a Live Action Feature Motion Picture

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey
Matt Aitken
Victor Huang
Christian Rivers
R. Christopher White

The Avengers: Downtown Manhattan
Colin Benoit
Jeremy Goldman
Tory Mercer
Anthony Rispoli

Total Recall: Hover Car Chase
Daniel Baldwin
Mattias Forsstrom
Sam Schwier
Joshua Wassung

The Amazing Spider-Man
Rob Engle
David Schaub
Cosku Turhan
Max Tyrie

Outstanding Models in a Feature Motion Picture

The Avengers: Helicarrier
Rene Garcia
Bruce Holcomb
Polly Ing
Aaron Wilson

The Impossible: Orchid Hotel
Markus Donhauser
Patrick Lehn
Angel Martinez
Juergen Pirman

Men in Black 3: Cape Canaveral/ Apollo Launch
Craig Feifarek
Hee-Chel Nam
Erik Neill
Taehyun Park

The Dark Knight Rises: Airplane Heist
Scott Beverly
Alan Faucher
Ian Hunter
Steve Newburn

Outstanding FX and Simulation Animation in an Animated Feature Motion Picture

Brave
Chris Chapman
Dave Hale
Michael K. O'Brien
Bill Watral

ParaNorman: Practical Volumetrics
Aidan Fraser
Joe Gorski
Eric Kuehne
Andrew Nawrot

ParaNorman: Angry Aggie Ink-Blot Electricity
Michael Cordova
Grant Laker
Susanna Luck
Peter Vickery

Rise of the Guardians: Last Stand
Andy Hayes
Carl Hooper
Andrew Wheeler
Stephen Wood

Outstanding Created Environment in a Commercial or Broadcast Program

Sinbad
James Moxon
Lyndall Spagnoletti
Greg Spencer
Simon Wicker

Pyke
Rene Borst
Thilo Ewers
Adam Figielski
Jonas Stuckenbrock

Call of Duty: Eclipse - Surprise
Chris Bayol
Steve Beck
Chris Knight
Robert Sethi

5 Gum RPM: Choose Your Energy
Kaan Atilla
Kevin Gillen
Isaac Irvin
Brandon Lester

Outstanding Virtual Cinematography in a Commercial or Broadcast Program

Toyota: Real Deal
Adam Berg
Niles Heckman
Ronald Herbst
Vernon Wilbert

Halo 4: Forward Unto Dawn
Steven Chen
Phil Dakin
Paul Stodolny

Call of Duty: Eclipse - Surprise
Chris Bayol
Steve Beck
Chris Knight
Robert Sethi

ZombiU
Dominique Boidin
Léon Bérelle
Rémi Kozyra
Maxime Luère

Outstanding FX and Simulation Animation in a Live Action Feature Motion Picture

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey
Areito Echevarria
Chet Leavai
Garry Runke
Francois Sugny

Life of Pi: Storm of God
Harry Mukhopadhyay
David Stopford
Mark Williams
Derek Wolfe
Battleship
Florent Andorra
Willi Geiger
Rick Hankins
Florian Witzel

Life of Pi: Ocean
Jason Bayever
David Horsley
Scott Townsend
Miles Vignol

Outstanding FX and Simulation Animation in a Commercial or Broadcast Program

Nike: Biomorph
Aladino Debert
Eric Ebling
Ken Mitchel Jones
Jason Mortimer

Last Resort: Captain
Matt Von Brock
Bruce Coy
Junaid Farooq
Aldo Ruggiero

Guinness: Cloud
Tom Bussell
Neil Davies

Nissan Altima: Wouldn’t it be Cool
Tim Borgmann
David Forcada
Aron Hjartarson
Shayne Ryan

Outstanding Compositing in a Feature Motion Picture

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey
Jean-Luc Azzis
Steven Mcgillen
Christoph Salzmann
Charles Tait

Life of Pi: Storm of God
Ryan Clarke
Jose Fernandez
Sean Oharas
Hamish Schumacher

The Avengers: Hulk Punch
Chris Balog
Peter Demarest  
Nelson Sepulveda  
Alan Travis

Prometheus: Engineers & the Orrery  
Xavier Bourque  
Sam Cole  
Simone Riginelli  
Denis Scolan

Outstanding Compositing in a Broadcast Program

Hemingway & Gellhorn  
Nathan Abbot  
Shelley Campbell  
Chris Morley  
Christopher Paizis

Last Resort: Captain  
Matt Von Brock  
Jason Fotter  
Aldo Ruggiero  
Brian Williams

White Walker Army  
Falk Boje  
Esther Engel  
Alexey Kuchinsky  
Klaus Wuchta

Hell On Wheels: Blood Moon  
Antonio Chang  
Jason Fotter  
Eric Hayden  
Josh Miyaji

Outstanding Compositing in a Commercial

Chevy 2012 Silverado  
Dominik Bauch  
Nicholas Kim  
Benjamin Walsh

Norfolk Southern: City of Possibilities  
Tom Bardwell  
Chris Bernier  
Kyle Cody  
Jeff Lopez

Call of Duty: Eclipse - Surprise  
Chris Bayol  
Steve Beck  
Chris Knight
Outstanding Visual Effects in a Special Venue Project

Despicable Me: Minion Mayhem
Heather Drummons
Jae Choel Hong
Cecil Magpuri
Michael Roderick

SeaWorld: Turtle Trek 3D/360
Timur "Taron" Baysal
Jae Choel Hong
Cecil Magpuri
Michael Roderick

Earthquake: Evidence of a Restless Planet
Matthew Blackwell
Tom Kennedy
Jeroen Lapré
Mike Schmitt

The Ball Unleashed
Gianni Aliotti
Lisa Zusmer Delprete
Marc Dominic Rienzo
Eric Sanford

Outstanding Visual Effects in a Student Project

Voile Noir
Michael Balthazart
Raphaël Gaudin
Clément Granjon De Lepinay
Quentin Sauvinet

Globosome
Sascha Geddert
Johannes Peter
Patrick Schuler
Philipp Wolf

Rollin' Safari
Kyra Buschor
Anna Habermehl
Constantin Päplow

Natalis
Daniel Brkovic
Journalists interested in attending the VES awards should contact Aaron Henry to be added to the registered media list.

For more information on the VES Awards, sponsorship and tickets, please contact VES@mtaevents.com or call 818.906.0240.

About the Visual Effects Society
The Visual Effects Society (VES) is a professional, honorary society dedicated to advancing the arts, sciences and applications of visual effects and to upholding the highest uniform standards and procedures for the visual effects profession. It is the entertainment industry's only official organization representing the extended community of visual effects practitioners, including supervisors, artists, producers, technology developers, educators and studio executives. VES’s more than 2,700 global members contribute to all areas of entertainment – film, television, commercials, music videos, games and new media. VES strives to enrich and educate its members and the entertainment community at-large through many domestic and international events, screenings and programs.

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