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Visual Effects Society Names Acclaimed Filmmaker Martin Scorsese Recipient of the VES Lifetime Achievement Award

Los Angeles (September 19, 2019) – Today, the Visual Effects Society (VES), the industry’s professional global honorary society, named Martin Scorsese, Academy, DGA and Emmy Award winning director-producer-screenwriter, as the forthcoming recipient of the VES Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his valuable contributions to filmed entertainment. The award will be presented at the 18th Annual VES Awards on January 29, 2020 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

The VES Lifetime Achievement Award, bestowed by the VES Board of Directors, recognizes an outstanding body of work that has significantly contributed to the art and/or science of the visual effects industry. VES will honor Scorsese for his consummate artistry, expansive storytelling and profound gift for blending iconic imagery and unforgettable narrative on an epic scale. Scorsese’s steadfast ability to harness craft and technology to bring his unique visions to life has resulted in exceptional narratives that have transfixed audiences and captivated millions. And as a champion of film history, his work to preserve the rich legacy of motion pictures is unparalleled.

“Martin Scorsese is one of the most influential filmmakers in modern history and has made an indelible mark on filmed entertainment,” said Mike Chambers, VES Board Chair. “His work is a master class in storytelling, which has brought us some of the most memorable films of all time. His intuitive vision and fiercely innovative direction has given rise to a new era of storytelling and has made a profound impact on future generations of filmmakers. Martin has given us a rich body of groundbreaking work to aspire to, and for this, we are honored to award him with the Visual Effects Society Lifetime Achievement Award.”

Martin Scorsese has directed critically acclaimed, award-winning films including *MEAN STREETS*, *TAXI DRIVER*, *RAGING BULL*, *THE LAST TEMPTATION OF CHRIST*, *GOODFELLAS*, *GANGS OF NEW YORK*, *THE AVIATOR*, *THE DEPARTED* (Academy Award for Best Director and Best Picture), *SHUTTER ISLAND*, and *HUGO* (Golden Globe for Best Director), and *SILENCE*. *THE WOLF OF WALL STREET* received DGA, BAFTA and Academy Award nominations for Best Director, as well as a Golden Globe and an Academy Award nomination for Best Film.

Scorsese has directed numerous documentaries including *ROLLING THUNDER REVUE: A BOB DYLAN STORY BY MARTIN SCORSESE* the director’s second film about Dylan, this one focused on his legendary 1975 tour, the Peabody Award winning *NO DIRECTION HOME: BOB DYLAN* and *ELIA KAZAN: A LETTER TO ELIA*; as well as *AS ITALIANAMERICAN*, *THE LAST WALTZ*, *A PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH MARTIN SCORSESE THROUGH AMERICAN MOVIES*, *IL MIO VIAGGIO IN ITALIA*, *PUBLIC SPEAKING*, *SHINE A LIGHT*, and *GEORGE HARRISON: LIVING IN THE MATERIAL WORLD*, for which Scorsese received Emmy Awards for Outstanding Directing for Nonfiction Programming and Outstanding Nonfiction Special.

In 2010, Scorsese executive produced the HBO series *BOARDWALK EMPIRE*, winning an Emmy and DGA Award for directing the pilot episode. In 2014, he co-directed *THE 50 YEAR ARGUMENT* with his long time documentary editor, David Tedeschi. Scorsese directed the pilot episode of *VINYL* for HBO in 2016, a series depicting the 1970s music scene in New York.

This September, Scorsese's highly anticipated feature film, *THE IRISHMAN*, starring Robert De Niro, Al Pacino, and Joe Pesci will make its world premiere at the New York Film Festival on Friday, September 27 and will have a platform theatrical release starting November 1 in New York and Los Angeles, before arriving on Netflix on November 27.

Scorsese is the founder and chair of The Film Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of motion picture history.

Previous winners of the VES Lifetime Achievement Award have included George Lucas, Robert Zemeckis, Dennis Muren, VES, Steven Spielberg, Kathleen Kennedy & Frank Marshall, James Cameron, Ray Harryhausen, Stan Lee, Richard Edlund, VES, John Dykstra, Sir Ridley Scott, Ken Ralston, Jon Favreau and Chris Meledandri.

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About the Visual Effects Society

The Visual Effects Society is a professional global honorary society dedicated to advancing the arts, sciences and applications of visual effects and to upholding the highest standards and procedures for the visual effects profession. It is the entertainment industry's only official organization representing the extended global community of visual effects practitioners, including supervisors, artists, producers, technology developers, educators and studio executives. VES' more than 4,000 members in 40 countries worldwide contribute to all areas of entertainment – film, television, commercials, animation, music videos, games, new media and special venues.

To learn more about the VES, visit www.visualeffectssociety.com and follow us on Twitter: @VFXSociety. Read *VFX Voice*, our signature print and digital publication, at www.vfxvoice.com.