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Visual Effects Society Names Acclaimed Creators-Executive Producers-Writers-Directors David Benioff and D.B. Weiss Recipients of the VES Award for Creative Excellence

Los Angeles (December 20, 2018) – Today, the Visual Effects Society (VES), the industry’s professional global honorary society, named award-winning Creators-Executive Producers-Writers-Directors David Benioff and D.B. Weiss as the forthcoming recipients of the VES Award for Creative Excellence in recognition of their valuable contributions to filmed entertainment. The award will be presented at the 17th Annual VES Awards on February 5, 2019 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

The VES Award for Creative Excellence, bestowed by the VES Board of Directors, recognizes individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to the art and science of the visual effects industry by uniquely and consistently creating compelling and creative imagery in service to story. The VES will honor Benioff and Weiss, creative visionaries who have pushed the boundaries of filmed entertainment. Through their creation of *GAME OF THRONES*, a seminal television series emblematic of the golden age of television visual effects, they have advanced the artistry and craft of expansive storytelling and already left an indelible mark on the industry.

“David Benioff and D.B. Weiss are groundbreaking storytellers who have redefined the relationship between the viewer and the story,” said Mike Chambers, VES Board Chair. “You can easily see this from the epic following of *GAME OF THRONES*, a pop culture phenomenon, which is a testament to their expert blending of visual effects, evocative characters and a remarkable imagination. As individuals, David and D.B. are exemplary creative talents; and together they have forged a partnership that exemplifies the VES Award for Creative Excellence. We are proud to honor them with this recognition.”

Benioff adapted his first novel, *THE 25TH HOUR*, into a feature film directed by Spike Lee. His second novel, *CITY OF THIEVES*, was on *The New York Times* bestseller list for 13 weeks and has been translated into 35 languages. His screenplays include *THE KITE RUNNER*, *BROTHERS*, *TROY* and *STAY*.

Weiss is the author of *LUCKY WANDER BOY* and has worked on numerous film projects such as *HALO*, *ENDER’S GAME* and *THE GAME*.

Together, Benioff and Weiss created and executive produce the Emmy Award-winning *GAME OF THRONES* for HBO, which will air its final season in April 2019.

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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' 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.