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Visual Effects Society Names Acclaimed Producer-Visual Effects Producer Joyce Cox as Recipient of the VES Lifetime Achievement Award

Los Angeles (January 9, 2024) – Today, the Visual Effects Society (VES), the industry’s professional global honorary society, named acclaimed Producer and Visual Effects Producer Joyce Cox, VES, as the forthcoming recipient of the VES Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her valuable contributions to visual arts and filmed entertainment. The award will be presented at the 22nd Annual VES Awards on February 21, 2024 at The Beverly Hilton Hotel.

The VES Lifetime Achievement Award, bestowed by the VES Board of Directors, recognizes an individual and their outstanding body of work that has significantly contributed to the art and/or science of the visual effects industry. The Society will honor Joyce Cox, VES, a venerated VES Fellow and multiple VES Award winner, for her dedication to the industry and advancement of unforgettable storytelling through cutting edge visual effects. With credits that include *Titanic*, *The Dark Knight*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Men in Black III*, *Avatar* and *The Jungle Book*, Cox has been instrumental in shaping popular culture for decades. The Society also recognizes Cox’s dedication and vision in working to create a unified visual effects budgeting system, through her work on the Curó VFX budgeting tool.

“Joyce Cox is an outstanding luminary in the world of visual effects producing and is one of the most respected producers in our industry,” said VES Chair Lisa Cooke. “Joyce is an innovator and driving force, whose work has put VFX squarely at the center of big box office filmed entertainment for decades. As an educator and a mentor, Joyce has paved the way as a changemaker and stellar role model, and serves our global community with excellence as a VES Fellow. We are so proud to honor Joyce with this well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award.”

On being named as a forthcoming VES honoree, Joyce Cox stated, “To receive this Lifetime Achievement Award from the Visual Effects Society is truly an honor I did not expect to come my way. For my name to be included with the remarkable group of directors, producers and supervisors given this honor in the past, truly blows my mind. “

Renowned Producer and Visual Effects Producer Joyce Cox’s route to Hollywood was a long, circuitous one fueled by her work ethic and innate talent for managing complex processes. Curiosity took her to Chicago in the mid 70’s where she started her first company, Joyce Cox Has Talent, in 1975, representing commercial artists to advertising. This was the window into her future and the creative processes that take an idea and molds it into a dynamic sensory experience.

VES Awards Joyce Cox Lifetime Achievement Award

Cox moved to Los Angeles in 1980 and over the next 15 years produced hundreds of commercials, eventually taking a position as the executive producer for Bruce Dorn Films where she had her first opportunity to work with digital visual effects.

In the mid 90's, a time when digital technology was rapidly evolving into its present role as a creative and technical cornerstone for filmmaking, Cox transitioned from the role of commercial producer to producing visual effects for feature films. Her experience with visual effects for commercials caught the attention of VIFX, a digital facility that had recently been purchased by 20th Century Fox. For the next five years, she worked as a facility VFX producer on numerous film projects including *Titanic*, *Pushing Tin*, *Fantasia 2000*, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, and *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.

In 2000, Cox moved to the production side. Over the next 20+ years, she worked with some of the world's most talented directors and crews, creating beautiful, powerful and groundbreaking films, including. *Superman Returns* and *X Men 2*, with Director Bryan Singer; *Avatar* with Director James Cameron; *The Dark Knight*, with Director Chris Nolan; *The Great Gatsby*, with Director Baz Luhrmann; *Men in Black III*, with Director Barry Sonnenfeld; and *The Jungle Book*, with Director Jon Favreau.

Cox has produced 13,000 visual effects shots with budgets totaling in excess of \$750 million and is the recipient of three VES Awards for her work on *Avatar* and *The Dark Knight*. In 2018, Cox was honored with the title of VES Fellow.

In addition to her work on film projects, Joyce taught a course at the USC School of Cinematic Arts, Producing Visual Effects, and is a mentor to young filmmakers through the Academy Gold Program.

Previous winners of the VES Lifetime Achievement Award have included Martin Scorsese; 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, VES; Jon Favreau; Chris Meledandri; Lynwen Brennan, Sir Peter Jackson and Gale Anne Hurd.

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' nearly 5,000 members in more than 45 countries worldwide contribute to all areas of entertainment – film, television, commercials, animation, music videos, games and new media. To learn more about the VES, visit www.vesglobal.org and follow us on Twitter @VFX Society. Read our award-winning signature publication *VFX Voice* at www.vfxvoice.com.

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