

Evan C. Ricks

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VFX SUPERVISOR / DIRECTOR

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Evan has had a broad career in filmmaking and animation, having done everything from design to directing and producing. He began in Los Angeles by animating for several popular television shows such as Max Headroom, the Twilight Zone and StarTrek Next Generation. He co-founded a company called Rezn8 Productions to do motion graphics, music videos and commercials. He and his company created spots seen nationwide and worldwide, eventually going on to win 9 Emmy awards. His company was also heavily involved with 3 winter Olympics, creating *all* on-air graphics. Evan went on to supervise and direct commercials, animation, online content and even game development. Along the way he started what was to become "House of Moves", the definitive motion capture studio. In 1998-2000 he directed the worlds first all motion capture feature film "Sinbad: Beyond the veil of Mists", starring Brendan Fraser and Leonard Nimoy. He has also supervised effects for films such as "Titanic", "Mortal Kombat II", "Money Talks" and designed, produced and directed sequences for popular IMAX films such as "Forces of Nature" and "Alaska".

Since moving to China Evan has supervised visual effects for several Chinese films, "Prince of the Himalayas", "the Dream is Alive", and more recently "the Queens", "Amazing!" and the new action comedy "Super Express". Big American Films completed around 150 shots for the US live action films "Dragonball : Evolution" and then many more for the Tom Cruise action comedy "Knight & Day". He produced and directed Asia's first Virtual boy band for Pernod-Ricard Chivas worldwide as well continuing with animation and effects.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

MINING TOWN VR EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR

Projection Mapping show for Shenzhen theme-park. All story and art direction for this 12 minute experience. Multi-building, 14 projector, 10.2 sound immersive experience. Tells the simple story of some bad guys who come to town to steal some gold. (in Production).

THREE BODY PROBLEM (三体)

VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR

Feature film. Responsible for post production of all visual effects, including re-visualizing, re-shoots. This is a very important film, the first large scale sci-fi in China (production cancelled).

MONKEY KING : THE JOURNEY BEGINS

FILM PRODUCER

Original take on the ancient tale, 3D animated. Responsible for all executive production oversight from script development to final delivery.

IMMERSIVE 3D RIDE

CONSULTANT

Location based experience, trolley ride through a city that goes wrong. Based in a new theme park near Shanghai. Responsible for revamp of story and continued art direction.

ELLE MEN VR EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR

ELLE Men magazine. Starring Wallace Huo, Television Star. Concept through Post. Available online at website and as first content on ELLE Men VR app (iphone). GCC award for Best Commercial Adaptation.

BUTTERFLIES DREAM

LOCAL PRODUCER / DIRECTOR

Trailer for 2d animated series. European style based on comic book.

SUPER EXPRESS (超级快递)

VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR

Feature film. Responsible for design and production of all visual effects.

SPACE REPORTERS

PRODUCER / ANIMATION SUPERVISOR

2 x 2 minute 3D animated. Part of longer series to be broadcast in Europe and China, later to be expanded to Imax. Responsible for overall production and animation supervision.

YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE (何以笙箫默)

VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR

A romantic comedy starring Huang Xiaoming. Responsible for design and production of all visual effects.

THE QUEENS (我是女王)

VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR

A film by Taiwanese actress Annie Yi, starring . Responsible for design and production of all visual effects.

AMAZING! (神奇)

VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR

Responsible for design and production of all visual effects. Also directed mocap sequences with some of the worlds best basketball players as well as facial for key actors.

SOARING CHINA (INDEPENDENT U.S. PRODUCTION)

DIRECTOR / VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR

70mm dome ride film. Helicopter shooting all over China. Designed elements and supervised edit. Directed character animation and visual effects.

SHANGHAI PAVILION - WORLD EXPO

VISUAL CONSULTANT

Supervised several shots for the 360 VR motion ride.

CHIVAS - VOICES OF CHIVALRY

PRODUCER / DIRECTOR / SUPERVISOR

High-end motion captured musical group. 4 songs produced over 6 months utilizing talent from LA, China and Serbia. Supervised work from original designs through to final product. Used some technicians from Avatar for facial animation. Final projection as virtual 'hologram' band with live performer.

DRAGONBALL : EVOLUTION - FOX

OUTSOURCE VFX SUPERVISOR

Supervising post for 150 shots with a small team - Shanghai.

ANIMATION SP, SHANGHAI - THE DREAM IS ALIVE

POSTPRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

Supervising effects for the Chinese production "Dong Fang Da Gong". Setting up pipeline and organization for film to enter Digital Intermediate stage outside China. Responsible for the successful post and delivery of final print.

ANIMATION SP, SHANGHAI - PRINCE OF THE HIMALAYAS

VFX / ANIMATION SUPERVISOR

Designed and Supervised effects for over 70 shots for Independent feature film shot in Southwestern China. Animated animal composites. Some set supervision as well. Followed through post.

THE DAOIST - FRENCH/CHINESE ANIMATION PROJECT

DIRECTOR / SCREENWRITER

30 minute fully animated CG pilot. Produced at an independent studio in Shanghai for the French market. Based on Chinese history and folk tales of a Dao master, the style is simple and sophisticated, yet very unique.

PIXEL PLAY STUDIOS, LA - MOGAO CAVES VISITORS CENTER

DIRECTOR

Project for Chinese government, Dunhuang China. Produced simulations for the content to be shown in new virtual space dome 360 theaters. Also in 2005, as consultant related to the design of dome theaters and content.

PIXEL PLAY / PIXEL PLAY SHANGHAI - ARJ AIRCRAFT

WRITER / DIRECTOR

8 minute live-action video prepared for the Chinese government aeronautics industry (AVIC 1) to promote new ARJ aircraft. Live action and effects, responsible for all creative from concept to delivery. Shot several locations in China. Project was done through Pixel Play office formed in Shanghai, China.

SIMEX - LEGO RACERS4D

VFX / PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR - ASST DIRECTOR

13 minute attraction for Legoland (International). Hi-Definition STEREO projection. Assumed responsibilities for look and quality of final product. In charge of over 50 people during 6 months of production. Personally setup stereo for each shot.

DIGIMAX (TAIPEI) - THE TOMB OF KAHN

DIRECTOR

3 minute promo. Motion capture / Computer graphics. Created trailer for feature entering preproduction for use as sales tool. Also served as Art Director. Very short schedule.

UPN / ARTISTS INC. - SYNDRA

DIRECTOR / DESIGNER / EDITOR

Series of 16 short opens, motion captured (30 to 70 seconds each) for Blockbuster Shockwave Cinema. Designed series, look, set. All creative for each episode (except writing). Each done on very short turn around.

IMPROVISION - SINBAD : BEYOND THE VEIL OF MISTS

FEATURE DIRECTOR / CO-WRITER / VISUAL CONCEPTS

Directed first all motion captured feature. Involved in all aspects of production, including story, character and set design, script re-write (with Alan Jacobs and Robert Litz), storyboards, animation supervision, edit, music.

Cast includes Brendan Fraser as Sinbad, Leonard Nimoy as his nemesis and Mark Hamill as the lead guard. Preproduction and design done in Hollywood, most production moved to India.

TODD/AO DIGITAL DIVISION

IN-HOUSE VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR

Supervised matte shots for Titanic. Supervisor / fx design to complete effects for Mortal Kombat II, this included visual design. Doubled number of shots originally given from New Line Cinema. Also effects shots for Money Talks, JAG (tv), others

ATOMIX

CREATIVE DIRECTOR, EXEC. PRODUCER

This included producing film and commercial projects as well as in-house art direction. Art directed pieces for IMAX films such as "Alaska". Oversaw opens for Jeopardy, Disney bumpers, film trailers for various films. Supervised shots for cgi reindeer for the film "Mrs Santa Claus".

Directed commercial for Daewoo, worldwide corp. identity. Shot bluescreen, created shots for Disneyland parade piece.

VIEWPOINT DATALABS

CREATIVE DIRECTOR, VICE PRESIDENT OF PRODUCTION

As a member of the executive team, responsible for general management of company involving creative, technology and production (50+ people). Produced budgets, created technology group, started internet and web awareness, hired ad agency, created all demo reels, organized production process, changed production pay plan, put together E3 and Siggraph shows, redesigned advertising look, started motion capture groups in UK and LA (became "House of Moves"), media front person, many other things.

THE LIGHTSPAN PARTNERSHIP

PRINCIPAL, ANIMATION DIRECTOR / WRITER

Interactive education content company. Involved with the company from startup. Helped define direction for educational games. Director, directly responsible for one of two first titles. CG, traditional animation, live-action. Planning, production and staging title from initial concept through to post. Title involved combining classic cel animation with computer generated environments, with live teaser (the Secret of Googol).

PARAMOUNT STUDIOS - VIPER

DIGITAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR

Designed and Supervised car transformation effects for the tv show. Bid effects to specialty houses.

UCLA

TEACHER - MOTION GRAPHICS FOR UCLA EXTENDED LEARNING

Concurrent with production work at ReZn8

REZN8 PRODUCTIONS

FOUNDER / CEO / ANIMATION DIRECTOR

Created animations for many commercials and full CGI spots. Company became world known for graphic style, premiere content. I took most responsibility for commercial realm and music videos. Competed directly with other high-end CGI houses such as PDI, Rhythm and Hues, ILM, etc. Best known for creating full graphics packages for 3 different Winter Olympics. Company has to date received 9 Emmy Awards as well as numerous others.

THE POST GROUP

ANIMATOR / VISUAL EFFECTS

At this time known as probably the worlds best post production facility. Put together early Silicon Graphics setup running new software, Wavefront. Did dozens of broadcast animations, effects for many commercials and effects work. Also worked on Star Trek, The Twilight Zone (remake), Max Headroom and many music videos. Helped develop custom software.

EVANS & SUTHERLAND SIMULATION

CONTENT DESIGNER / MODELER

While still in a Masters program, first serious foray into computer graphics. Designed and built environments for flight simulators using ancient techniques (graph paper drawings, geometry typed in by hand). Developed visualization software for text only terminals.

Bachelor of Science - Physical Geography / Geomorphology - Cum Laude
University of Utah