

director :: BEN WEST

PROFILE

Ben is a highly regarded vfx director with numerous awards and accolades. Most recently he was nominated by the Australian Directors Guild as Australia's best animation director for 2010.

Ben started his career with Academy Award winning visual effects company Animal Logic. During this time he was also keynote speaker for vfx and directing at several industry events including the NSW Film and Television Organization's seminar on vfx for producers. After several years as Lead animator and vfx director, Ben developed the short film "The Arsonist Riddle" and was featured on the highly regarded Shots New Directors showcase. The film won numerous international awards and was a seminal example of Ben's ability to fuse live action and animation. Following on from this success Ben was accepted into the Australian Film, Television and Radio school where he completed his "Masters in Directing" degree focussing on drama and performance. With over ten years experience as a vfx artist and Director, Ben continues to develop his cutting edge style in commercials and film. His work has featured on Motionographer, Stash, Bestads, Shots, Boards, and IDN to name a few.

Ben's ability to direct performance and combine VFX with a strong narrative style has been the key to his success.

COMMERCIALS

2 X 30 Second TVC Nesquik - Nestle - Agency - McCann Paris	[Director]
1 X 45 Second TVC Player Escort - McDonald's - Agency - DDB	[Director/Animator]
1 X 30 Second TVC Cleanup Australia - McDonald's - Agency - DDB	[Director/Animator]
1 X 45 Second TVC Pebble - MasterCard - Agency - Mccann	[Director/Animator]
1 X 60 Second TVC Freaks - Australian Directors Guild - Agency - Soma	[Writer/Director/Animator]
3 X 45 Second TVC A Drive Less Ordinary - Volkswagen - Agency - DDB	[Director]
1 X 30 Second TVC Freedom - Agency - M&C Saatchi -	[VFX Supervisor/Animator]
1 X 30 Second TVC Fridge - Tararua Ice Coffee - Agency - Publicis Mojo Nz	[Director/Animator]
1 X 30 Second TVC Arnotts - Agency - GPY&R	[Director]
1 X 60 Second TVC Creepers - Motor Accident Comm. - Agency - Clemenger	[Director/Animator]
1 X 60 Second TVC Where Music Lives 2 - Max Channel - Agency - XYZ	[Director/Animator]
1 X 45 Second TVC Robot - Eveready - Agency - DDB Naga	[Director/Animator]
1 X 60 Second TVC Nrl Centenary - Nrl - Agency - MJW	[Director]
1 X 60 Second TVC Where Music Lives - Max Channel - Agency - XYZ	[Director/Animator]
1 X 60 Second TVC <i>Old Models - One Centre Branding - Agency - One Centre</i>	[Director]
1 X 30 Second TVC Jazz - Sydney Morning Herald - Agency - Host	[Director]
1 X 30 Second TVC Sudoku - Sydney Morning Herald - Agency - Host	[Director]
1 X 30 Second TVC Dash - Sydney Morning Herald - Brand - Agency - Host	[Director]
10 X 15 Second TVC Pstrixi - Yahoo7 - Agency - Host	[Director]
1 X 30 Second Podcast - Sony Playstation - Agency - BMF	[Director/Animator]
3 X 30 Second TVC Vega Fm - Vega - Agency - FNL	[Director]
1 X 60 Second TVC Guide Dogs - Guide Dogs - Agency - BMF	[Director]
1 X 30 Second TVC Pop - Wrigleys - Agency - DDB	[Director/Animator]

RECENT AWARDS / ACCOLADES

Max2 nominated animation award Australian Directors Guild 2010
McDonalds Player Escort in competition at Australian Animation and Effects Festival 2010
FREAKS features on Motionographer, Stash issue:50 and 3dWorld magazine
FREAKS wins a finalist at NYF
Max2 features in IDN magazine and Stash issue:56
Max2 screens in Holland animation festival and Pictoplasma in Berlin
Max features on Stash
Max wins Gold at Australian Animation and Effects Festival
Max wins Bronze at Phoenix awards
RIDDLE features on SHOTS New Directors Showcase
RIDDLE wins Gold at AEAFF, Metroscreen and Canal Plus+.
RIDDLE featured in Digital Media World magazine
SUSHI wins Silver European Animators Award.

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INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

AUGUST 2010 - PRESENT *ROBOT*
Commercials Director/Writer/Animator/Visual Effects Supervisor

APRIL 2008 - AUGUST 2010 *SOMA FILMS*
Commercials Director/Writer/Animator/Visual Effects Supervisor

AUGUST 2007 - APRIL 2008 *SYDNEY FILM COMPANY*
Commercials Director/Animator

2006 *DOLL*
2nd unit Director - Feature Film "Suburban Mayhem"

MAY 2005 - AUGUST 2007 *DOLL*
Commercials Director/Animator

2002-2004 *AUSTRALIAN FILM TELEVISION AND RADIO SCHOOL*
M.A. Directing

SEPTEMBER 2001 – NOVEMBER 2002 *ANIMAL LOGIC*
Vfx Director/Vfx Supervisor/ Lead Animator + Compositor
3d Design/Previs
Hensons "Farscape" Series4 Sci-Fi 22 Ep *Award Winning TVS*

OCTOBER 2001
Key Note Speaker – NSW FTO Visual Effects Seminar

SEPTEMBER 2000 – SEPTEMBER 2001 *ANIMAL LOGIC*
Senior Vfx Artist/ Animator/ Supervisor + Compositor
Hensons "Farscape" Series3 Sci-Fi 22 Ep *Award Winning TVS*

SEPTEMBER 1999 – SEPTEMBER 2000 *ANIMAL LOGIC*
Senior Vfx Artist/ Animator/ Supervisor + Compositor
Hensons "Farscape" Series2 Sci-Fi 22 Ep *Award Winning TVS*
"South Pacific" TV Movie

EDUCATION

2002 - 2004
M.A. DIRECTING
AUSTRALIAN FILM TELEVISION AND RADIO SCHOOL

1999 - LONDON [UK]
METRO NEW MEDIA: ANIMATORS DEGREE

1992 - 1998
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY.
BA. ARCHITECTURE