

DANIEL RAFFEL

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Professional Summary

An accomplished visual effects compositor with over 16 years of experience in feature films, episodic television, and high-end media production. Adept at delivering photorealistic composites for over 70 projects, successfully managed through delivery. Currently applying advanced VFX skills within aerospace media production, overseeing workflows from concept to final output. Expertise spans filming, compositing, editing, and incorporating cutting-edge AI tools into traditional pipelines. I am a proud member of the Visual Effects Society (VES), dedicated to combining artistic vision, technical precision, and innovative problem-solving to create visually compelling projects.

Key Skills

- **Highly Proficient in Nuke:** Advanced knowledge of compositing; managing and working with AOV breakouts, using advanced 3D features, utilizing smart vectors, deep compositing, plugins, stereo workflows, ComfyUI Integrations and other techniques to create comps integrating CGI into photo real and stylized comps.
- **AI Tools & Workflows:** Familiarity and practical use of ComfyUI integrations and other AI tools into visual effects workflows.
- **Media Production:** Proficient in DaVinci Resolve, Final Cut and Premiere Pro for editing. Experienced in shooting high-quality digital media content using various cameras and mounts. Skilled in digital media asset development and creation.
- **Technical Hardware Expertise:** Experienced in diagnosing and repairing complex consumer electronics including custom building computers from components, offering a unique ability to contribute to technical support in a dynamic studio environment.
- **Adobe Creative Suite:** Proficient in Photoshop, Illustrator, Substance, and Premiere Pro.
- **3D Software Experience:** Familiarity with Maya and Substance for compositing purposes.
- **Creative Problem-Solving:** Skilled at integrating CG elements, practical effects, and live-action plates, with a discerning eye for detail.
- **Leadership & Collaboration:** Proven ability to lead compositing teams, mentor junior artists, manage sequences, and collaborate effectively with production management and cross-functional teams. Ability to work in a self-directed manner and in collaborative environments.
- **Communication:** Strong written and verbal skills, experience interfacing with production management and supervisors.
- **Accessibility Compliance:** Experience ensuring compliance with Section 508 standards proficient with Adobe premiere transcription and captioning tools including multi language, multi speaker, custom formatting of tracks for creation of .srt sidecar files or burn ins.

Education

- **Bachelor of Science in Media Arts and Animation**
The Art Institute International, Portland, OR, USA – Mar 2008

Professional Affiliations

- **Visual Effects Society (VES)**
Member in Good Standing

Professional Experience

Flight Media Specialist – Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL | Apr 2024 – Present

- Develops high-quality digital media content for academic, marketing, and grant project use, including instructional videos and engaging visuals.
- Manages the full media production workflow independently, from shooting footage to final edit and delivery.
- Operates and captures footage using cameras such as Sony Alpha 7S, Insta360 Pro, and GoPro for various applications, including inflight capture.
- Edits and composites content using DaVinci Resolve, Premiere Pro, Nuke, and ComfyUI, integrating AI tools and workflows directly into the visual effects pipeline.
- Collaborates with course developers and marketing teams and external 3rd parties including NASA to meet project goals and deadlines.
- Ensures content compliance with Section 508 accessibility standards.
- Leverages foundational compositing expertise for visual storytelling, technical problem-solving, and achieving high-quality final products in a non-traditional media production setting.

Advanced Repair Agent & Build Specialist – Geek Squad (PT), Daytona Beach, FL | Oct 2023 – Present

- Diagnoses and repairs complex consumer electronics, demonstrating strong technical troubleshooting skills.
- Handles motherboard, and hardware replacements, providing valuable hands-on experience with computer components.
- Custom builds computers from components, showcasing an in-depth understanding of hardware compatibility and assembly.
- Provides frontline customer service and documentation.
- Possesses skills highly valuable in a small boutique studio environment, contributing to potential in-house technical support, troubleshooting, and hardware knowledge.

Compositing Sequence Lead / 2D Lead / Digital Compositor | *Mar 2008 – Aug 2023*

- Collaborated and worked through delivery on high-profile feature films and TV series across studios including MPC, Digital Domain, Sony Imageworks, and Zoic Studios.
- Managed sequences from start to finish, ensuring quality and consistency across shots and timely delivery while meeting budget constraints.
- Developed and implemented looks for production sequences, including virtual sets, CG character integration, and particle effects.
- Integrated CG elements into live-action plates, including green screen keying, stereo compositing, and rig removal.
- Mentored junior compositors provided technical guidance, training and development.
- Collaborated closely with production management, supervisors, and cross-functional teams to achieve project goals.

Studios and Projects

Studios by Location

- **Vancouver, BC:** Crafty Apes, OD Studios, Western Post, Fuse FX, Zoic Studios, The Embassy, Method Studios, Image Engine, MPC, Digital Domain
- **Montreal, QC:** New Breed VFX
- **Beijing, CHN:** Base FX
- **Albuquerque, NM:** Sony Imageworks
- **Los Angeles, CA:** Legion VFX, Prime Focus Hollywood, ICO VFX, SOHO VFX, Pixomondo, Rhythm & Hues, Sony Imageworks
- **Toronto, ON:** Magnitude Productions (IMAX Subsidiary)
- **Portland, OR:** LAIKA Entertainment

Project History by Year (Full List)

2024

- *The Fall Guy* – Composer
- *Monarch* Legacy of Monsters - Composer
- *Upload* - Composer

2023

- *The Continental* Parts 1,2 and 3 – Composer
- *Cobra Kai* – Composer
- *Firefly Lane* – Composer
- *The Crowded Room* – Composer
- *Barry* – Composer
- *Cobweb* – Senior Composer

2022

- *Firefly Lane* – Composer
- *Shotgun Wedding* – Composer
- *Star Trek Discovery* – Composer
- *Peacemaker* (6 episodes) – Composer
- *Home Team* – Composer

2021

- *American Refugee* – Senior Composer
- *A House on the Bayou* – Senior Composer
- *The Black Phone* – Senior Composer
- *Bingo Hell* – Senior Composer
- *Yellow Jackets* – Composer

2020

- *Sonic the Hedgehog* – Composer
- *Zoeys Exotrodinary Playlist* – Composer
- *One Heart* – Composer (In Production)

2019

- *Pup Academy* (19 episodes) – Composer

2018

- *Puppy Star Christmas* – Senior Composer
- *Pup Star: World Tour* – Senior Composer

2017

- *Santa Paws* – Senior Composer
- *Lost in Space* – Composer
- *The Tic* – Composer

2016

- *Once Upon a Time* – Composer
- *Seal Team* – Composer
- *Dead of Summer* – Composer
- *Arrow* – Composer
- *Lucifer* – Composer
- *Imaginary Mary* – Composer

2015

- *Once Upon a Time* – Compositing Sequence Lead
- *I Zombie* – Compositor
- *The Flash* – Compositor
- *The Descendants* – Compositing 2D Lead
- *Falling Skies* – Compositor
- *Wayward Pines* – Compositor

2014

- *Once Upon a Time* – Compositing Sequence Lead
- *Transformers: Age of Extinction* – Compositor

2013

- *Wonderland* – Compositing Sequence Lead
- *R.I.P.D.* – Compositor
- *Fast & Furious 6* – Compositor
- *Horns* – Compositor

2012

- *Pain and Gain* – Compositor
- *Man of Tai Chi* – Compositor
- *Pacific Rim* – Compositor
- *Identity Thief* – Compositor
- *The Amazing Spider-Man* – Lighting/Compositing Artist

2011

- *Green Lantern* – Digital Compositor
- *Thor* – Compositor
- *Harry Potter and the Deathly Howels* – Compositor (Stereo Conversion IMAX)
- *The Polar Express* – Compositor (Stereo Conversion IMAX)

2010

- *Shrek 3* – Compositor (Stereo Conversion)
- *Shrek 2* – Compositor (Stereo Conversion)
- *Shrek* – Compositor (Stereo Conversion)
- *The Phantom Menace* – Compositor (Stereo Conversion)
- *The Last Airbender* – Compositor
- *Jonah Hex* – Compositor
- *Knight and Day* – Compositor
- *A Nightmare on Elm Street* – Compositor
- *Iron Man 2* – Compositor
- *Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* – Compositor
- *Star Tours Disney Ride* – Graphic Designer /Jr. Compositor

2009

- *Yogi Bear* – Stereo R&D Prep Department
- *Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel* – BG Prep TD
- *Land of the Lost* – BG Prep TD

2008

- *Coraline* – Jr. VFX Artis