

Daniel Harkness

Australian visual effects compositor and motion designer

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Qualifications

- Over 10 years specialising in visual effects for film and episodic and over 20 years in computer graphics related roles.
- Experience as a compositing artist and motion designer in visual effects for film, episodic, commercials and other fields.
- Experience in supervision, project management, bidding, colour pipelines, I/O pipelines, CG pipelines, camera pipelines.
- Experience in creating, organising and maintaining sequence and facility level tools and techniques.
- Experience in hiring and mentoring compositors— experience in keeping compositing teams challenged and motivated.
- Experience in client relations and inter-department relations within visual effects, film production and other fields.
- Experience in applying machine learning to visual effects— deepfakes, style transfer, training copycat models, etc.

Work History

DNEG Sydney	April 2024 - May 2024	Compositor
Wētā FX Wellington/Melbourne	April 2023 - October 2023 September 2022 - December 2022	Compositing Lead, Compositor
Luma Pictures Melbourne	May 2022 - August 2022	Compositor
Cumulus VFX Byron Bay	February 2023 - April 2023 March 2021 - April 2022	Compositing Supervision, Lighting Supervision, Pipeline development
Digital Domain Vancouver/Montreal	October 2018 - April 2021 January 2017 - February 2018	Compositing Supervisor (acting as), Compositing Lead, Compositor
Rising Sun Pictures Adelaide	July 2018 - October 2018 January 2016 - May 2016	Compositor
Method Studios Sydney	February 2018 - July 2018	Compositing Lead
Iloura Sydney	August 2017 - September 2017 September 2016 - January 2017 May 2016 - June 2016 April 2014 - July 2015	Compositor
Various Studios Freelance	January 2002 - Today	Motion Graphics, 3D Generalist, Editorial, Compositing

Skills / Relevant Experience

- VFX software: Nuke (core software proficiency), Katana, Maya, Houdini & more.
- Review and shot management: Shotgrid, RV, proprietary shot systems & databases. Excel, Google Sheets, FileMaker Pro.
- Non-VFX graphics software: After Effects, Photoshop, Illustrator, Cinema 4D.
- Editing/Finishing systems: Final Cut Pro, AVID, Premiere, Nuke Studio, Resolve.
- Renderer experience: V-Ray, Redshift, Manuka, Renderman, Arnold, Mentalray, Karma, Mantra.
- Coding languages: Python, Swift, Objective-C.
- Experience with a variety of vendor side visual effects pipelines.
- Experience with creating technical documentation and process documentation.
- Experience working abroad: Canada, Australia, New Zealand, China, Malaysia, Mexico, UAE, Saudi, Egypt, England, USA, India.
- Well travelled: India, Indonesia, France, Germany, Poland, Czech Republic.

Education / Honours / Affiliations

- High school education. Multimedia Diploma. University deferred (Math. Comput. Sci). Continued self-education.
- VES 2022 Award Nomination — Outstanding compositing & lighting in a feature.
- Visual Effects Society

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Film & Episodic Credits

Furiosa (Feature)	2024	Compositor : DNEG
Betterman (Feature)	2023	Compositing Lead : Wētā FX
Transformers: Rise of the Beasts (Feature)	2023	Compositor : Wētā FX
Nautilus (Feature)	2023	Compositor : Cumulus VFX
Avatar 2 (Feature)	2022	Compositor : Wētā FX
The Mother (Feature)	2022	Compositor : Luma Pictures
Thor: Love and Thunder (Feature)	2022	Compositor : Luma Pictures
Lockwood (Feature)	2022	Lighting & Compositing Supervision : Cumulus VFX
Man Vs. Bee (Feature)	2021	Lighting & Compositing Supervision : Cumulus VFX
Elvis (Feature)	2021	Compositing Supervision : Cumulus VFX
The Possessed (Feature)	2021	Compositor : Cumulus VFX
Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore (Feature)	2021	Postviz Lead : Digital Domain
Wandavision (Feature)	2020	Compositing Lead : Digital Domain
Free Guy (Feature)	2020	Compositor : Digital Domain
Blackwidow (Feature)	2020	Compositing Lead & Supervision : Digital Domain
The Rescue (Feature)	2019	Compositing Lead : Digital Domain
Avengers: End Game (Feature)	2019	Compositor : Digital Domain
Alita: Battle Angel (Feature)	2018	Compositor : Rising Sun Pictures
The Predator (Feature)	2018	Compositor : Rising Sun Pictures
Skyscraper (Feature)	2018	Compositing Lead : Method Studios
Avengers: Infinity War (Feature)	2018	Compositor : Digital Domain
Ready Player One (Feature)	2017	Compositor : Digital Domain
Thor: Ragnarok (Feature)	2017	Compositor : Iloura
Spider-Man: Homecoming (Feature)	2017	Compositor : Digital Domain
Fast and Furious 8 (Feature)	2017	Compositor : Digital Domain
24 Hours to Live (Feature)	2016	Compositor : Iloura
John Wick 2 (Feature)	2016	Compositor : Iloura
Underworld 5 (Feature)	2016	Compositor : Iloura
Deep Water Horizon (Feature)	2016	Compositor : Iloura
Game of Thrones S6E10 (Episodic)	2016	Compositor : Rising Sun Pictures
X-men: Apocalypse (Feature)	2016	Compositor : Rising Sun Pictures
Gods of Egypt (Feature)	2015	Compositor : Iloura
Mad Max: Fury Road (Feature)	2014	Compositor : Iloura

Experience also includes over 250 freelance gigs (compositing, motion graphics, 3D generalist, editorial) in commercials, tv station identity, music videos, documentary, shorts, events, concerts, ceremonies, theatre, trade shows, architecture, medical, corporate & more.