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VISUAL EFFECTS SOCIETY (VES) ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF 7th ANNUAL VES AWARDS

**"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" Takes Home Four Awards –
Including Outstanding Visual Effects in a Visual Effects Driven Motion
Picture**

"The Dark Knight," "Wall-E" Take Home Three Awards Each

Los Angeles, CA - February 21, 2009 - The Visual Effects Society (VES) this
evening announced the recipients of the 7th Annual VES Awards in a black-tie
event at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, California. The
annual event recognizes outstanding visual effects in over a dozen categories of
film, animation, television, commercials and video games. Filmmakers, producers
and guests joined more than 1100 professionals from the visual effects industry
for the gala.

"This year's recipients exemplify true excellence in the field of visual and special
effects," said VES Executive Director Eric Roth. "On behalf of the VES Board of
Directors, I congratulate all of this year's nominees on their incredible work."

Recipients of the 7th Annual VES Awards:

Outstanding Visual Effects in a Visual Effects Driven Motion Picture
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
Eric Barba, Edson Williams, Nathan McGuinness, Lisa Beroud

Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects in a Motion Picture
Changeling
Michael Owens, Geoffrey Hancock, Jinnie Pak, Dennis Hoffman

Outstanding Animation in an Animated Motion Picture
Wall-E
Andrew Stanton, Jim Morris, Lindsey Collins, Nigel Hardwidge

Outstanding Visual Effects in a Broadcast Miniseries, Movie or Special
John Adams – Join or Die
Steve Kullback, Erik Henry, Robert Stromberg, Jeff Goldman

Outstanding Visual Effects in a Broadcast Series
Battlestar Galactica Season Four – BSG Space Battle
Gary Hutzel, Michael Gibson, Doug Drexler, Kyle Toucher

Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects in a Broadcast Program
Fringe – Episode 101 - Pilot
Kevin Blank, Jay Worth, Andrew Orloff, Barbara Genicoff

Best Single Visual Effect of the Year
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button – Benjamin's Secret
Eric Barba, Lisa Beroud, Steve Preeg, Jonathan Litt

Outstanding Visual Effects in a Commercial
Bacardi - Sundance
Alex Thiesen, Nikos Kalaitzidis, Jay Barton, Zsolt Krajcsik

Outstanding Visual Effects in a Special Venue Project
U2 3D – Selected Shots
Peter Anderson, Steve Schklair, David Franks, Jeremy Nicolaides

Outstanding Real Time Visuals in a Video Game
Crysis Warhead
Zoltan Pocza, Gabor Mogyorosi, Tamas Schlagl

Outstanding Pre-Rendered Visuals in a Video Game
World of Warcraft – Wrath of the Lich King – Intro Cinematic
Jeff Chamberlain, Phillip Hillenbrand

Outstanding Animated Character in a Live Action Motion Picture
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button – Benjamin Button
Steve Preeg, Matthias Wittmann, Tom St. Amand, David McLean

Outstanding Animated Character in an Animated Motion Picture
Wall-E – Wall-E and Eve Truck Sequence
Ben Burtt, Victor Navone, Austin Lee, Jay Shuster

Outstanding Animated Character in a Live Action Broadcast Program or Commercial
Brains Dance
James Sindle, Jesus Parra, Josh Fourtwells

Outstanding Effects Animation in an Animated Feature Motion Picture
Wall-E – Effects in Wall-E
Jason Johnston, Keith Klohn, Enrique Vila, Bill Watral

Outstanding Matte Paintings in a Feature Motion Picture
Changeling – 1928 Downtown L.A.
Romain Bayle, Abel Milanes , Allan Lee, Debora Dunphy

Outstanding Matte Paintings in a Broadcast Program or Commercial
Doctor Who – Series 4 – Silence in the Library
Simon Wickers, Charlie Bennett, Tim Barter, Arianna Lago

Outstanding Models and Miniatures in a Feature Motion Picture
The Dark Knight – Garbage Truck Crash Models and Miniatures
Ian Hunter, Forest Fischer, Scott Beverly, Adam Gelbart

Outstanding Models and Miniatures in a Broadcast Program or Commercial
New Balance - Anthem
Ian Hunter, Jon Warren, Matt Burlingame, Raymond Moore

Outstanding Created Environment in a Feature Motion Picture
The Dark Knight – IMAX Gotham City Scapes
Peter Bebb, Stuart Farley, Philippe Leprince, Andrew Lockley

Outstanding Created Environment in a Broadcast Program or Commercial
John Adams – Join or Die – Episode 1 – The Boston Harbor
Paul Graff, Robert Stromberg, Adam Watkins

Outstanding Compositing in a Feature Motion Picture
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button – Benjamin Comes Together
Janelle Croshaw, Paul Lambert, Sonja Burchard, Sarahjane Javelo

Outstanding Compositing in a Broadcast Program or Commercial
John Adams – Join or Die – Episode 1 – The Boston Harbor
Paul Graff, Joshua LaCross, Matt Collorafice

Outstanding Special Effects in a Motion Picture
The Dark Knight – Overall
Chris Corbould, Peter Notley, Ian Lowe

Outstanding Effects in a Student Project

Plastic – Transformation Sequence
Sandy Widyanata, Courtney Wise

In addition, director David Fincher ("The Curious Case of Benjamin Button") presented producers Kathleen Kennedy and Frank Marshall with the VES Lifetime Achievement Award, while ILM's Dennis Muren presented Phil Tippett with the Georges Méliès Award.

For more information on the program and photos, please visit www.visualeffectssociety.com.

About the VES
The VES is a professional, honorary society, dedicated to advancing the arts, sciences, and applications of visual effects and to upholding the highest uniform standards and procedures for the visual effects profession. The VES is the entertainment industry's only official organization representing the extended community of visual effects practitioners including supervisors, artists, producers, technology developers, educators and studio executives.

Its 1,800 global members contribute to all areas of entertainment from film, animation, television and commercials to music videos, games and new media. VES strives to enrich and educate its members and the entertainment community at large through many domestic and international events, screenings and programs. Visual effects professionals constitute a vital creative force in content creation and are literally shaping the future of entertainment.

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