Henry Selick
Supervising Director

Award-winning Director, Producer and Writer Henry Selick joined the studio as Supervising Director for feature film development in mid-2004, after completing animation for Wes Anderson's feature *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou*. Henry has geared up our story and CG departments for feature production by creating new short film, *Moongirl*, and he is now preparing to direct his feature-length adaptation of Neil Gaiman's best-selling children's book, *Coraline*.

Henry made his feature-directing debut in 1993, on Producer Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas*—the first full-length, stop-motion feature from a major studio. An instant holiday classic, *Nightmare* was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Visual Effects and won the International Animated Film Society's Annie Award for Best Creative Supervision, beating out *The Lion King*. In 1996, Henry followed with a second feature, *James and the Giant Peach*, his live-action/stop-motion adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic children's book. This innovative and technically complicated film received widespread critical acclaim (*TIME Magazine's* Richard Schickel said it was even better than the book), and it won the top prize for an animated feature at the Annecy Film Festival in 1997. Henry's third feature, *Monkeybone*, a live action/animated adaptation of the underground comic, was praised by *The New York Times* as the "best comedy of 2001."

Henry launched his career by studying at CalArts, where his two student films, *Phases* and *Tube Tales*, were nominated for Student Academy Awards. Henry earned his performance stripes at Disney, becoming a full-fledged animator under Glen Keane on *Fox and the Hound*. With a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Henry made his award-winning short film, *Seepage*. Then he spent several years freelancing in the Bay Area, directing still-famous commercials for the Pillsbury Doughboy and Ritz Crackers and sequences of John Korty's animated feature, *Twice upon a Time*. He also storyboarded fantasy sequences for Walter Murch's *Return to* Oz and Carroll Ballard's *Nutcracker: the Motion Picture* (with designs by Maurice Sendak). When he created an acclaimed series of MTV station IDs and an award-winning, six-minute pilot for an animated series called *Slow Bob in the Lower Dimensions*, Henry attracted the attention of Tim Burton and was catapulted into features directing.