

## The British Film Designers Guild

Promoting

**BRITISH TALENT** 

Autumn 2014



#### Film negotiations updates (notes from our Sept meeting)

Negotiations between Pact and BECTU have been going on for several years now. Recent developments and Guild interest have highlighted issues as the possibility of finalising an agreement comes closer.

Dear Guild Members,

We held the meeting we requested with BECTU. Here are the minutes (thank you John West) and further developments ... BECTU/BFDG Meeting at BAFTA 5 September 2014

- Paul Evans an Officer at BECTU met Members of the BFDG Committee at BAFTA. He said that it was the first time a film craft guild had directly approached BECTU.
- · It is proposed by BECTU to have a Members' Meeting with representatives of RPD and LPD concerning the proposed BECTU/PACT agreement on 7 October in London (probably at the Ibis Hotel, near Euston Square).
- · It was felt that the rates and seniority in the PACT Agreement about which we were being consulted were not in accordance with current film and TV industry practise. The BFDG has been willing to give BECTU this information, so there were questions as to how these mistakes got into the proposed document. It would be unwise to agree to proposals that were not firmly based on current practise.
- There was concern that the new agreement could result in the further lowering of rates and increases in working hours and days for no greater reward, as the minimum rate could easily become the "going rate".
- There was concern that Producers could schedule any Bank Holiday as a working day. The retrospective reclassifying of days lost due to bad scheduling as "rest days" would result in crew's holiday credits being used to pay for these "rest days"
- · Simon Bowles produced a document based on the best available information concerning pay rates and grades at different levels in the Art Department, which it was proposed to give to BECTU. It was felt that this was the best current information available concerning rates and grades at levels for films with a budget of over £4,000,000. Paul offered to put the BECTU logo on our rate card as an endorsement... to be discussed.
- There was discussion as to whether we should send this to PACT, as they were not willing to give BECTU their figures. The PACT address is, 3rd Floor, Fitzrovia House 153-157 Cleveland Street, London, W1T 6QW. This will be discussed by the guild committee at the next meeting but opinions gratefully received by all members.
- · It was said that lower budget films and high-end TV drama were coming in at about the same rate of about £900k+ per hour.
- · It was felt that the Art Department was being unfairly squeezed when other departments could increase their rates.
- There was a feeling that Art Department workers were highly dissatisfied with the present trends. Grips, Camera and Sparks Departments are getting better rates than the Art Department.
- The BFDG proposed a joint BECTU/BFDG meeting on a Friday evening in September at a room in Heatherden Hall at Pinewood Studios at about 18.30 to start at 19.00 or so, in order to discuss the proposed PACT Agreement and its impact on the Art Department. Both guild members who are and not members of BECTU welcome to attend.

The proposed agenda should be:

- The PACT Agreement
- Art Department Rates
- Any Other Business
- "Change one thing"
- · Paul Evens advocated the Creative Industries Passport.
- · There was concern that some of the BECTU leaflets were inaccurate concerning responsibilities in the Art Department.
- · There was concern expressed about bullying in the workplace."



Since this meeting I have been been trading calls with Paul Evans and FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER is best for them to meet with us at Pinewood. Please do try and make this meeting, its our chance to discuss the PACT proposal and discuss how BECTU works for our department in the future. Attending from BECTU will be Paul Evans, Asst General Secretary Martin Spence and possibly a BECTU negotiator.

Email to all members from Simon Bowles, BFDG Chairman

Next meeting to be held at BECTU HQ, 20th Nov 2014 to review current position.

#### **GREAT and VERY IMPORTANT RELEASE...**

After years and a long a protracted birth, our Chairman has grabbed the bull by the horns and is working hard to produce our first official UK Art Dept BFDG rate card.

I'm guessing you will have seen a copy arrive in your inbox last month. The BFDG has been liaising closely with BECTU to assist in PACT talks and for them to formally release a comparable guide too. This is so needed, BECTU's current rate card for the Art dept is vague, out of date salaries with incorrect title classifications. This only hinders UK Art Dept strength. Having said that, Simon and his committee have now issued BECTU with a new guide and we will be seeing it soon on our official website and other linked group/site pages.

Do note that this is not a fixed document, there will be a date stamp and be updated as / when necessary. So please, advise us for error, omission and suitable revisions.

It's your career, lets make it better together! (Official Rate Card attached with this newsletter)

## Pinewood Expansion - still moving forward

Pinewood Studios Development Framework (PSDF) is a £200m long-term scheme of national significance designed to address increasing global demand for production facilities in the UK and deliver growth for the next 15 years.

It comprises expansion of the existing Pinewood Studios by adding a total of 100,000 sq m of new facilities, including twelve large stages with supporting workshops, production offices and infrastructure.

The scheme will, according to Amion Consulting, have a positive impact on the economy by:

- providing £194m of private sector infrastructure investment
- supporting over 8,100 full time jobs
- creating some 3,100 net additional jobs
- producing an additional £149m in Gross Value Added (GVA)[i]
- providing an additional contribution to the Exchequer of £36m per annum
- generating an additional £37m per annum in UK exports

'On 15th Oct 2014, we submitted the detailed design of the first phase of (PSDF) to (SBDC) for approval. We anticipate a decision by SBDC at the end of 2014, and intend to commence development in the early part of 2015.'

Click here to read the latest Pinewood official update..

www.pinewoodgroup.com/pinewoodexpansion

IMPORTANT POINT: Terry Ackland-Snow has asked Pinewood for a meeting with film makers so that their opinions about the expansion and siting of facilities would be taken into consideration.



Warner Bros Leavesden have in their key selling points 'Designed by film makers for film makers'. Leavesden design and planning has made it one of the successful UK film studios in terms of practical day to day workings.

Our input can make Pinewood another logistically great place to work. And I'm not talking about Starbucks but interlinking facilities, access, manufacture and supporting practical film making from build to shoot.

## That's all, folks: what the end of 35mm film means for cinema

Like all things human, the 35mm reel is slowly shuffling off this mortal coil. This year, Paramount Pictures became the first big studio to announce that it would no longer release 35mm prints of movies in the US.

Click here to read the full article... www.newstatesman.com

And the other side of the coin...

**Christopher Nolan** and Paramount Pictures are releasing *Interstellar* in 35mm format two days prior to the film's official release date (November 7, 2014). Digital Cinema format are scheduled to release the same day.

Christopher Nolan is the sort of Hollywood director who's bestowed attention for every new film. His latest, *Interstellar*, is getting noticed not just for its ambitious scope but the number of formats six, in which audiences can see it.

"David Lean dragged 65-millimeter cameras into the desert and I don't know why we shouldn't have similar aspirations." Nolan told the *New York Times Magazine* 

Other chains see the analog-vs.-digital debate as a way to stoke audience interest in the \$165 million picture.

Click to read full article...www.businessweek.com



Shoot like the pros with the first Photography app from Panavision, the leading designer, manufacturer and supplier of ultra precision equipment for the motion picture industry.

Before cameras roll on movie sets around the world, crews scout the locations. PANASCOUT™ simulates the cinematographer's viewpoint from a professional cinema camera. Add flavor and composition to your photos when you see what the pros see. Frame photos in true widescreen 2.40 (Anamorphic), 1.85 (Super 35mm), 1.78 (16x9 HD) and 1.33 (4x3) aspect ratios with PANAFRAME™.

Read in full ... www.panascout.com



For artists & designers...or anyone creative









We got lots of interest and some very positive comments when we showed these 3D printers at the recent British Film Designers Guild barbecue event. One of the questions we were asked was, "How do I know that my 3D model software is compatible with the Stratasys 3D printers!".

The answer is that its easy. If your software (such as

SketchUp) can output an STL file then the Stratasys software will do the rest.

The other question, of course, was, "How much?"

Mojo series (5"x5"x5" Build Size):List price: from £6848.00 (includes start up materials pack)

Rental: from £850.00 per month

Materials: ssurprisingly economical – lets talk!

Uprint Series (8"x6"x6" Build Size)

List price: from £11,028.00 (includes start up materials pack)

Rental: from £1600.00 per month

Materials: surprisingly economical – lets talk!

These are slightly "ball-park" figures as you might need us to install and give some training: and each customers requirements are different.

Getting started in 3D printing is probably a lot easier than you thought.

Quote from someone at the BFDG Barbecue, "I just paid £4000 to have a model made and you're telling me that it would have cost about £250 in materials using this printer. And I would have been in complete control, in my own office!"

From Robert Wright (Mr Boville Wright himself) "thank you for allowing us to attend the BBQ and show off the 3D printers"

#### Just a note for parity...

Geerings also have a range of 3D printers for sale or hire

#### Geerings of Ashford demo 3D printer 11th Sep 2014



Local businesses attending Kent B2B Conference and Exhibition held on 8 July in Ashford were able to experience first hand the possibilities of 3D printing with a demo by printing experts Geerings of Ashford.

On show was a multiple award-winning 3D printer known as 'Cube 2' by leaders in 3D technology, 3D Systems. Cube 2 is an affordable and accessible plug and play 3D printer with 16 print colours and WiFi printing.

It's just one of a range of 3D printers that Geerings will soon be stocking to meet the needs of right through to the production environment.

Just contact the lovely Michael Smoker.



michael.smoker@geerings.co.uk www.geerings.co.uk/3Dprinters



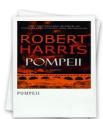
#### Got a website? Advertise it ...

#### TAMARA MARINI tamaramarini.altervista.org

#### NICK PELHAM www.nickpelham.co.uk









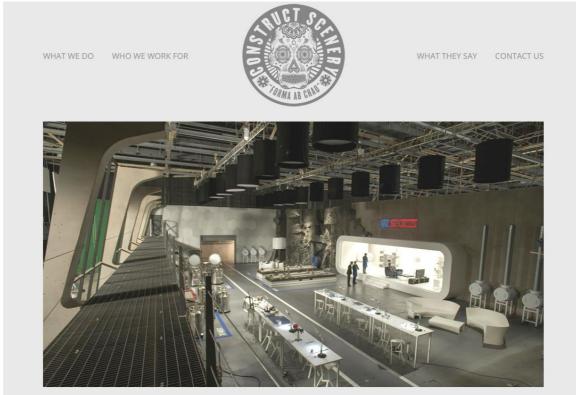


#### Done something you're proud of ...

Our friendly Construction Manager, Warren Lever has a new website. He built the Marks & Spencers 'Magic & Sparkle' commercial, comparable to an independent UK film but with more Producers.



With over 20 years experience and access to the best freelance crew the industry has to offer, we are well placed to help you on your next production. With the addition of new HD formats the days of "The camera will never see it" are long over and with this in mind we pride ourselves on the quality of the finishes we achieve. We have large fully equipped workshops, with easy access to all the main studios and West End. A range of stock scenery for last minute builds is available, along with the ability to set up a full workshop in any location or studio you choose, both in the UK and abroad.



constructscenery.co.uk He's being working hard in our Committee too.





Also..

'You can't keep a good man down'... John West... has been busy!

'Before I go to Sleep' on which he Art Directed the reshoot, is in cinemas.

http://www.screenrelish.com/2014/09/02/go-sleep-review/http://darrens-world-of-entertainment.blogspot.co.nz/2014/09/before-i-go-to-sleep-movie-review.html

http://www.culturefix.co.uk/2014/08/review-before-i-go-to-sleep.html http://skymovies.sky.com/before-i-go-to-sleep

## Introducing **new** Members & graduating students & **Friends** of the Guild...

If you are new to the Guild or Industry please send in some background, get some publicity.

#### Introducing – Simon McGuire.

Trained as an Architect. After Several years in practice in the UK and Japan, moved to Canada to work as 3D Artist on Television, Film and Video Game productions. 4 years later relocated to Germany and then Australia working in VFX as a Digital Artist/ Art Director.

Currently working in UK Art Departments as a Concept Artist.

## Simon McGuire

Concept Designer and Art Director

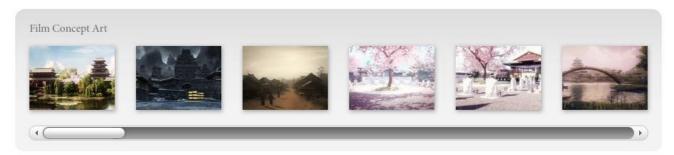
PORTFOLIO RESUME

UK









This is an open invitation to new members and associated NFTS & FDI graduating students



Remember, now the weather is turning, as a BFDG member you get a discount on Outdoor clothing. Info on Facebook in the file section.



#### Cotswold Outdoor

We have a huge 15% affiliation discount code for members.

#### for work...

Contact the office for the latest availabilities or check our facebook weekly membership updates.

#### **UK BASED**

Adam O'Neill - AD/SAD Andy Thomson - AD/SAD Barbara Ann Spencer - D Danny Rogers - GD/AD Graham Wyn Jones - SA John West - A/D Lesley Oakley - D Nic Pallace - AD Oli Novadnieks - PB Rose Konstam - A / SDA Rowena Oven - GD Sally King - GD Siobhan Pemberton - AD avail from Jan Simon Lamont - AD Samantha Atkinson A/ADA Sophie Powell - GD

Some enquiries the Guild has received have asked us not to publish information but would like to know available crew. So please keep us informed as this happens fairly frequently but we always respect privacy. Provisional list; intended for Supervising Art Directors and general notifications.

For Production Designer availability contact the office. Like most members of the British Film Industry, we are open to offers!



#### **NEW MEMBERS...**

May we welcome the following new members who have joined the Guild recently? We hope your time with us will be a long and rewarding one:

Beverley Butcher - PB David Bryan - PD Gemma Randall - GD Tonja Schuermann - ASD

Hugh McClelland – D Kathryn Pyle – PB Katrina Dunn – AAD Aurelie Taillefer – A Lucienne Suren – AD Nic Pallace – AD Rowena Oven – GD Anna Czernivska – A

Charlie Austin – A Marie Boon – A Oliver Williams - A

All members are welcome to add to the newsletter, indeed encouraged. If you're been 'out of loop' in recent months / years or now want to open up to a larger audience, Just send in your website details, a line / paragraph or monologue about yourself. Images that we can use are great – we will happily give links and credits. Although we are cautious of copyright issues of course – the usual. Come on, tell us about yourself!

#### **PRODUCTION NEWS & RUMOUR MILL**

#### **UK In Production**

Bond 24 Skyfall sequel / UK / Dir Sam Mendes / PD Dennis Gassner / SAD Chris Lowe Mission Impossible 5 / Leavesden & europe / PD Bissell / SAD Dad's Army / UK / PD Simon Bowles / SAD Andrew Munro Alice in Wonderland 2 / Pinewood / Prod Tim Burton (almost completed) The Danish Girl / UK / PD Eve Stewart / SAD Grant Armstrong Now you See me 2 / Longcross / SAD Stuart Kearns St Trinian's 3 tv / Ealing The Last Kingdom tv / Ealing War and Peace tv / Wales Hollow Crown tv / UK

#### International in Production

Martian / Budapest / PD Arthur Max / SAD Marc Holmes Game of thrones / HBO / Belfast & Croatia / PD Deb Rilley The Happy Prince / UK & Europe Ben Hur / Rome Ali & Nino / Europe / SAD Christian Hubbard

#### **Pre-Production**

Star War aka AVCO / Pinewood / Disney / PD Rick Carter & Darren Gilford / SAD Neil Lamont Avengers: Age of Ultron 'aka After-Party' / UK / Marvel / PD Charles Woods / SAD Ray Chan Jungle Book / Leavesden / PD Gary Freeman Ghost in the Shell / UK / PD Jan Roelfs

Mrs Peregrines Home for Peculiar Children / London location / PD Gavin Bocquet / SAD Peter Russell Knights of the Round Table / Leavesden / PD Gemma Jackson / SAD Denis Schneg London has Fallen / UK & Europe

#### **Penciled in Productions**

Prometheus 2 / UK
Fantastic Beasts / Leavesden / Wtr J K Rowling
Suicide Squad / Leavesden / Dir David Ayer
Star Wars 8 / Pinewood / Disney
Pattern Recognition / UK
Time of Their Lives / UK & France
The Hot Zone tv / Dir Ridley Scott

#### **Post Production**

Star War aka AVCO / Pinewood / Disney / PD Rick Carter & Darren Gilford / SAD Neil Lamont Avengers: Age of Ultron 'aka After-Party' / UK / Marvel / PD Charles Woods / SAD Ray Chan Tarzan / Leavesden / PD Stuart Craig
Our Kind of Traitor / PD Sarah Greenwood
Tulip Fever



**Early Prep Productions** 

Blade Runner 2 / Wtr Micheal Green Wonder Woman / USA Hack Attack / Dir George Clooney Ali Baba And The 40 Thieves / Fox The Accountant / Dir Ben Affleck The Hateful Eight / Dir Quentin Tarrantino Catching Fire / USA

#### **Distant Production**

My Big Fat greek Wedding 3

#### **Movie News**

**Foundation** Series - Isaac Asimov's books early prep with Dir Roland Emmerich **Playmobil** movie – in the Lego theme

FROM THE RUMOUR MILL... And some of this info has to be considered just so.....

If any Guild members have any more definitive information then please let the office know immediately!...... Please check with any individuals mentioned regarding availability...

And do not quote or rely on any of this information!...

Rumours are published for the benefit of the membership only! Please let us know if anything is wrong, and it can be corrected.

#### And Finally,

Do please, feel free to contribute to the newsletter, by way of comment, with some copy material, news or any info for the RUMOUR MILL....anything that is seriously wrong then please post on Facebook!

Please send contributions via Maddie in the office or to me directly by email.

I am aware that many people, other than members of the Guild, have sight of, and read this Newsletter each month. If you would like to apply to become a member, or express a point of view to the wider membership then please do sign up and get involved.

#### **Simon Bowles**

Chairman BFDG mail@SimonBowles.com





BFDG on Twitter...click here BFDG Designers Guild @BFDG\_Film\_Guild



BFDG on Google+...click here Public Pages



<u>BFDG on Linkedin...click here</u> British Film Designers Guild (in construction)

#### **Mads Bushnell**

Administrator British Film Designers Guild

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