



For Immediate Release:

## **DENIS OLSEN TO RECEIVE A LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AT THE 2020 ART DIRECTORS GUILD AWARDS**



*Denis Olsen, ADG*

***24<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards to be Held on Saturday, February 1, 2020  
at the InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown***

Los Angeles **(DATE)** — Denis Olsen, prolific artist on movies, television, theater and commercials, is set to receive the [Art Directors Guild](#) (ADG, IATSE Local 800) Scenic, Title and Graphic Artists Lifetime Achievement Award at the [24th Annual "Excellence in Production Design" Awards](#) on Saturday, February 1, 2020, returning this year to the InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown in the Wilshire Grand Ballroom. This is the second of four Lifetime Achievement Awards to be announced by the Art Directors Guild.

"I am very fortunate to have known and worked with Denis for several decades. He is a wonderfully talented and very interesting man," said Patrick DeGreves, Scenic, Title & Graphic Artists Council Chair.

Olsen began his career as an Art Director at KCOP (Channel 13). He worked for various studios and other entertainment companies for more than 40 years including Superior Backings as a scenic and sign painter, The Walt Disney Studios in entertainment development, Warner Bros. Studios in their scenic department and J.C. Backings Corp. as the lead man on backdrops and special artwork for movies, television, theater and commercials. Olsen's career also included countless productions at 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox, MGM Studios, KNXT and CBS-TV.

His numerous film credits include *Ghostbusters*, *Rocky 2 & 3*, *The Muppet Movie*, *Romancing the Stone*, *Mr. Mom*, *Star Trek 2 & 3*, *Johnny Dangerously* and *Poltergeist*, among many others. His TV credits include *All in the Family*, *Soap*, *Three's Company*, *One Day at a Time*, *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* and *Fame*. In addition to his set work on the Emmys® and the Oscars®, Olsen's talents have graced several television variety shows including *The Carol Burnett Show*, *The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour*, *The Smothers Bros. Show*, *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In* and *Cher*. He also worked on projects for Disney World and Disneyland, Epcot, Tokyo Disneyland, Marineland, Universal Studios Tours and Six Flags Magic Mountain. Olsen is credited for creating some of the stunning Las Vegas show sets including the MGM Grand stage, Folies Bergère, David Copperfield and Siegfried & Roy.

Olsen was curator at the ADG's Gallery 800 in North Hollywood, retiring in 2017. He created over 40 art exhibits highlighting personal artwork of members of the ADG. He also served on the ADG Executive Board for several years.

The ADG Lifetime Achievement Awards are presented to outstanding individuals in each of the guild's four crafts. As previously announced, **Joe Alves** will receive the ADG Lifetime Achievement Award from the Production Designers and Art Directors Council (AD). The honorees for the Set Designers and Model Makers (SDMM), and Illustrators and Matte Artists (IMA) will be announced shortly. Previous recipients include *AD*: Jeannine Oppewall (2019), Norm Newberry (2018), René Lagler (2017); *STG*: Jim Fiorito (2019) John Moffitt (2018), Albert Obregon (2017), Bill Anderson (2016); *SDMM*: William F. Matthews (2019), James J. Murakami (2018), Cate Bangs (2017); and *IMA*: Ed Verreux (2019), Marty Kline (2018), Joe Musso (2017). A complete list can be found on [ADG's website](#).

The producer of this year's ADG Awards (#ADGawards) is Production Designer Scott Moses, ADG. Online nomination voting will be held November 18 – December 6, 2019. Nominations will be announced December 9, 2019. Online balloting will be held December 18, 2019 – January 30, 2020 and winners will be announced at the dinner ceremony on Saturday, February 1, 2020. ADG Awards are open only to productions when made within the U.S. by producer's signatory to the IATSE agreement. Foreign entries are acceptable without restrictions.

Additional honorees for Lifetime Achievement, Cinematic Imagery and new inductees into the Guild's Hall of Fame will be announced at a later date. Further inquiries regarding the ADG Awards may be directed to Debbie Patton, ADG Awards & Events Director, at 818.762.9995, Email: [Debbie@adg.org](mailto:Debbie@adg.org)  
Media sponsors are *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Variety* and *SHOOT*.

**NOTE TO MEDIA:** Media credentials required. To apply, visit <http://bit.ly/2gU8rwC>

**ABOUT THE ART DIRECTORS GUILD:**

Established in 1937, the Art Directors Guild (IATSE Local 800) represents 2,700 members who work throughout the world in film, television and theater as Production Designers and Art Directors; Scenic, Title and Graphic Artists; Set Designers and Model Makers; and Illustrators and Matte Artists. The ADG's ongoing activities include a Film Society screening series, annual "Excellence in Production Design Awards" gala, bimonthly craft magazine ([PERSPECTIVE](#)), figure drawing and other creative workshops, extensive technology and craft training programs and year-round Gallery 800 art exhibitions. For the Guild's online directory and website resources, go to [www.adg.org](http://www.adg.org). Connect with the Art Directors Guild on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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