



A R T D I R E C T O R S G U I L D

BILL TAYLOR AND SYD DUTTON TO RECEIVE ART DIRECTORS GUILD'S CINEMATIC IMAGERY AWARD

LOS ANGELES, January 25, 2011 — Emmy Award® winner Bill Taylor, ASC and Emmy Award® winner Syd Dutton have been selected to receive the Art Directors Guild's coveted honorary Outstanding Contribution to Cinematic Imagery Award, it was announced today by Thomas A. Walsh, ADG President, and Awards co-producers Dawn Snyder and Tom Wilkins. Taylor and Dutton are co-founders of Illusion Arts, where they earned credits on nearly 200 films. As Illusion Arts wound up its 26 year run, the company completed dozens of shots for Michael Mann's *Public Enemies* (2009) for supervisor Robert Stadd and some key environments for *G.I. Joe*. One of their first major assignments was to create special effects for the new version of the television series *The Twilight Zone*.

Both Taylor and Dutton were visual effects artists on numerous notable films together, including *U-571* (2000), *The Fast and the Furious* (2001), *Bruce Almighty* (2003), and *Casanova* (2005). More recently Taylor and Dutton co-supervised *Milk* (2008) for which they created more than 150 "invisible" shots.

The ADG's Cinematic Imagery Award is given to an individual whose body of work in the film industry has richly enhanced the visual aspects of the movie-going experience. Previous recipients of this honor have been Warren Beatty, Allen Daviau, Clint Eastwood, Blake Edwards, Terry Gilliam, Ray Harryhausen, Norman Jewison, John Lasseter, George Lucas, Frank Oz, Steven Spielberg, Robert S. Wise and Zhang Yimou. The award will be presented to Taylor and Dutton as one of the highlights of the 15th annual Art Directors Guild Awards on February 5, 2011, during black tie ceremonies at the International Ballroom of the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Nine ADG awards in production design categories for television, theatrical motion pictures, music videos and commercials will also be presented, along with a Lifetime Achievement Award for Production Designer and Costume Designer Patricia Norris. In addition, there will also be a presentation of the three newest Production Designers to be inducted into the ADG's Hall of Fame: Alexander Golitzen, Albert Hescong and Eugène Lourié.

Inspired by Ray Harryhausen's miraculous effects in *Jason and the Argonauts* (1963) and fueled by a lifelong interest in stage magic and sleight-of-hand, visual effects supervisor and director of photography Taylor, began his career as an optical cameraman specializing in blue screen compositing. In 1974 he created optical effects (and title song lyrics) for John Carpenter and Dan O'Bannon's ultra-low-budget *Dark Star* (1974); in the same year he began work at Universal Studios Matte Department as the cameraman for the renowned Matte Artist Albert Whitlock, a longtime mentor. Dutton, his future business partner, came on board a month later. *The Hindenburg* (1975), Taylor's and Dutton's first film with Whitlock, received the Special Achievement Award for visual effects from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Starting off in the mailroom at Universal Studios, Dutton was first exposed to the art of

(more)

matte painting through daily visits to the studio of Whitlock. Dutton's talents were recognized at an early age and his personal ambition to improve his artistic skills followed him through studying art at U.C. Berkeley where he received his BA and Master's Degrees. Soon after graduation, Dutton's interests broadened to include filmmaking and writing. He feels that the most successful special effects are those the audience does not realize are effects at all. He strives for realism, whether it is recreating the past in an ancient Roman city or imagining a future world. He has worked for a diverse group of the top directors, including: Martin Scorsese, Terry Gilliam, Wolfgang Peterson, Robert Redford, Mel Brooks and more.

In 1985 Taylor and Dutton won the Emmy® for Outstanding Special Visual Effects for their work on the television miniseries "A.D." In 1981 Taylor was awarded the Technical Achievement Award from The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for the concept and specifications for a Two Format, Rotating Head and Aerial Image Optical Printer. Additionally, in 1992 Dutton won the Emmy® for Outstanding Individual Achievement in Special Visual Effects for his work on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

Co-Producers for this year's ADG Awards are Dawn Snyder and Tom Wilkins. Art Director Scott Enge will design the ceremony using over 450,000 SWAROVSKI crystals, in a multitude of different applications and styles. Sponsors for the 15th Annual ADG awards are: Set and Décor Sponsor SWAROVSKI; Gold Sponsors are Fox Studio Production Services and Universal Studios Operations; and Silver Sponsors are Astek Inc./On Air Designs, Montana Artists Agency, and Warner Bros. Studio Facilities. Media sponsors are *Below The Line*, *Hollywood Reporter* and *Variety*. Tarin Wilson of plan A events is the event planner for this year's ADG awards.

About the Art Directors Guild:

The Art Directors Guild (IATSE Local 800) represents nearly 2,000 members who work throughout the United States, Canada and the rest of the world in film, television and theater as Production Designers, Art Directors, Assistant Art Directors; Scenic, Title and Graphic Artists; Illustrators and Matte Artists; and Set Designers and Model Makers. Established in 1937, the ADG's ongoing activities include a Film Society; an annual Awards Banquet, a creative/technology community (5D: The Future of Immersive Design); a bimonthly craft magazine (Perspective); extensive technology-training programs, figure drawing and other creative workshops and year-round Gallery 800 art exhibitions. The Guild's Online Directory/Website Resource is at www.adg.org.

Follow ADG on Twitter: www.twitter.com/ADG800

###

NOTE TO MEDIA: Electronic images of Bill Taylor and Syd Dutton are available by contacting Nicole Bamber at Nicole@publicity4all.com.

PRESS CONTACTS:

Weissman/Markovitz Communications
Lindajo Loftus, Cheri Warner
Tel: 818.760.8995, Fax: 818.760.4847
Lindajo@publicity4all.com, Cheri@publicity4all.com