MANJUSHA BALACHANDRAN-HALL

Lead Lighting TD
Email: mbalhall@gmail.com
Showreel: http://manjushabhall.com/Showreel2.mp4

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

FROM OCT 20 – JAN 21

LONDON COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION, LONDON

Designation: **Associate Lecturer Maya, Part Time**

Roles and Responsibilities:
- Responsible for delivery of Maya/Arnold curriculum for BA year 1 students, covering aspects of modeling, look development, texturing, lighting, rendering and animation.
- In charge of preparing syllabus, course content, e – learning, conducting online teaching sessions, student assessment and final grades.
- Supervise and guide students in their learning and their final projects.
- Mentor, motivate and nurture students through their academic and non-academic learning journey.

FROM MAR 13 – DEC 19

MOVING PICTURE COMPANY, LONDON

Designation: **Lead Lighting Technical Director**

Roles and Responsibilities:
- Responsible for the overall lighting supervision of 4 sequences that consisted of approximately 350 shots.
- Working closely with the CG and VFX supervisors to define the creative and technical approach for the show and also establishing the initial look of the sequences.
- Creating template workflows for teams to base their workflow from.
- Assisting and supervising a team of 20 artists in achieving the artistic goals of the production.
- Mentoring the team through creative and technical challenges.
- Working with production to manage the day to day running of the team.
- Evaluating artist schedules ensuring they are realistic and achievable.
- Attending desk rounds and dailies sessions with the team and giving them feedback/approvals on a regular basis.
- Collaborating with all the other departments and ensuring that the lighting team is working efficiently and productively and are on target to meet all milestones and deadlines.

Movies worked on:
- **Cats (2019) –** Tom Hooper

Designation: **Key Artist/ Senior Lighting Technical Director**

Roles and Responsibilities:
- Defining the look of the sequence based on the CG/VFX supervisor's brief.
- Working on the key shots in the sequence.
- Responsible for a small team of artists who work on the sequence.
- Delivering consistency in lighting, color balance and mood across the entire sequence.
- Defining the workflow and setting up the Katana templates and light rigs for the sequence.
- Analysing lighting on the sets, building HDRIs, creating photorealistic CGI to match live action.
- Working on high volume of shots, which involve fast turnaround with daily deliveries to meet the production schedule deadlines.
- Troubleshooting render issues and optimizing shots for rendering.
- Work with minimum supervision and also as part of a team.
- Familiarity with VFX pipeline issues.

Additionally:
- I had an opportunity to solely manage the lighting on a show. This involved liaising with the other departments to make sure all the upstreams are good to pick up, setting up katana template, optimizing renders and working closely with supervisors to achieve the desired look.
- Proficient in Katana, Nuke, Renderman and Photoshop.

Movies worked on:
- **The Lion King (2019) –** Jon Favreau
- **Alien: Covenant (2017) –** Ridley Scott
- **Transformers: The Last Knight (2017) –** Michael Bay
- **Passengers (2016) –**Morten Tyldum

- **The Shallows (2016)** – Jaume Collet-Serra
- **The Legend of Tarzan (2016) –** Bryan Singer
- **The Jungle Book (2016) –** Jon Favreau
- **Fantastic Four (2015) –** Josh Trank
- **Terminator Genisys (2015) –** Alan Taylor
- **Monsters Truck (2017) –** Chris Wedge
- **Exodus: Gods and Kings (2014) –** Ridley Scott
- **Guardians of the Galaxy (2014) –** James Gunn
- **Maleficent (2014) –** Robert Stromberg
- **300: Rise of an Empire (2014) –** Noam Murro
- **The Lone Ranger (2013) –** Gore Verbinski

Additional Roles and Responsibilities:
- From 2017 onwards I was also involved in developing inhouse lighting department training tutorials for Katana and Nuke.
- Mentoring recent hires and artists to get them accustomed to the company pipeline/ tools and workflow.

NOV 11 – FEB 13   FRAMESTORE, LONDON

Designation: **Lighting Technical Director**

Roles and Responsibilities:
- Setting up, lighting and rendering assigned shots.
- Creating efficient light rigs for characters and environment, manipulating lights, tweaking material properties, rendering multipass elements and creating a pre composite of rendered elements for further refinement.
- Lighting shots using Maya, Renderman, Nuke, Photoshop with Framestore customized macros.
- Solving technical problems occurring during lighting or rendering and optimizing the shots for rendering.
- Keeping the production and supervisors updated on the progress of the shots.

Movies worked on:
- **47 Ronin (2013) –** Carl Rinsch
- **Lincoln (2012) –** Steven Speilberg
- **The Dictator (2012) –** Larry Charles
- **Wrath of the Titans (2012) –** Jonathan Liebesman

JAN 11 – OCT 11   CINESITE, LONDON

Designation: **Lighting Technical Director**

Movies worked on:
- **John Carter (2012) –** Andrew Stanton

NOV 09 – DEC 10   FRAMESTORE, LONDON

Designation: **Lighting Technical Director**

Movies worked on:
- **Gravity (2013) –** Alfonso Cuarón
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010) –** Michael Apted
- **Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) –** Susanna White

JAN 08 – OCT 09   FRAMESTORE, LONDON

Designation: **Render Technician**

Roles and Responsibilities:
- Understanding productions render pipeline.
- Monitoring and managing the render farm to keep it running at full capacity.
  - Tasks involve troubleshooting and correcting failed tasks, image quality control, resource allocations among different shows, technical advice/support and interfacing with artists, systems administrators and production management to ensure production deadlines are met.
- Monitoring infrastructure servers and escalating problems.
- Worked on movies: **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (2010), Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (2010), Clash of the Titans (2010), Sherlock Holmes (2009), Avatar (2009), Where the Wild Things Are (2009), Triangle (2009), The Tale of Despereaux (2008), Australia**

(2008), Wanted (2008), The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (2008).

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

SEP 2018   **Moving Picture Company Employee of the Month**
Awarded Employee of the Month for my work on The Lion King.

EDUCATIONAL OVERVIEW

SEP 06 – OCT 07   **BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY, BOURNEMOUTH**
Master of Science, Computer Animation
One-year full time course from the UK's only Centre for Excellence in Media Practice, National Centre for Computer Animation.
Core Subjects: Computer Graphics Fundamentals, Programming for Graphics, Computer Animation Principles & Practice, Film-Making Techniques, Visual Theory & Practice, and several Animation Projects.

SEP 01 – JUN 05   **CMR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, BANGALORE**
Bachelor of Engineering in Information Science
A four-year full time course from Visvesvaraya Technological University, one of South India's leading universities.
Core Subjects: Computer Systems Design & Architecture, Mathematics, Data Structures & Programming, Software Engineering, OOPS, Computer Networks and Distributed Computing.

IT SKILLS & STRENGTHS

Concepts	Programming Practices for Graphics, Computer Animation Principles & Practice, Software Development Life Cycle, User-Interface Design, Object Oriented Programming concepts, Testing Methodologies and RDBMS
Platforms	Linux, Windows and Macintosh
Web Technologies	HTML, CSS
Applications	Katana, Nuke, Photoshop, Renderman, Dreamweaver, After Effects, Maya, Arnold

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name	Manjusha Balachandran-Hall
Citizenship	British
Email	mbalhall@gmail.com
Showreel	http://manjushabhall.com/Showreel2.mp4
Key areas of interest	Lighting, Compositing, Art Direction, VFX supervision, Production
Hobbies	Art, Photography, Interior design