



# [digital] Visual Effects and Compositing

By Jon Gress

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In this latest book in the critically-acclaimed [digital] series from New Riders you'll learn all of the techniques and skills that will take you from beginner to visual effects (VFX) professional in just one book. Seasoned visual effects producer Jon Gress has refined the teaching of the skills and techniques presented in this book for over a decade to distill them down to the most effective methodology, delivered in a way that's both fun and easy to understand while being state-of-the-art for industry professionals. You'll start with a solid understanding of the basics of visual effects and compositing, the fundamentals of bluescreen and greenscreen keying, 3D texturing, cloning, wire & rig removal, rotoscoping, 2D and 3D motion tracking, and matchmoving. And then experiment with a wide range of 2D, 2.5D & 3D visual effects, including 3D CGI, crowd replication, face replacements, faking shadows, reflections and Z depth, atmospheric, smoke, cloud & heat FX, sky replacements, day-for-night and digital 3D HUD FX. Building on this strong foundation of compositing and visual effects, you'll be prepared for the advanced section of the book which teach skills, such as 2D, 2.5D & 3D digital matte painting and projections, film colorization, particle systems, fluid and rigid body dynamics, full digital environments, digital destruction, advanced lighting and rendering techniques, stereoscopic 3D, 2D to 3D conversions, and expert 3D and Photoshop extraction and modeling techniques that can only be described as magic! Throughout the lessons, you'll glean insider advice on cutting edge methods that even experienced professionals will find amazing. You'll learn everything you need to know to begin working in the world of visual effects as an industry professional.

- All the info you need to go from beginner to professional in one book
- Easily accessible teaching style from an instructor who has helped launch the careers of some of the best-known Hollywood visual effects specialists

- Includes companion graphics files and videos to follow along with the lessons

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## Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

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## About the Author

With over 25 years of digital & visual special effects, film, video, audio, and multimedia production experience, writer/producer/director and visual effects producer Jon Gress is one of the new breed of independent filmmakers who can write, shoot, direct, edit, and produce Hollywood sized digital & visual special effects. Jon has been on the cutting edge of digital production technologies since their beginnings and has taught production and software applications courses in Visual Effects, Compositing, Filmmaking, VFX Supervision, the entire Adobe Production Suite, Nuke, Fusion, Lightwave 3D, 3D Studio Max, PF Track, Boujou, Mocha Pro, RealFlow, Turbulence FD, Digital Matte Painting and UDK & Unity game engines. He has trained hundreds of visual effects artists, who have gone on to secure jobs in top visual effects companies all over the world and have worked on movies, including *Titanic*, *The Expendables*, *Harry Potter*, *Iron Man*, *Captain America*, *Thor*, *The Avengers*, *Avatar*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *Beowulf* and many more. He has created productions for many multinational and Fortune 500 clients and is writer/producer/director of the upcoming independent sci-fi feature trilogy *Anunnaki - The Movie*.

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