

Matthew Graham Cooke – Senior Lighting Artist

Newport Beach, California. USA.

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Profile.

Senior Lighting Artist and Director of Photography with advanced understanding of lighting, cinematography, camera theory and practice, mise-en-scène, dramaturgy, and visual storytelling, as well as a deep understanding of CG lighting technology; both real-time and off-line, global illumination, direct/indirect lighting, baked lighting, ray-tracing, PBR, color correction and color theory.

Professional Experience.

March 2016 – Present.

Senior Lighting Artist – Ready at Dawn Studios, USA.

Duties: Work with custom in-house technologies to light the ‘Lone Echo’ series; the flagship IP for the Oculus Rift Virtual Reality gaming platform, as well as subsequent titles. Use expertise in lighting and cinematography to create distinct atmospheres and memorable looks within the game environments, while working both independently, as part of the team at large, and along-side the Art Director to achieve the intended overall vision for the look and mood of the game.

Achievements

- Created a large number of memorable, diverse and dramatic lighting scenarios for large portions of ‘Lone Echo’, which were designed and optimized for the unique challenges presented by virtual reality.
- Took responsibility for all of the cinematic character lighting across Lone Echo by leveraging cinematography experience and photographic shot lighting expertise.
- Lead the efforts to improve our in-house photogrammetry workflow and adjusted our human scanning rig for optimal photographic conditions.

November 2014 – February 2016

Lighting Artist - Splash Damage, United Kingdom.

Duties - Create and maintain all elements of lighting and post processing. Work with the Art Director and environment art team to create color palette, look and atmosphere. Balance visual quality, technical limitations and performance. Contribute to the advancement of lighting technology.

Achievements

- Utilized photographic expertise to introduce a better overall camera exposure philosophy, and lead an effort to improve the studios’ approach to lighting by highlighting problems in the existing PBR pipeline and presenting solutions to be implemented for future projects.
- Mentored environment artists in lighting theory and practice, allowing them to help with support lighting tasks. Raised awareness for the requirements for, and benefits of, good lightmap uv layout within the environment art team.

2005 – 2015

Director of Photography/Cinematographer and Camera Operator. Freelance, represented by Intrinsic London (formerly Dinedor management)

Duties – Responsible for all photographic elements of filming, from pre-production to post-production, including, lighting, framing, lens choice, colour palette, highlighting costume, make-up and art direction considerations, photographic VFX considerations, post production colour grading. Collaborating directly with the director, production, VFX supervisor, all HOD’s, as well as selecting, managing and supervising the camera, lighting and grips crew. In-depth knowledge and experience with 35mm, 16mm, Alexa, Red along with most other major shooting formats, large-scale lighting set-ups, Motion Control, high-speed, chroma key, practical SFX, VFX and digital VFX.

Education

2003-2005

The London Film School – **Master of Arts (MA)**, Film Making, specialising in cinematography

2000-2003

The University of Leeds – **Bachelor of Arts, 1st class** (BA, joint honours, 1st class) Communication and cultural studies, with media.

1998-2000

The University of Leeds – **Certificate of Higher Education**, Food Science.

1994-1998

Framlingham collage – 3 A-levels, one AS level and 9 GCSE's

Awards/Accolades

Winner – Best Cinematography: Sydney Indie Film Festival 2016, Runner up: Limelight Film and Arts Awards 2011, Gold Award: California Film awards 2010,
Winner: Grand Prix European Des Premiers Film 2010, Winner: Cannes ONF Short Film, Berlinale Talent attendee 2006.

Talks/Panels

Game Developers Conference (GDC) 2017, San Francisco – The Future of Real-time Lighting.

Published Games

Lone Echo (2017- Ready at Dawn Studios)

Gears of War 4 (2016 – Splash Damage)

Gears of War Ultimate Edition (2015 – Slash Damage)

Selected Filmography

Feature films: The Thompsons (2012), Jump (2012) – as 2nd Unit DOP

TV Commercials: Samsung, Nokia, The Telegraph, Waitrose, CNN, Harper Collins.

TV Drama: (As Camera Operator) – The Wrong Mans 2 (BBC), Mr Selfridge season 2 (ITV), Two Doors Down (BBC).

See next page for a more detailed credit list.

Software Proficiency

Maya, V-Ray, Mudbox, ZBrush, Photoshop, Unreal Engine 3 & 4, Houdini, Vue (Atmospheres), Substance Designer, Substance Painter, Quixel Suite, Unity, Mental Ray, Maxwell Render and Arnold.

Matthew Graham Cooke – Director of Photography

Selected filmography.

Date Production

Director / Production company

Feature films

2012 The Thompsons (DOP)
2012 Jump (2nd Unit DOP)

The Butcher Brothers / Film Harvest
Kieron J Walsh / Cyprus Avenue Films

TV drama

2014 Mr. Selfridge (Camera Operator)
2014 The Wrong Mans II (Camera Operator, dailies)
2014 Two Doors Down (Camera Operator)
2013 The Psychopath Next Door (Camera Operator)

Lawrence Till / ITV Studios
Jim Field Smith / Hulu
Catherine Morshead / BBC Scotland
Kieron J Walsh / ITV Studios

Commercials (selected)

2014 The Telegraph (DOP)
2014 Nokia (DOP)
2014 Dubai First Group (DOP)
2013 Lacoste (DOP)
2013 Optimax (DOP) x2
2013 Zurich Insurance (DOP)
2012 Hyundai (DOP)
2012 Oakly (DOP)
2012 Samsung (DOP)
2012 Samsung (DOP)
2010 Waitrose (DOP) (Motion Control)
2010 Yell.com (DOP) (Motion Control)
2010 CNN (DOP)
2009 CNN (DOP)
2009 Harper Collins (DOP)
2009 COI (DOP)
2008 Walls Sausages (DOP)
2008 V-Cashpoint (Viral) (DOP)
2007 Penguin Books 'Future' (2 x Virals) (DOP)
Winner of 3 IVCA 2008 Bronze awards
2007 British Airways 'Baby' (web advert) (DOP)
2007 Gordon Ramsay's Demand for Perfection (DOP)

Matt Simmonds / The Telegraph
Sebastian Barner-Rasmussen / Activeark JWT
Terry Gross / The Wild Night Company
Tim Walker / Theabold Fox
Bernard Pucher / Element 26
Robin Schmidt / Chrome Productions
Azhur Saleem / Irresistible Films
Warren Bramley / Four23
Alex Vero / Pendragon Films
Patrick Gather / Pendragon Films
Charlie Paul / Itch Film
Charlie Paul / Itch Film
Georgi Banks-Davies/Play People
Susan Moss/ PlayPeople/CNN
Ben Collier-Marsh / Addiction London
Peter Cattaneo / Academy Films
Mytherapy Films
Thirty-Two/ Pulse Films
Marco Espirito Santo / Pulse Films

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Charlie Paul / Itch Films

Music videos

2009 Evailo (DOP)
2009 The Hot Melts (DOP) (Motion Control)
2009 The Kooks (Live) (DOP)
2009 The White Lies (DOP)
2008 Richard Hawley (live) (DOP)
2008 Eugene McGuinness (DOP)
2008 Feeder (DOP)
2008 Nick Harrison (DOP)
2008 The Whip (DOP)
2008 Keith Caputo (DOP)
2006 Goodbooks (DOP)
2006 Cherry Blackstone (DOP)

Alex Herron / Jalla Films
Charlie Paul / Itch Films
Charlie Paul / Itch Films
Fred and Nick / Pulse Films
Danny O'Connor / Document UK
Thirty-Two / Southern Lovelace Productions
El Skid / Chrome Productions
Thirty-Two / Pulse Films
Berlin and McCool / Pulse Films
Corin Hardy / Academy Films
Ferry Gouw / Draw Pictures
Basil El Titi / Orangestick Pictures

Corporates / branded content

Clients Include: John Lewis, Lexus, Sony computer Entertainment, Linklaters, Glaxo Smith Kline, T-Mobile, Nokia, Action on Addiction, Price Waterhouse Coopers, Samsung, British Airways, Greenpeace, BAA, BBC Worldwide, Boots, Virgin Atlantic, & Lloyds Ban

Short films

2015 Another Love
(Winner – Best Cinematography Sydney Indie Film Festival 2016. Winner – Accolade Competition, Winner -California Film Awards, Winner – Marbella Film Festival, Winer – Visions Corte Film Festival, Winner – WorldFest Houston)
2012 Project Artichoke
2010 The Find
2010 The Marionette Unit
(Winner Images Festival - 5e GP Européen des Premiers Films)
2007 Withdrawal
Winner - Cannes ONF/NFB 2007)

Victor Perez / Masked Frame Productions
Azhur Saleem / Sahil Gill
Azhur Saleem / Funsized Studios
Azhur Saleem / Funsized Studios
Mark Conn / Step Productions