

SHOOT FOR THE SKY

CHRIS DEAN IS A TECHNICAL ARTIST FOR WETA DIGITAL, A COMPANY THAT CREATES VISUAL EFFECTS FOR FILM

MASTER OF SCIENCE.
VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY
OF WELLINGTON

INTERN AT
WETA DIGITAL

FX TD.
WETA DIGITAL

My dad is a communications engineer and my mum is an artist, so all my life I have had a passion for art and technology, pursuing these interests throughout high school, uni and grad school. For my bachelor's degree, I studied physics, maths, computer science, design and – for some reason – philosophy. Eventually, I settled on an interdisciplinary technical arts degree that combined programming with interactive digital media.

I studied computer science at Victoria University of Wellington as part of my Master of Science in Computer Graphics.

My professors there helped me land a summer internship at Weta Digital in the FX department. Effects technical

directors – or FX TDs – are responsible for animating physical phenomena like water, fire, smoke, object destruction and energy, and magical effects.

As an artist, I love to see my imagination brought to life. My advice to people who have the same dream is never stop playing. Tinker with new 3D software, make beautiful art creations or explore different code libraries. Don't be afraid of the maths and science of computer graphics – anyone can learn it with exposure, patience and practice.

Computer science is a powerful toolbox that will broaden your horizons in any field. Have fun with it, and always aim bigger, and prettier, in your projects.

GET INTO CS + CREATIVITY

Check out some work and study options...

CAREERS

Animator, illustrator, app developer, digital artist, musician, virtual reality developer, games developer, render wrangler, texture artist + more!

BACHELOR OF...

Design in Animation, **University of Technology, Sydney** bit.ly/2aKcHZY

Design (Animation and Interactive Media), **RMIT University** bit.ly/2aCaNK1

Design (Computing), **The University of Melbourne** bit.ly/2aRbK4b

Digital Media, **CQUniversity Australia** bit.ly/2aRaWMC

Design Innovation, **Victoria University of Wellington** bit.ly/2aHtkIM

Creative Technologies, **Auckland University of Technology** bit.ly/2aDzOGb

MASTER OF...

Digital Arts, **Australian National University** bit.ly/2aCHVDr