



THE ORPHANAGE

STU MASCHWITZ Founder

Stu Maschwitz is a director, visual effects supervisor, renowned technologist and founding partner of The Orphanage, a leading VFX and film production company based in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Hailed by *Shoot Magazine* as one of the Ten Commercial Directors To Watch, Maschwitz has quickly gained a reputation for his ability to tackle extraordinarily complex visual challenges while injecting his signature wry sense of humor and kinetic filmmaking style. His mind-bending spot "Consequences" for Playstation 2 and TBWA\Chiat\Day was named *Shoot's* Spot of the Week and *Board's* Spot of the Month, and was ranked #1 on *Adcritic.com* for several weeks after its release. In the past year, Maschwitz directed an impressive collection of commercials, including: a three spot campaign for *Gamefly*; a time-lapse spot for PG&E (part of a 5-spot campaign); a Super Bowl spot for *Ruby Tuesday*; and he currently has two more spots in production (*Toshiba* and *Dr. Scholl's*).

As one of the industry's top visual effects supervisors, in 2005 Maschwitz completed production on Robert Rodriguez', live-action/CG animated family film *The Adventures of Shark Boy and Lava Girl in 3-D* after leading a team of more than seventy artists to complete more than 600 visual effects shots for the noir comic book film *Sin City* for directors Robert Rodriguez and Frank Miller. Maschwitz' other recent supervision credits include *Spy Kids 3-D* and Pepsi's superhero themed Pepsiman campaign for Japanese television.

An innovator in filmmaking technology, Maschwitz is the creator of The Orphanage's revolutionary Magic Bullet software. The software, which gives inexpensive digital video the lush look of film, has been used to master hundreds of digital films, including the Paramount/MTV Films smash hit, *jackass: the movie* and Lion's Gate's highly acclaimed comedy *Lovely & Amazing*. The technology has become so highly desired by independent filmmakers that major companies such as Sony, Panasonic and Adobe are now bundling it with their filmmaking products.

Prior to joining up with his fellow co-conspirators to start The Orphanage, Maschwitz spent five years at George Lucas' Industrial Light + Magic, where he quickly became ILM's youngest supervisor. Leading the notorious "Rebel Mac Unit," he supervised all of the space battle sequences on *Star Wars, Episode One: The Phantom Menace*. His other visual effects credits include the blockbusters, *Twister*, *Men in Black*, *Deep Impact* and *Mission Impossible*.

He is a graduate of CalArts School of Animation.