

# IN FULL EFFECT

Makeup artist **Ve Neill** creates some of the most endearing, and outlandish, characters in cinema.

By: **JACKIE VELEZ**

Mrs. Doubtfire Makeup [actual transfor...



FACE OFF Judge Match incredible make...



*A Star Is Born* (2018). Image courtesy of Warner Bros.



*The Hunger Games* (2012). Image courtesy of Lionsgate.





When it comes to makeup and special effects in Hollywood, there are few makeup artists whose work is unmistakably recognizable the second it is spotted by moviegoers and critics alike. Ve Neill is that artist.

Neill has left her brush stroke on the film industry with spectacular creations one could only conjure up in their dreams. Neill's amazing technique has created one-of-a-kind characters. From *Beetlejuice* to *Ed Wood*, Neill constructs whimsical, jarring and endearing creatures and outlandish characters.

Neill's most notable works are synonymous with outrageous director, Tim Burton. Neill's top-tier creativity earned her awards in Burton's films, *Beetlejuice* (1988), for which she won Best Makeup at the 1989 Academy Awards, and *Ed Wood* (1994), for which she won again for Best Makeup at the 1995 Academy Awards. Not bad for someone who began her career as a rock 'n' roll stylist!

Neill's other *Burtonesque* works include *Edward Scissorhands* (1990), *Batman Returns* (1992), *Mars Attacks!* (1996) and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (2007). Neill also snagged a third Best Makeup Oscar in 1994 for *Mrs. Doubtfire* (1993), directed by Chris Columbus. With three Academy Awards and several nominations, Neill's talents never cease to be in demand.

Neill's résumé includes a plethora of other non-Burton, heavy-hitting films, including:

- *The Hunger Games* (2012)
- *The Amazing Spider-Man* (2012)
- *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* (2013)
- *X-Men: Days of Future Past* (2014)
- *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Parts 1 and 2* (2014 and 2015)

With an array of films under her belt, Neill has had the prestigious opportunity to work with several of Hollywood's finest, including Michael Keaton, Jennifer Lawrence, the late Robin Williams and Johnny Depp, with whom she has worked on multiple films.

One of Neill's latest projects is the Syfy television show, *Face-Off*. Neill is one of the panel judges, along with television and film makeup artist, Glenn Hettrick; creator, concept designer and director, Patrick Tatopoulos (Seasons 1-3); and creator and concept designer, Neville Page (Seasons 3-13).

The concept of the show is to award the winner of each season \$25,000 in Alcone makeup and a \$100,000 cash prize. *Face-Off* recently wrapped up its 13th and final season. However, the series became so popular, it spun off another show, *Face-Off: Game Face*, which brings back four contestants from previous *Face-Off* seasons, and pits them against each other for the chance to win a \$10,000 cash prize. Neill judges alongside special effects makeup creator, Rick Baker.



Image courtesy of First Entertainment Credit Union



*Ed Wood* (1994). Image courtesy of Touchstone Pictures.

Neill is currently working on various movie projects, including the anticipated remake of *A Star Is Born*, set to release in October. It's directed by Bradley Cooper, who also stars in the movie opposite Lady Gaga. Neill is the makeup department head, so you can expect another brilliant concept from the most renowned makeup artist in Hollywood.

At age 67, Neill shows no sign of slowing down. Her extensive list of projects is ever-growing, and her career continues to soar due to her original, creative concepts. 🌟

*Beetlejuice* (1988). Image courtesy of Warner Bros.

