

Bringing Imagination to Life

Weta Workshop is a multi-award winning conceptual design and physical manufacturing facility servicing the world's entertainment and creative industries.

Weta Workshop houses a range of disciplines under one roof - including:

- **conceptual design**
- **weapons**
- **armour & chainmaille**
- **specialist props**
- **vehicles**
- **specialty costumes**
- **models & miniatures**
- **special makeup effects**
- **public art & displays**

The team at Weta Workshop enjoys engaging in projects holistically, from the earliest stages of technical analysis and conceptual design through to manufacture across all departments and final delivery on set to anywhere in the world. Drawing on more than 20 years of filmmaking experience, five-times Oscar-winning Design and Effects Supervisor Richard Taylor is intimately involved in all projects from concept through to delivery.

Although best known for the company's design and effects work on award-winning film projects, including Lord of the Rings Trilogy, King Kong, The Chronicles of Narnia and Avatar (in production), Weta Workshop offers services to all creative industries throughout the world.

People

Richard Taylor and Tania Rodger enjoy a thriving partnership that brings creativity, artistry and professionalism to every project they undertake. Under their direction, a like-minded team of established professionals with experience, enthusiasm and flexibility has gathered, providing Weta Workshop with a vast shared skill set (from swordsmiths and mold makers to programmers and computer artists), enabling the company to tackle virtually any creative challenge. Weta Workshop's team operate at the cutting edge of the industry, innovatively combining traditional hand skills with the latest in technology to find creative solutions.

Facility

Weta Workshop is a 65,000 square foot facility in the suburb of Miramar, Wellington, New Zealand, five minutes drive from the airport and fifteen minutes from central Wellington (the capital of New Zealand).

The facility is the biggest in the world of its kind. Housed under one roof is the equipment, infrastructure and capacity to create anything from fine jewelry, costuming or creature suits through to large-scale tank and vehicle construction.

Working with clients and directors from around the world, Weta Workshop has secure Polycom and Videocom an FTP capabilities to allow effortless communication and the safe, confidential transfer of information between parties, no matter where the distance.

History

The company that would one day be known as Weta was born as RT Effects in the back room of Richard Taylor and Tania Rodger's Wellington flat in 1987. From this humble base of operations, Richard Taylor and Tania Rodger supported the emerging local film industry with a range of services in special effects, creature work, prosthetics and make-up effects. In 1994, Richard and Tania joined with friends Peter Jackson and Jamie Selkirk to expand the company dramatically to service the local and international industry's special effects requirements. They named their new company Weta, with Richard and Tania heading up Weta Workshop, the conceptual design and creative services arm of the greater Weta company.

Since then, Richard, Tania and the team at Weta Workshop have had the great pleasure of contributing to conceptually groundbreaking projects alongside some of the greatest visionaries of our time; ventures that have seen Weta Workshop at the helm of creating new, compelling mythologies and worlds.

Over the years, Richard and Tania have also diversified Weta's scope of interest into a range of other creative enterprises, including collectibles, children's television and intellectual property development. All of these endeavours have allowed the team at Weta Workshop a unique perspective, experience and desire to tackle any creative challenge.

Creative Community

We form a central part of the greater Wellington-based creative community:

- **Weta Workshop** - Academy Award winning physical effects
- **Weta Digital** - Academy Award winning digital visual effects
- **Park Road Post Production** - World class digital intermediary and post production facilities
- **Stone Street Studios** - Studio complex available for hire

Focused on inventiveness and quality, this collective community works together to provide a comprehensive range of services; including studio space hire, physical effects, digital effects, and post-production facilities, all within a few minutes of each other. Their complementary relationship is reflected in their integrated approach towards solving specific filmmaking issues and challenges.

Filming in New Zealand

Weta Workshop is situated in Wellington, a film-friendly city on the lower North Island of New Zealand. Wellington boasts a strong local film industry, where the large proportion of the production process of a multitude of award-winning films have taken place within a 10-mile radius of Weta Workshop, including King Kong and The Lord of the Rings Trilogy. New Zealand offers a wealth of filmmaking possibilities.

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