

Disney

# THE LION KING

VIRTUAL PRODUCTION SYSTEM

FEBRUARY 28TH 2017 — THE LION KING (RELEASED JULY 2019)

Like no time before, recent technological breakthroughs have contributed to undoubtedly the most beautiful and remarkable imagery in cinematic history. Photorealistic CGI allows filmmakers to create more immersive content for their audiences, removing the uncanny disconnect between subject and story. However during this recent transition, filmmakers have seen their direct involvement in the creative process become obstructed by the inherent nature of digital content development. The 'hands-on' approach to filmmaking has been replaced with verbal notes given in a screening room during a committee review. Whereas those notes used to be addressed by the live-action camera operator or by adjusting the subject matter within the lens, digital alterations now require days between revisions due to rendering, and the accuracy and quality of those revisions are subject to the creative interpretation of the technician sitting at the desk.

For the first time in the animation or computer-generated filmmaking world, creatives are reconnected with the production techniques they're used to from Live Action films. Technology is no longer seen as a hindrance to the creative team, but instead it provides spatial access to their digital content, allowing them to literally step inside their virtual world. Very few filmmakers work in a creative vacuum, instead working with their department heads to come up with the creative decisions they need to help tell the story. The Lion King Virtual Production system reunited those creatives on a state-of-the-art Live Action stage, giving them access to the tools they're familiar with, and re-applying the techniques learned over the past 100 years of filmmaking.



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