

# Michelle Gao

## Lighting & Compositing Supervisor

---

### Michelle Gao

Vancouver, BC  
Canada

<https://michellegao.com>

778.681.4136  
[michellegao.td@gmail.com](mailto:michellegao.td@gmail.com)

---

---

### Skills

Highly resourceful and organized in a collaborative environment. Deeply knowledgeable of the areas of Editing, Lighting, Texturing, Shading, and Compositing.

Experienced in Maya, Katana Arnold, Mentalray, Glimpse, Nuke, Photoshop, Premiere Pro, and Mari. Use of Windows, Mac, and Linux operating systems. Strongly open to adapting and learning new software.

---

---

### Experience

---

#### Mainframe Studios / Lighting & Compositing Supervisor

January 2022 - present, Vancouver Canada

Ability to oversee the creation of a new animated franchise in a team of 42 lighting & compositing artists. Works closely with other departments to ensure lighting and rendering requirements are successful and efficient. Interprets, implements and facilitate notes and feedback from Director, Producer, and Art Director. Motivates, supports, and mentors the lighting team in use of the new pipeline.

- *Undisclosed Title* (January 2022 - present)

#### Sony Pictures Imageworks / Senior Lighting & Compositing Artist

October 2017 - November 2021, Vancouver Canada

Ability to work and communicate in medium sized teams of 25-40 members. Responsible for VFX and animation feature film key-lighting & shot-lighting.

- *The Sea Beast* (March 2021 - November 2021)
- *Vivo* (May 2020 - March 2021)
- *Over the Moon* (February - May 2020)
- *Men in Black: International* (January - July 2019)
- *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* (June - November 2018)
- *Hotel Transylvania 3* (October 2017 - May 2018)

#### Animal Logic / Lighting & Compositing Artist

June - August 2017, Vancouver Canada

Collaborated with team members in sequence level lighting with quick turnaround. Responsible for animation shot lighting.

- *Lego Ninjago*

## **Sony Pictures Imageworks / Lighting & Compositing Artist**

June 2015 - August 2017, Vancouver Canada

Communicated with leads and supervisors to achieve photoreal VFX and animation shots for feature films.

- *Spider-Man Homecoming* (January - May 2017)
- *Smurfs The Lost Village* (August 2016 - January 2017)
- *Storks* (March - August 2016)
- *Alice Through the Looking Glass* (August 2015 - March 2016)
- *The Angry Birds Movie* (June - August 2015)

## **Nathan Love / Freelance Look Development Artist**

July - December 2014, New York NY

Adept at working in a small team environment of 5-10 members. Responsible for texturing & look development for photoreal animation characters and hero props.

- *Leroy & Larry*

## **Framestore / Freelance Look Development Artist**

May - June 2014, New York NY

Responsible for lighting & precomping CG characters into live action shots, modeling & texturing 3D hero assets.

- *Corning Gorilla Glass*
- *Hershey's M&M*

## **C2C Studio / CG Generalist**

June - August 2013, Glendale CA

Worked in a small team of 3-6 members in product and web design. Responsible for modeling, rigging, texturing, lighting & rendering.

- *Tenkai Knights*

---

## **Education**

---

## **Savannah College of Art & Design / B.F.A in Visual Effects & Minor in Technical Direction**

September 2010 - May 2015, Savannah GA

---

## **Awards**

---

Sony Pictures Imageworks - *Applause Award* (2018)

Sony Pictures Imageworks - *Applause Award* (2017)

Sony Pictures Imageworks - *Applause Award* (2016)

Savannah College of Art & Design - *Dean's List Award* (2011 - 2015)

Autodesk - *Excellence in Design Award* (2010)

FIRST Robotics - *Dean's List Award Hawaii Semi Finalist* (2010)

Hawaii State - *Recognition of Students National Achievement Award* (2010)