

Annex A – Case Studies and Talent for Virtual Production Projects

1. *Once Upon a New Year's Eve* by Mediacorp

Scheduled to telecast on 18 January 2024 on Mediacorp Channel 8, *Once Upon a New Year's Eve* is a story about the protagonist meeting a man from the future, who helped him travel back in time to different stages of his life, to make amends to his family members. This series utilised virtual production to recreate historical monuments such as the Singapore National Theatre and the old National Library at Stamford Road to awaken a sense of nostalgia amongst Singaporeans.

The 20-episode drama series was funded by IMDA under the Virtual Production Innovation Fund that was first launched in December 2022 with a S\$5 million tranche.



2. *Sleeping Beauty* by Refinery Media

Sleeping Beauty by Refinery Media is one of the nine selected projects during 2023's Virtual Production Innovation Call (Short form). The 3.50-minute video features a girl who is transported into a mystical forest which conceals an ancient creature and a magical artefact that can grant magical powers to whoever possesses it. In partnership with X3D Studios, Refinery Media leveraged on Virtual production technology, Unreal Engine, to recreate the forest environment, special effects within the film and the mythical creature which was projected onto the LED volume.



About Virtual Production Innovation Call (Short form):

IMDA launched the Virtual Production Innovation Call (Short form) in December last year, to encourage local enterprises to experiment and realize their creative vision through the meaningful application of virtual production workflow and technologies. Shortlisted projects that use this technology to boost its storytelling quality and audience appeal, received a funding of up to S\$150,000 from IMDA, to support their production cost.

The selected teams were:

S/N	Company	Project
1	Ajacent Media Pte Ltd	<i>Kungfuland</i>
2	Oak3 Films Pte Ltd	<i>The Chosen One</i>
3	Grid Synergy Pte Ltd	<i>Flying Tigers</i>
4	Rojak City Pte Ltd	<i>18</i>
5	ASL Marine Holdings Ltd	<i>ASL Corporate Video</i>
6	Infinite Frameworks Pte Ltd	<i>Distant Blue Shift</i>
7	Riot Creative Pte Ltd	<i>The World She Wants</i>
8	Refinery Media	<i>Sleeping Beauty</i>
9	Bright Voxel Studios	<i>Tainted</i>

3. *Metafrontier* by MethodnMadness Pte Ltd

Metafrontier is a pilot for MethodnMadness' original sci-fi thriller, where megacorps control vital mining colonies on Mars. It is one of the nine teams that participated in the Virtual Production Challenge 2023, an industry challenge for local creatives, to encourage Singapore-based creative professionals, media companies, and game developers to experiment with and use Unreal Engine for virtual production. Trained and mentored by Epic Games experts over three months, participants created digital assets using Unreal Engine, for use in Virtual Production content projects. Each team was given \$30,000 to support their production costs, and the winning team will receive an additional grand prize of \$20,000. The winner will be announced during "A VP Afternoon" on 6 December.



About Virtual Production Challenge:

The Virtual Production Challenge 2023 was launched by IMDA in collaboration with Epic Games' Unreal Engine team and organized by the Singapore Games Association (SGGA).

The initiative encouraged Singapore-based creative professionals, media companies, and game developers to experiment with and use real-time game engine, Unreal Engine, for virtual production. Over a period of eight weeks, 45 media professionals from nine selected teams were trained in Unreal Engine in bringing to life nine new worlds ranging from sci-fi to action mystery.

4. Lee Thean-Jeen – Managing Director, Weiyu Films



Thean-Jeen is one of the most prolific and acclaimed writer-directors and showrunners working in the Singapore independent production industry today, having created, executive-produced, written and directed hundreds of hours of film and television content in the span of his three-decade long career.

As showrunner, he has been responsible for many seminal Singapore drama series, including *AlterAsians*, *The Pupil*, five seasons of *Code Of Law* (and its spin-offs, *Derek and Forensik*), and *128 Circle*. He has also written and directed five feature films to date, including the Singapore-Malaysia co-production *Homecoming*, one of the highest-grossing local features in the year of its release, as well as *Bring Back The Dead*.

For his latest project, Season 3 of *128 Circle*, TJ used Virtual Production technology to overcome physical limitations such as recreating the environment of a hawker center. A behind-the-scenes reel for *128 Circle* will be shown at this year's VP Panel during A VP Afternoon.

5. Lim Teck Siang – Award-winning Cinematographer



Teck Siang is an award-winning cinematographer who has worked on cross-border projects across Asia. He is a graduate of Masters in Cinematography at the American Film Institute, supported by the IMDA's Media Education Scholarship. Teck Siang's works have been screened at and won multiple awards at festivals including the Singapore International Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival, Chicago International Film Festival, International Critics' Week at Cannes, Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival and more.

Teck Siang is also a graduate of the NFTS VP Certificate Course earlier this year which was supported by IMDA, where he acquired foundational knowledge on VP. Shortly after graduating from the course, he worked on two of original VP content productions - *Kungfuland*, a fantasy period action-comedy series, and *Tainted*, an action sci-fi short film about human clones.