

The Great Reskill: Training Talent for Future Studio Pipelines



Service Partner
2025



Speaker intro

Edward Dawson Taylor - Co-Founder / Instructor

- Co-Founder - **CGPRO**
- VFX
 - CG Supervisor 18+ years
 - Commercials, Movies, Realtime
 - ILM, MPC, Digital Domain, Method, Zoic...
 - The Lion King, Jungle Book, Harry Potter V, Jurassic World
 - CG artist, Supervisor and Unreal Authorized Instructor
- Dev
 - Innovator, **Software Engineer**, TD
- Instructor
 - John Hughes Institute, One Academy
 - Houdini, Unreal, AI, Development



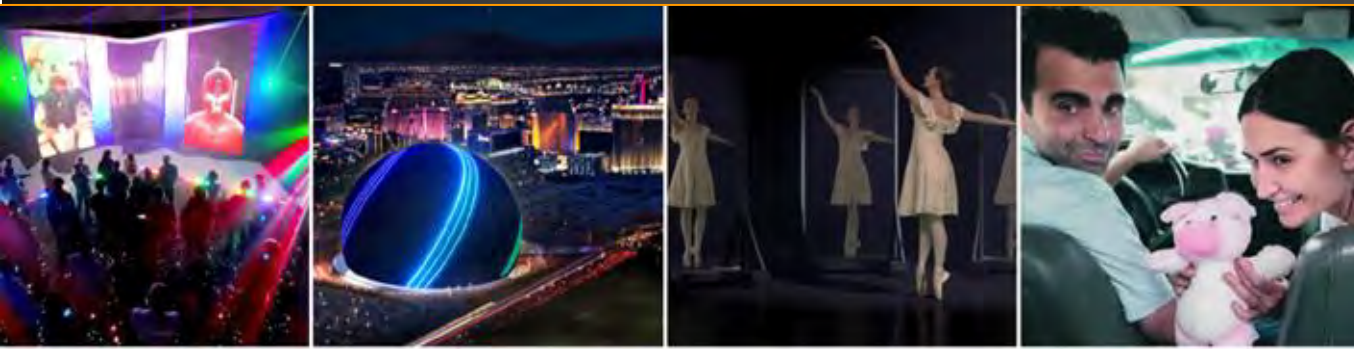
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Speaker intro

Andy Cochrane - Immersive Specialist / 'Weird Stuff Guy'

- VFX
 - VFX 24+ years
 - Movies, Commercials, TV, Music Videos
 - Asylum VFX, Mirada, Digiscope, misc. freelance
- Immersive
 - XR, Installations / Activations, Apps, Live Events, Sphere



Identify the Problem



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Challenges / crisis

- **Crisis** = a situation that has reached a critical phase
- The **rate** of change is **unprecedented**
- **Change is good - (and unavoidable)**
- **We are stacking disruptions:**
 - Globalization ⇒ Change in the competition
 - Incentive chasing ⇒ Race to the bottom
 - Distribution ⇒ Streaming, change in the tech / demand
 - Covid ⇒ Remote and Virtual Production
 - Strikes ⇒ Production ground to a halt
 - AI ⇒ Wandered into that conversation to say hello
- (Some of) The **skills required are changing**, and some are the same,
- Always been that way, and why that is good

Triggered by
changes in...

Technology

Economy

Culture

Competition

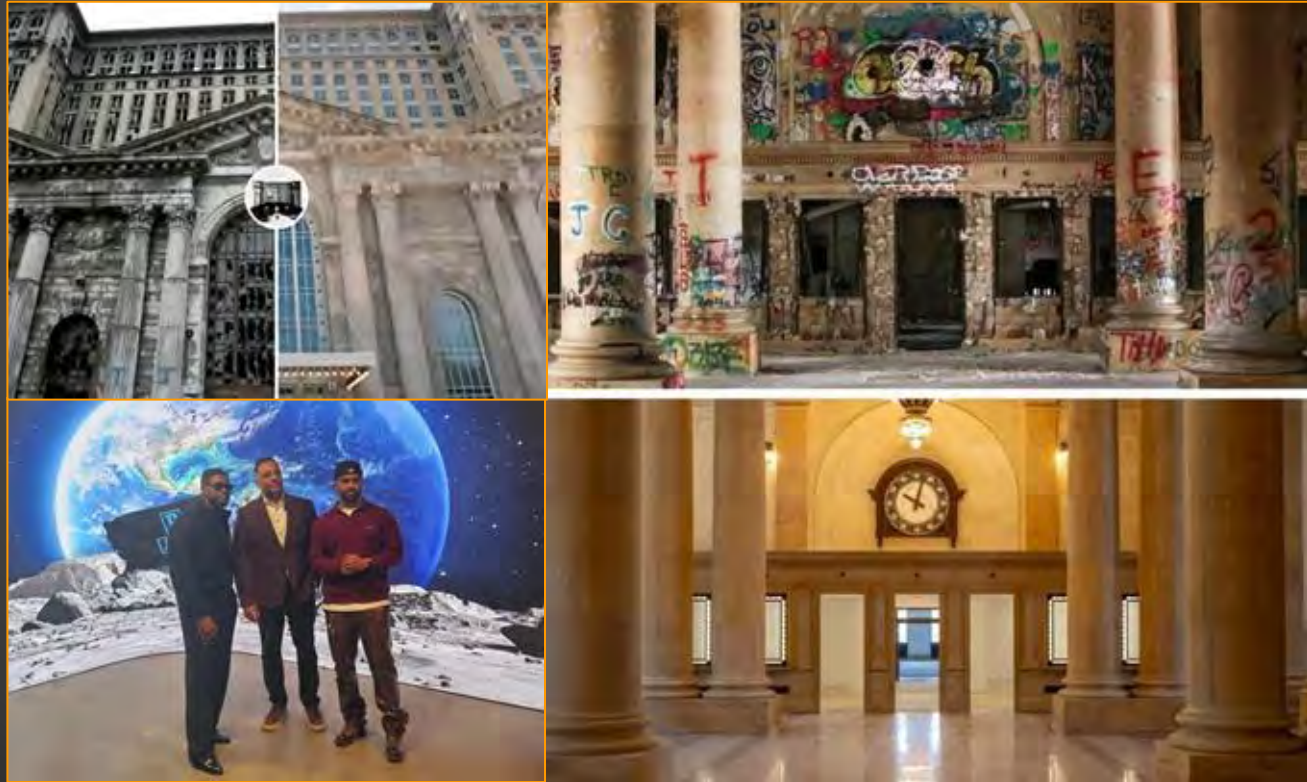
Have you said any of these?

1. "I'm too **busy** to learn this right now."
2. "This is probably a **fad**."
3. "I'm not **technical** enough."
4. "The **younger people** get this stuff."
5. "If it becomes essential, **someone will teach me**."
6. "We'll just **hire for it**."
7. "I can't afford to look stupid."
8. "Everything is moving **too fast**."
9. "I'll learn when things **settle down**."
10. "It doesn't really **apply to me**."



Lessons from Detroit and The Boys and Girls Club - last week

- People are comparing **LA** to **Detroit**
- **Globalization** and tech changes Detroit **declined**
- Detroit has been making a slow **comeback**
- How? **Visionaries**, **innovators**, determined people with a good heart
- It has **transformed!**



Spoiler alert

- The time is **now**, don't wait
- It's more **mindset** than anything
- Be **humble**
- **Beginner's** mind
- We need to be **hungry**
- We need daily **growth** habits
- **Consistency** is key
- Be the **change**, don't wait
- **Innovate**
- **Learn** every day



Solutions: Innovate - Be the Change



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Innovate

- Virtual Production 2.0
- AI
- Hybrid AI / VFX / Live Action
- UGC (User Generated content)
- Immersive / interactive / real time



Genie3 generative real time / interactive



Sony SRD holographic display

Solutions - What skills are needed / How to prepare



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Training - Bridging the skills gap

How do we keep up with it all?

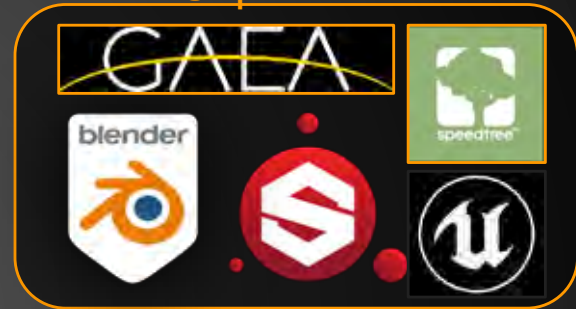
- You don't need to know everything
 - Team work makes the dream work
- Find good sources
- Community
- Learn constantly - daily



How to get into, or stay in industry

- **Three simple things** to do consistently
 - 1. Set a worthy **goal**
 - 2. Grow your **capabilities** - (Aim for outstanding!)
 - 3. Grow your **network** - (The right people)
- **How**
 - Get ultra clear on your specific goals and
 - Write your goals down!
 - Put them on the wall in your workspace
 - Learn something new **every day**
 - Reach out to someone new **every day**
 - (offer value or ask for advice before you ask for a job or money)
 - LinkedIn is your friend
 - Share your work, **publicly**, yes you! - (Take the feedback seriously)
 - Try to do something each day in the direction of your goals, that makes you **feel a little uncomfortable**.
 - If you aren't feeling uncomfortable, you aren't growing

Capabilities



Network



Training - Bridging the skills gap

- What Visual skills are needed?
 - Traditional:
 - CG / VFX skills
 - Art / Design skills
 - Filmmaking skills
 - Storytelling skills
 - Business skills
 - Innovation mindset
 - Growth mindset
 - New (additional, not replacements):
 - Real time / VP
 - AI
 - Generalist / multi-disciplinary / multi-medium
 - Marketing / promotion



Training - Bridging the skills gap

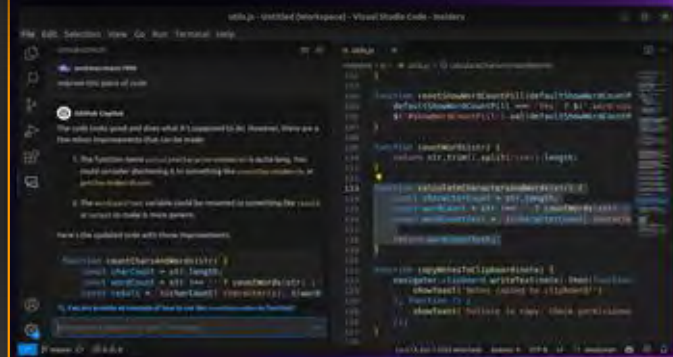
- What tech skills are needed now?

- Traditional:

- Problem solving
 - Coding
 - System Architecture

- New:

- Vibe coding
 - Tech stacks
 - Automation tools



Training - What else does everyone need?

- Marketing
- Sales
- From Execs to Artists
- You might not like it
 - ...but you are all playing these games by default
- The choice you make is are you doing a good job or not?
- Everyone's an influencer
- Everyone is trying to connect with opportunity
- These are learnable skills



Stay on the cutting edge - with **CGPRO**

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LIVE Training

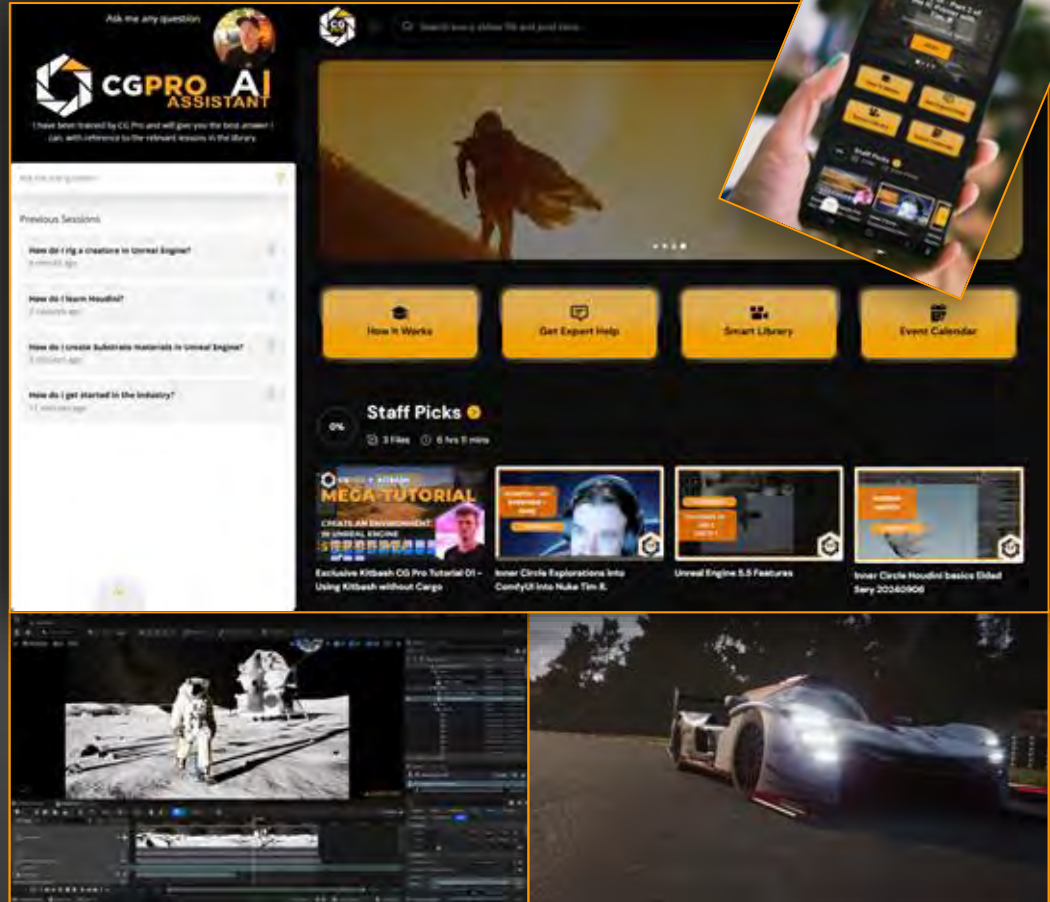
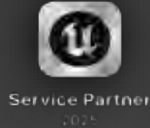
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Development

Connect with
artists & pros!

Ask **CGPRO**
AI for **answers.**

Enterprise
options. Ask us!





Questions?
Keep in touch
& Lets chat here!



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Q&A



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