

Patrick Voss

Title / Role

Co-Producer | Technical Director | HellVault | Founder and Owner, VFX (Robot Monkey Lab, Inc.)

Overview

Patrick Voss is a master craftsman, designer, filmmaker, and entrepreneur whose work has shaped the modern haunt and special effects industry. As the founder and owner of Robot Monkey Lab, Inc., doing business as **VFX**, Patrick has spent more than four decades creating innovative animatronic puppets, illusion props, and show effects for haunted attractions, theme parks, and film productions around the world.

Patrick's partnership with **James "Bud" Gregson** extends across film, product design, and creative development, combining practical effects innovation with cinematic storytelling. At **HellVault**, Patrick serves as Co-Producer and Technical Director, helping design and engineer new creature effects, scenic systems, and interactive products that blend live attraction performance with film-quality realism.

Film and Directing Work

In addition to his extensive work in the haunt and effects industries, Patrick wrote, directed, and produced the feature film **Inbred Redneck Alien Abduction (IRAA)**, a raunchy sci-fi comedy that earned an **86% audience rating on Rotten Tomatoes' "Popcornmeter."** The film showcases his fearless humor, bold visual style, and dedication to independent filmmaking.

James Gunn, the acclaimed director of *Guardians of the Galaxy* and *The Suicide Squad*, described IRAA as:

"The most ludicrous, moronic, and offensive film I've ever seen. I can't wait to see it again!"

Film Description:

Inbred Redneck Alien Abduction follows government agents investigating alien activity deep in the Arkansas hills, teaming up with backwoods locals to infiltrate a UFO. The result is a wild mashup of *Deliverance*, *Star Wars*, *Close Encounters*, and *The X-Files*, all turned upside down into a cult-classic spectacle of bizarre and twisted fun. Complete with alien humping, pig caressing, and fork worship, the film remains a beloved underground comedy favorite.

Completing a full-length feature film as an independent artist was a major milestone for Patrick, reflecting his ability to lead large productions, manage complex logistics, and deliver high-impact entertainment from concept through post-production.

Early Career and Inspiration

Patrick began making monsters in his early teens, inspired by the groundbreaking makeup work in the original *Planet of the Apes*. Without access to the internet, he taught himself mask-making and began selling his creations through local stores and mail-order ads, quickly earning a reputation for originality and quality.

By the 1980s, Patrick was creating props for haunted attractions, eventually designing and operating his own. In the 1990s, he co-founded **Terror Visions** in St. Louis, a massive, multi-level haunted attraction ranked number one in three haunt industry polls. Patrick co-owned, designed, built, and operated the attraction alongside partner Bill Lodderhose until 1996. *Terror Visions* became a local legend and helped define the professional standard for interactive horror experiences.

The VFX Legacy

After selling Terror Visions, Patrick continued to develop special effects for film and live entertainment while also working as a graphic artist for more than 20 years. When that department was later dissolved, he focused full-time on **VFX**, transforming it into one of the most respected prop manufacturers in the world.

In 2012, Patrick unveiled “**Side-Winder Sally**”, a life-size zombie puppet that appeared to attack its operator, a concept that revolutionized actor-operated effects. The prototype debuted at the **TransWorld Halloween and Attractions Show** in St. Louis and immediately sold out. After refining the design, Patrick launched the **Attack Line**, featuring signature products like *Sally Zombie*, *Half Zombie Bob*, *Cob Goblin Scarecrow*, *Psy-Co Clown*, and *The Werewolf*.

The Attack Line’s success established VFX as a full-time enterprise, setting new standards for creativity, durability, and realism. With the addition of designer **Doug Schaefer**, VFX expanded to include the **Lunging Line**, **Crate Creatures**, and **Bungee Line**, all actor-operated systems delivering cinematic-quality scares.

VFX Clients and Global Reach

VFX's products are used by professional attractions and major entertainment brands worldwide, including:

- **Universal Studios** (USA and Singapore)
- **Six Flags Theme Parks** (USA)
- **Ocean Park** (Hong Kong)
- **Netherworld Haunted House** (Georgia, USA)
- **SeaWorld San Antonio** (USA)
- **Le Manoir de Paris** (France)
- **Show Time Amusements** (Australia)
- **Blackpool Pleasure Beach** (UK)
- **NigloLand** (France)
- **House of Phobia** (Puerto Rico)

Patrick's work continues to influence generations of creators across the haunted attraction, theme park, and film industries.

Role at HellVault

At **HellVault**, Patrick serves as **Co-Producer and Technical Director**, leading the integration of VFX's world-class puppets, practical effects, and sound technologies into the attraction. He collaborates closely with Bud Gregson and the Extinction Labs team to design proprietary systems and creature effects that merge film-level realism with immersive live performance.

Patrick's involvement bridges the commercial success of VFX's professional product lines with the cinematic ambitions of HellVault, ensuring that every element meets his trademark standards for creativity, durability, and authenticity.

Key Strengths and Expertise

- Film directing and production management
- Practical and mechanical special effects
- Puppet and animatronic design
- Scenic and attraction engineering
- Product innovation and development
- Business strategy and creative leadership
- International production logistics

Philosophy and Creative Approach

Patrick's philosophy is simple: *make products so good you want to keep them for yourself*. His dedication to craftsmanship, originality, and entertainment value has made VFX one of the most trusted names in the industry. His leadership and collaborative mindset continue to elevate both HellVault and the broader world of horror entertainment.

Links and References

- [VFX Official Website](#)
- [Robot Monkey Lab, Inc.](#)
- [TransWorld Halloween and Attractions Show](#)
- [Patrick Voss - IMDb](#)
- [Inbred Redneck Alien Abduction \(Film\)](#)