

“ Role of the Producer”

Aside from signing checks and making sure the budget gets met. One of the biggest roles of a producer(and even the director to a degree) is Time Management. Getting your team to a deadline and making sure the 3 departments meet the deadline: Pre- Production, Shooting, and Post- Production. There are five main types of film producers that work on a production aside from the main producer who is the man in charge of the company.

The Executive producer is hired by the main and is responsible for finding people with the money and raising the necessary money for the film. He or she is the man/woman with the front name people see in trailers or the main name it is marketed with. An example is Steven Speilberg for “Transformers”, or M. Night Shamalayn for “Devil”. Many times their name or duty will not affect the artisitic side of the film even if it is considered an : “Above the Line” job. However, films are a giant collaboration anyway.

The second type of producer or next in line is the Associate Producer. They will help organize and coordinate the schedules of talent and oversee set construction, lighting plans, and sound plans.

The next in line producer is the Co-producer, who will share the job with the other producers, but also might be the one to actually bring the script to the higher in command at the studio. They may vouch for the writer or director and also organize where the money goes and comes from. They deal with investors and lenders a lot of the time.

The fourth and final main type of producer is the Line producer. They actually meticulously work out the budgets and schedules all most of the people in the production. They usually will work alongside the co-producer in doing so, however line producer will control and have final say in many of smaller, creative issues that arise. They are the one that directs back to the higher up. They also deal with location scouting and getting permits to shoot on certain locations. Time management is probably the most important with this type of producer.

The fifth and last type of producer is the Unit Manager producer who will usually be on set 24/7. They will be ready to deal with emergency complications that arise on set as well as medical complications. They also report back to the Line producer to let them know the time and schedule is not track.

Overall, these five people are key to a successful production being pulled off and on time. Two words: Diligence and Persistence. They are the HOW of a film getting made. Sure you need good actors, good writing, good editing a visual

style, but these people are the ones coordinate and work to get it done. There are also Coordinating producers, but they are usually only for franchise films that go into production at the same time and report back to all of them. Like James Cameron's "Avatar" films.