

RI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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July 22, 2006

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“BETWEEN TAKES”

RIFF 2006 FILMMAKER FORUMS

*A casual gathering to meet, explore and discover new trends
And ideas within the film & media industry*

PROVIDENCE, RI (July 22, 2006): In keeping with its mission to educate, as well as to entertain, the Rhode Island International Film Festival has announced this year's series of "Between Takes" Filmmaker Forums. These popular question and answer sessions offer aspiring filmmakers and curious filmgoers an opportunity to interact with industry professionals.

"One of our most important underlying objectives in organizing the film festival has been to provide many opportunities for people to come and learn about the filmmaking process," commented RIFF's Producing Director Adam Short. "We think of RIFF's festival week as an open marketplace, where filmmakers can get together and exchange ideas. Between Takes is a great resource for filmmakers at any stage of their career. It is also a chance for the public to come and find out what it is like to be involved in filmmaking."

"Topics range from starting a film, to packaging a finished product, to shooting a documentary, to filmmaking in Providence," he added. "We have an exceptional mix this year of local filmmaking celebrities like Michael Corrente and Curt Worden, representatives from the City and State film agencies, as well as visiting filmmakers, who will be participating in these informative discussions."

All forums are *free* and open to the general public. They will be held in Providence at the **Cable Car Cinema** and The **Providence Performing Arts Center** during the festival week from August 9th-12th. For more information, please visit www.RIFilmFest.org or call (401) 861-4445.

WEDNESDAY: CABLE CAR CINEMA

204 South Main St. Providence, RI 02903 • 401.272.3970

2:00 – 3:30 p.m. “When You Have A Great Idea, But No Money” Special Guest
Presenter: Paul Roselli

So you got this great idea for a video marketing program or a training piece but no money. You got a small grant but can't seem to find anyone to help you

produce the program you know will make a difference at a price you can afford. So what do you do? Paul A. Roselli from Corporate Film & Video Productions has worked on marketing, training feature and documentary films for over 20 years. His work has appeared in films, television programs, marketing pieces, museums, and more. Paul works with non-profit organizations to help them get the message out in an affordable way. Learn how to work with producers over time, how to use interns effectively, how to develop and write the best plan for production, script writing techniques to make the project affordable, and how best to get the product you want.

THURSDAY: CABLE CAR CINEMA

204 South Main St. Providence, RI 02903 • 401.272.3970

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. “Fund Your Film! INDIE FILM FINANCING WORKSHOP”

Special Guest Presenter: Stu Pollard

If you're ready to make a feature film but you're lacking that critical element of MONEY, this workshop is for you. Hosted by indie filmmaker Stu Pollard (*Keep Your Distance*, *Nice Guys Sleep Alone*), this workshop explains how to put together private equity financing for truly independent productions. Subjects covered include forming companies, writing business plans, divulging risk factors, finding and tracking investor prospects, selling shares in your film, and communicating with investors once they're on board.

On both “Nice Guys Sleep Alone” and “Keep Your Distance,” Pollard shouldered writing, directing, and fund-raising duties. He is presently working as one of the producers on LA Film Festival Audience Award winner Ira & Abby, for which he wrote the business plan and designed the film’s official website. He is also exec producing Dirty Country, a documentary about a colorful country singer named Larry Pierce that is being directed by Found Footage Festival founders Nick Prueher and Joe Pickett. He also acts as a consultant on other projects, specializing in distribution and private equity financing. Collectively, his business plans have raised more than \$5 million in production funds.

2:00 – 3:30 p.m. “Selling Your Dream - Creating Trailers & Promos in the A/V Marketplace”

Special Guest Presenter: Chris Arnold

A 1 hr. seminar will begin with a brief history of movie marketing and the evolution of the trailer as the world's most successful and popular form of advertising. Chris Arnold, the founder of “Cimarron,” one of the largest trailer companies in Hollywood, will share stories, anecdotes, and secrets of motion picture marketing learned from 25 years in the trenches creating such well AV campaigns as “Jaws,” “Taxi Driver,” “Close Encounters of the 3rd Kind,” “Basic Instinct,” “Terminator 2,” “Unforgiven” and many more. He will discuss the process of creating a promo from concept to copy writing and finally into the editing room. Along the way he will explore the many styles, tricks and techniques that are used to sell you idea, promote your project, put butts in seat, and generally “sell almost anything to almost anyone.”

FRIDAY: PROVIDENCE PERFORMING ART CENTER

220 Weybosset St. Providence, RI 02903 • 401.421.2997

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. “Hollywood Filmmaking in Providence” featuring RIIFF Creative Vision Honoree, Michael Corrente plus two panelists just added on 8/8/06.

-**Joe Pantaliano**, "Waterfront"

-**Todd Arnow**, Executive Producer of Underdog

MICHAEL CORRENTE (Producer/Director/Writer), a Rhode Island native, has an impressive Hollywood filmography as a director, producer, writer, as well as actor, a film record that includes *American Buffalo*, *Federal Hill*, *Outside Providence*, and *Kingpin*. He is presently working on a Rhode Island Production, *Prince of Providence* and *The Education of Charlie Banks*.

With guest **Jenny Peek** of the
City of Providence Film Squad

The Film Squad is coordinated by the Department of Art, Culture & Tourism and acts as the "one stop shop" for city service by putting film and television production companies that plan on shooting in Providence in touch with the appropriate city departments to ensure that their productions go as smoothly as possible.

And **Steven Feinberg** of the
Rhode Island TV & Film Office

The Rhode Island Film & Television Office, a state agency under the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, exists to promote Rhode Island as the ideal site for film and television projects, and to help our state's film and video artists, and others, benefit from their filmmaking experience in the Ocean State.

SATURDAY: PROVIDENCE PERFORMING ART CENTER

220 Weybosset St. Providence, RI 02903 • 401.421.2997

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. A Panel Discussion on Independent Film Packaging and Finance. Special Guest Presenters: **Josh Cohen, Robert Yula, Tim O'Hare, Andrew Ruf, Rahel Kent, Seth Resler, Jeff Reichert, Frederic Lumiere & Stan Harris**

A practical overview of how independent films are being made today, from packaging through acquisition and distribution. Topics covered will include: indie vs. studio - what that means; acquiring rights to material; packaging: making offers to talent and attaching cast; the various sources of finance; financial structures working today; the pros and cons of presales; special requirements of independent film productions; the festival circuit; and securing distribution. Everything can be laid out in easy to understand terms (no legalese!) followed by Q & A.

PRESENTER BACKGROUNDS:

Josh Cohen (Producer/Director) Philadelphia Filmmaker Joshua Cohen has recently wrapped production as a 1st AD on the feature *Ted's MBA*, starring Breckin Meyer (*Rat Race*, *Garfield*, *Road Trip*), and Adam Scott (*The Aviator*, *Monster-in-Law*, *Matador*). He also co-produced and was the Assistant Director for the short film *CUTOUT*, Starring Al Martino of *The Godfather* and Robert Iler of *The Sopranos*.

During his senior year at Temple University's Film and Media Arts Program in 2002, Josh was the recipient of the Derek Freese Filmmakers Award for the best undergraduate thesis film. Josh is now in development for a series of specs for the Converse Gallery shorts website and is currently in pre-production to direct a series of shorts and music videos.

Robert Yula (Writer/Director) After earning his BFA in Writing for Film & Television from The University of the Arts in Philadelphia in 2001, Robert Yula attended Goldsmiths College,

the University of London, where he received his Masters Degree in Scriptwriting. Robert has written a number of feature length screenplays, as well as serving as Co-producer and Production manager on the short CUTOUT. Recently Robert has lectured at Temple University about film and television production.

While in London, Robert was a teaching assistant at the New York Film Academy at Kings College London and an intern with BBC Films. Robert is currently writing the feature length screenplay *After the Himalaya*. **Shopping in the Afterlife** came to fruition upon Roberts return from his studies in London.

Tim O'Hair (Producer) is currently an independent producer operating through his Armagh Films label in Los Angeles. In 2005, Armagh produced a horror feature, *THE PLAGUE*, starring James Van Der Beek, in association with Clive Barker's Seraphim Films and Armada Pictures; the picture will be released in 2006 through Sony's ScreenGems division. O'Hair is currently in post-production on the indie feature *HOW TO ROB A BANK*, starring Nick Stahl, Erika Christensen, Gavin Rossdale, and David Carradine; the picture should be released in 2007. Previously, O'Hair was an executive at Universal Pictures, overseeing numerous projects through development and production including: *BRING IT ON*, *BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY*, *8 MILE*, *THE FAMILY MAN*, *HOW HIGH*, *U-571*, and *HULK*. O'Hair began his career in New York, as a financial and sales executive at Orion Pictures International. He holds a B.A. from Dartmouth College and an M.B.A. from Columbia University.

Rahel Kent (Writer/Musician/Filmmaker/Attorney) practice specializes in handling business and entertainment. She sits as House Counsel for the Los Angeles International Short Film Festival. With 17 years of legal experience, her background as a musician and producer is invaluable to her clients. Her first film, "Santa's Camels", has played at over 40 film festivals and won awards around the world. Through her experience as a musician, writer, and producer, she encountered the usual myriad of bad deals, rip-offs, and every problem that could possibly be associated with the business of entertainment. She fought back by knowing the law.

Frederic Lumiere (Writer/Director/Producer) As a teenager growing up in the Provence region of France, Frederic became interested in film and acted professionally in stage productions in and around France. At the age of 19 he moved to the United States.

While pursuing a career in Information Technology on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, Frederic wrote, directed, and produced his first documentary entitled "Amazing Journey". The film, about aspiring musical theater performers, was selected for the Hawaii International Film Festival in 1999. Having moved to San Francisco, California in 1997, Frederic moved up in the IT field to eventually become Chief Information Officer for Hooked on Phonics. While living and working in San Francisco, he made his second documentary, entitled "Six String Man," about homeless street musicians in the city.

Deciding to devote all his energy to creating his films, instead of just nights and weekends, Frederic left his position at Hooked on Phonics in June 2001, moved to Beverly Hills and founded Lumière Media, a film and video production company. Since then, Frederic has written, directed, and produced many productions, including another documentary, a children television show, commercials and independent films.

In June 2003, Frederic moved Lumière Media to the East coast where he continues to write, produce and direct. When HDV was introduced to the market, Frederic and his team partnered with Apple Computers to developed Lumiere HD, a software solution that allows editors to edit HDV on the Mac platform. He was also Instrumental to the creation of the RED DIGITAL CINEMA camera, which promises to revolutionize digital filmmaking in 2007. He is a frequent speaker at tradeshowes such as Macworld, NAB, DV Expo, etc. on HD Production and Post Production.

"Tomorrow is Today" is Frederic's directorial debut in a feature length narrative.

Jeff Reichert (Writer/Director) graduated from Brown University in 2000 with a degree in Art/Semiotics. He currently heads the publicity and marketing department for Magnolia Pictures where he has developed release campaigns for some of the most theatrically successful and critically acclaimed documentaries in recent years including: *Capturing the Friedmans*, *Control Room*, and *Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room*. Before Magnolia, he was Vice President of Sales and Acquisitions for Cowboy Pictures where he organized a touring retrospective of Akira Kurosawa/Toshiro Mifune collaborations and handled sales for a range of films including the Academy Award-nominated *Promises, I Am Trying to Break Your Heart*, and *Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition*. He is the co-founder and editor of the popular online film journal *Reverse Shot*, and an assistant director of the Providence French Film Festival.

Seth Resler (Writer/Director) graduated from Brown University with bachelor degrees in both Political Science and Philosophy in 1999. He has had a distinguished decade-long career in the music industry programming, producing and marketing some of the best alternative rock radio stations in the country including WBCN in Boston, KNDD in Seattle and KPNT in St. Louis. He was most recently the Program Director at WBRU in Providence. In the course of his on-air career, he has conducted dozens of interviews with high profile personalities. He has also written four teleplays which have been named top scripts by Francis Ford Coppola's Zoetrope Virtual Studio.

2:00-3:30 p.m. "Docs for T.V." Special Guest Presenter Curt Worden (*Filmmaker*)
A candid discussion about filmmaking from the perspective of a veteran filmmaker. Curt will give a brief summary of his career and inspirations for film and video, and what has led him to Providence and Tango Pix. He will answer questions from filmmakers about the business, the future of film & video and especially documentary films produced for television broadcast. This hour-long session will include a limited audience of about 30 people. Curt has worked on many non-fiction programs and could discuss the process, industry and marketing for the documentary/non-fiction television.