

SUMMERFILM

BEHIND THE SCENES

JULY 16 – 20, 2018

MONDAY, JULY 16

10:00 - 10:20 | WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

10:20 - 11:10 | THEATER TOUR & FILM PROJECTION - DAN ZASTROW

Dan Zastrow has been the General Manager of the Smith Rafael Film Center since it opened in 1999. He manages the beautifully restored building and is responsible for all theater operations. He has long served as the Technical Director for the internationally respected Mill Valley Film Festival, which takes place every October.

Dan will lead students on an all-access tour of the Smith Rafael Film Center, complete with details about the historic building and an inside look at what it takes to, quite literally, run the show.

11:15 - 12:20 | FRAMING FILM - ZÖE ELTON

Zoë Elton is the Director of Programming for the Mill Valley Film Festival. She has traveled the world to find films for the Festival including trips to Iran for the Tehran Film Festival, Mexico for the Guadalajara Film Festival, and the French Riviera for the annual Cannes Film Festival. She is also an accomplished stage director.

Zoë will engage students in movement and creative exercises that explore and workshop the ways in which we see and think about film.

12:20 - 12:50 | LUNCH

12:50 - 2:20 | VOICE OVER - BRIAN SOMMER

While other kids were planted in front of the TV, Brian Sommer was listening to rebroadcasts of old radio dramas on a local station. He attended the prestigious voice acting academy Voicetrax in San Francisco and has since become a professional voice actor and instructor. With an impressive vocal range, Brian has brought vocal life to characters from sinister to silly. He can be heard in over 200 video game titles, voicing nearly 300 characters, and also works as a live announcer at events. Voice over has always been his focus. It has special challenges all it's own. After all, what does a raised eyebrow *sound* like? Find out more about his work [here](#).

During this interactive session, students will help Brian demonstrate the voice-over process through live recording and playback.

2:25 - 3:50 | SPECIAL FX MAKE-UP - WENDY DISPENNETTE

Wendy Dispennette is a passionate emerging makeup artist. After graduating from Blush School of Makeup in San Francisco, she held a management position at Kryolan Professional Make-up and taught special fx classes for their workshops. Currently, she is freelancing in the Bay Area, working mostly on short films.

In her demo, Wendy will create an injury character with a blood gag to show techniques for creating a camera-ready character. She will discuss pre-production meetings, budgets, and the critical aspects of lighting on the outcome of the final product.

TUESDAY, JULY 17

10:00 - 10:15 | CHECK-IN & OVERVIEW OF THE DAY

10:15 - 12:15 | ACTING, CASTING & AUDITIONING - BETTINA DEVIN

A seasoned veteran of stage, small and large screen, voiceover and concerts, Bettina Devin is an actress/singer whose students benefit directly from her past and current experience. Best known for her role as Idina Menzel's mother in the film version of the musical *Rent*, Bettina is a busy working actress (as well as casting director and producer) in all aspects of the entertainment industry. She teaches in-person classes in Marin and Los Angeles – and all over the world online – and her students can currently be seen on Broadway, Off Broadway (longtime student Austin Scott is currently starring as Alexander Hamilton in the first national tour of *Hamilton*), in commercials, sitcoms, episodic television, web series, feature films, music videos, and print campaigns, and heard on national and regional voiceover campaigns.

Bettina will lead students through an interactive session that demonstrates the process of auditioning and casting screen acting talent.

12:15 - 12:45 | LUNCH

12:50 - 2:50 | IMMERSIVE 360° VR STORYTELLING - DIMITRI MOORE

Dimitri Moore is a Video Producer and Storytelling Coach at Digital Promise Global, where he produces video stories and coaches educators and students to produce 360° videos. Previously, Dimitri worked at Columbia College Chicago, Youth Speaks, Bay Area Video Coalition, Mill Valley Film Festival, SF Sketchfest, Illinois Leadership Seminars and Free Spirit Media. Dimitri has trained youth in media production and leadership development and has produced music videos, short narrative films, promo videos for small businesses, training videos for Facebook and Yahoo, and documentaries.

Dimitri will introduce students to 360° media making and how it can be used to generate empathy and action. Participants will view powerful 360° youth-produced media and develop, film, and view their own short 360° film.

2:55 - 3:50 | DOCUMENTARY FILM & INTERVIEWING - WILL PARRINELLO

Will Parrinello has been producing and directing documentaries for more than 30 years. His directing credits include *Mustang: Journey of Transformation*, *Emile Norman: By His Own Design*, *Dreaming of Tibet*, *Little Italy*, and *The New Environmentalists*. Parrinello co-produced *Summer '82: When Zappa Came to Sicily*, *Kerouac: King of the Beats*, *Unfair Game: The Politics of Poaching*, *Sea Change*, *Sumo Bashi* and *Yen For Baseball*. He was director of photography on *Standing on Sacred Ground*, *A Literary Friendship*, and the Academy Award®-nominated documentary *Tell the Truth and Run: George Seldes and the American Press*.

Using film clips, Will will explore the kinds of true stories students feel drawn to tell and demonstrate some of the techniques used to interview documentary film subjects, giving students an opportunity to experiment with different interviewing styles as both interviewers and interviewees.

3:50 - 4:00 | TUESDAY WRAP-UP & WEDNESDAY PREVIEW

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

10:00 - 10:15 | CHECK-IN & OVERVIEW OF THE DAY

10:15 - 12:15 | GREEN SCREEN - WILLIAM ZIEGLER

Will is the Editing Coordinator in the School of Animation & Visual Effects at San Francisco's Academy of Art University. He was drawing as soon as he could hold a pencil, and his love of broadcasting led him to volunteer in local access TV early on in college. Will explored animation but was swept into editing, videography, and motion graphics, which resulted in a BFA in Digital Media Production from Pittsburgh's Art Institute and extended studies at Carlowe University. Will has freelanced on music videos, live concerts, live sports, and sketch comedy. At Academy of Art, he advanced as the Animation department's editor and discovered a passion for teaching. When not at the Academy, Will volunteers for community radio.

In collaboration with the Community Media Center of Marin (CMCM), Will will lead students through a green screen and compositing workshop using Blackmagic Design ATEM Studio and switcher control panel. Students will see firsthand how visual effects and post-production transform film and other media as they develop their own projects.

12:15 - 12:45 | LUNCH

12:45 - 2:10 | ANIMATION - NICOLE TOSTEVIN

Nicole Tostevin is a Northern Californian multidisciplinary designer, animator and independent filmmaker who occasionally loves to teach animation. With a BFA in Studio Art from Pomona College and an MFA in Experimental Animation from California Institute of the Arts, Nicole continues to integrate art and animation for film and digital experiences. Her computer-animated film *Suspended Abbey* was screened at 35 film festivals around the world including the Sundance Film Festival, the Pompidou in France, and at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Her work was granted a National Endowment for the Arts Award and nominated for a Student Academy Award. You can see more of her work at redheadart.com.

Nicole will focus on 2D animation, creating “live” animation with Adobe Character Animator. She will also introduce and demonstrate After Effects software, compositing and keying.

2:15 - 3:45 | SILENT FILM - BRUCE LOEB

Since 1986 Bruce Loeb has been regularly performing piano accompaniments for silent films at the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum and the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley. He has performed at venues across the country including The Cleveland Museum of Art, The New York Public Library, and The Esalen Institute. Bruce draws upon his knowledge of classical piano, popular music, and his talent for improvisation to create scores that complement the visual storytelling of silent movies. He is a graduate of UC Berkeley Music Department and studied harpsichord at the Royal Dutch Conservatory and voice at The Rubin Academy in Jerusalem. Bruce lives in Berkeley where he is active as a piano teacher, vocal coach, and piano accompanist.

Bruce will discuss and perform his master silent film accompaniment in coordination with two classic silent films: George Méliès’ A Trip to the Moon and Charlie Chaplin’s A Dog’s Life, followed by questions and conversation.

3:50 - 4:00 | WEDNESDAY WRAP-UP & THURSDAY PREVIEW

THURSDAY, JULY 19

10:00 - 10:15 | CHECK-IN & OVERVIEW OF THE DAY

10:15 - 12:30 | SCREENWRITING & PITCHING - IRIS TORRES & TOM FRANCO

Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Iris Torres began studying and applying Broadcasting Communications for Journalism, Radio and TV. She was an Assistant Director for feature films including *Twilight* and *Planet of the Apes* before transitioning to producing, working with James Franco’s production company Rabbit Bandini Productions, where her film credits include *Bukowski* and *In Dubious Battle*. Her debut feature *Interior Leather Bar* premiered at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival and has been shown at numerous film festivals around the world. Other credits include *Goat*, *King Cobra*, *Don Quixote*, and *Memoria*. In 2017, Iris transitioned to The Art of Elysium & EB Studios, the first philanthropic studio, where she currently works as a Lead Producer, mainly focusing on supporting emerging talent – her main passion. Her next productions are the feature film *Fish* and a TV pilot *You from the Future*.

Tom Franco’s main profession is as a fine art sculptor, using found objects, mixed media and paint. He has also joined forces with The Art of Elysium team in Los Angeles as a film producer and director of visual arts content. Tom is the creator and director of the Firehouse Art Collective, a series of six community art spaces in Berkeley and Oakland. Tom’s artwork is regularly displayed and sold through galleries of the Firehouse Art Collective, as well as in shows throughout the United States and overseas. Tom and his main artistic collaborators have developed public art programs, murals, live art happenings and feature films. Working with youth has always been an important part of Tom’s artistic process. He regularly teaches art classes and speaks at high schools, colleges, and community workshops.

[Elysium Bandini Studios](#) (EBS) is a film studio and video streaming platform featuring films, documentaries and interviews to raise funds and awareness in support of young artists and filmmakers as well as The Art of Elysium's charitable programs.

In this hands-on screenwriting workshop, students will learn the importance of creative collaboration, character, and storytelling. Iris & Tom will screen a portion of a film and lead participants through a series of writing, storyboarding, and pitching exercises to flesh out the backstory and character arc of some of the film's characters.

12:30 - 1:00 | LUNCH

1:00 - 2:45 | SCREENWRITING & PITCHING - IRIS TORRES & TOM FRANCO (continued)

2:50 - 3:50 | FILM CRITIQUE - DAVID TEMPLETON

David Templeton is the movie critic for both *The Bohemian* and *The Marin Independent Journal* and writes about film for various other publications. His one-man show *A Wretch Like Me*, an autobiographical 30-character description of his teenage days as a raging fundamentalist in the 1970s, played recently at the Sonoma County Rep and 142 Throckmorton in Mill Valley. He has opinions.

Focusing on the basic building blocks of effective film criticism, David will give a brief historical overview of criticism as a journalistic and artistic act, sparking a discussion in which students are encouraged to think and express themselves as critics.

3:50 - 4:00 | THURSDAY WRAP-UP & FRIDAY PREVIEW

FRIDAY, JULY 20

10:00 - 10:15 | CHECK-IN & OVERVIEW OF THE DAY

10:15 - 11:45 | SOUND DESIGN - BEN BURTT

Ben Burtt has more than 30 years of experience as a writer, director, film editor, sound designer, and sound mixer. His work includes feature films, documentaries, network television movie specials, and educational specialty films. Ben received an Oscar® for the creation of the alien, creature, and robot voices featured in the original *Star Wars* and for Sound Effects Editing for *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. He won Oscars for Sound Effects Editing for *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial* and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. He has also earned nominations for Sound Mixing for *Return of the Jedi* and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*; for Sound Effects Editing for *Return of the Jedi*, *Willow* and *Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace*; and for Sound Editing and Sound Mixing for *WALL-E*. Ben is the voice of Wall-E, as well as the breathing of Darth Vader. Also a film scholar, Ben is a yearly presenter of programs for the Academy of Motion Pictures along with Craig Barron. The two of them have also hosted features on Turner Classic Movies' broadcasts as well as the TCM Cruise and film festival.

12:30 - 1:40 | PRODUCTION DESIGN - KRIS BOXELL

As a Production Designer, Kris enjoys the process of creating settings that support cinematic storytelling. She has extensive experience as a Set Decorator on feature films, episodic television and new media. While heading the Production Design Track in the school of Motion Pictures and Television at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, Kris continues to work on projects for the big and small screens. Her feature film credits include *Bull Durham*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *All About Evil*, *Fruitvale Station*, and *Blue Jasmine*.

Kris will explore and uncover how the Production Designer works with their creative team to create convincing environments for a motion picture or television show. Students will be introduced to the Art Department crew and learn how they collaborate to make sets that support the story.

1:45 - 3:45 | STUNTS & STAGE COMBAT - RICHARD SQUERI

Richard Squeri trained with Paul Stader at his Stunt School in Santa Monica, where, after just a year of training, Stader asked Richard to teach. For the past 30+ years, Richard has taught the art of stage combat, with his stunt work experience providing a broader framework (i.e., rigging, pyrotechnics, etc.). Some of the projects he's been involved with include *Cagney & Lacey*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *James Michener's Space*, *War Zone*, *American Justice*, and the Academy Award-nominated short *Leon's Case*. Richard's last feature film was *Boogie Boy* for writer/director Craig Hamann. He also works as a Stunt Coordinator and Associate Producer on a series of independent films called the *Lucky Penny* and last appeared in the award-winning Buster Keaton homage *The Lucky Penny II* with longtime stuntman (and former student of Richard's) writer/director/actor Cliff Cronan; who he also appears with at film festivals, doing a live stunt and slapstick demonstration as examples of silent and modern film physical action.

Richard will discuss and demonstrate the fundamentals of stage combat work and the tools of film that trick viewers' perceptions of danger and comedic movement. Students will learn about the three elements of Anticipation, Separation, and Definition as well as the concepts of Space, Time and Point of View.

3:50 - 4:00 | FULL CAMP WRAP-UP & FINAL EVALUATIONS