November 3-5, 2023
cinemaexchange.org

Still Producing Dreams

#10

Northeast Filmmakers Lab
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Well, here we are. This year’s cover design is from events, booklet covers, we’ve hosted over 10 years, assisting independent filmmakers produce their dreams. Thanks to you. And all of us. The past nine years have been some of the most challenging. Yes, we’re small. And intimate. And effective. 27 five star reviews by filmmakers means we’re doing a lot right. As we consider the historic period we’ve all passed through (and about to enter another), I began to reflect on the work of a particular individual I’ve relied on since the beginning.

Richard Lovrich has been the consistently best dressed out of the box thinker that always envisioned us being influential. We mattered, because to Richard, living the creative life MATTERS! Standing with us since the beginning, I’m grateful during this first nine years, to have someone like Richard to roll and shift with whatever presented itself: #MeToo, Covid, George Floyd, corrupt politics, and now a Strike to confront AI, streaming and wherever we go next.

Everyone at NEFL, our staff, industry and filmmakers salute you!

NEFL has never seen as talented and diverse group of filmmakers. It’s exciting to have you all join us in the Capital Region of the great State of New York!

We remain a hybrid event welcoming filmmakers and industry guests from nearby the Electric City, to a hill town in Virginia to across the Atlantic in Sweden, not to forget the youngest ever to attend the lab, a teenage storytelling standout from China. Understanding story and audience is our primary focus. Cultivating Audience In An AI World is a must-attend virtual Film Talk on Saturday, Nov 4th.

While small, I believe we’ve been laying a foundation and providing needed support for a synergy, connectivity, a creative class that will catapult us into a New Age, a New Era, new technology with the same need for art to reflect back to us what this human experience can become for all of us. Celebrating ten years feels extra special.

Welcome to NEFL10!

Michael J. Camoin
Founding Director

cinemaexchange.org
NEFL 2023 MAP AND PARKING

PARK IN LOT A PLEASE

For assistance, Donna Pennell 518 312 6909
OUR BOARD MEMBERS

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President Founder

JOHN ROMEO
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Treasure

TONY GADDY
Board Member

DONNA PENNELL
Board Member

PAUL RAPP
Board Member

Picture yourself on our board of dynamic industry mentors and professionals.

JOE VENTURA
Board Member
OUR MISSION
The Capital Cinema Cultural Exchange, Inc. (CCCE), is a 501(c)3 non-profit empowers emerging filmmakers to complete and present their projects in a rapidly changing media landscape by leveraging world-class industry expertise through a lab process.

COLLABORATE
Established in 2014, CCCE also hosts screenings in support of dynamic cross-cultural exchange through film. Whether the work is a short, documentary, or feature, we understand the challenge of bringing a movie from start to finish.

OUR GOAL
... is to provide professional mentoring, educational workshops, cultural exchange, one-on-one consultation, networking with other film making organizations and all forms of support, so that filmmakers can shape their work to reach a wider audience. Through interaction with audiences, industry experts and peers, filmmakers can acquire a greater understanding of the language and best practices needed to navigate the creative and business paths from development to marketing, from financing to completion.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MICHAEL J. CAMOIN
President

JOHN ROMEO
Vice President

AJ QUAY
Treasure

SECRETARY
Seeking to Fill

BOARD MEMBERS
ANTHONY GADDY
DONNA PENNELL
PAUL RAPP
JOE VENTURA

INQUIRE @ BOARD MEMBERS:
mike@videosforchange.com

YOU CAN HELP
There are key rolls yet to be filled and you can make a difference to filmmakers by donating your time, talent and or treasure.
SCHEDULE

**DAY 1**  
**NOV 3rd**

- **9:45a** OPENING KEYNOTE
- **10:00a** FILM TALK 1
- **11:00a** PROJECT PRESENTATIONS I *
- **12:30p** LUNCH BREAK
- **1:30p** PROJECT PRESENTATIONS II
- **5:30p** INDUSTRY MIXER
- **6:30p** Living a Creative Life with Richard Loverich

**DAY 2**  
**NOV 4th**

- **9:30a** MEET IN SMALL GROUPS
- **10:00a** ONE ON ONE SESSION 1 & 2
- **12:30p** LUNCH BREAK
- **2:30p** FILM TALK 2: CULTIVATING AUDIENCE IN AN AI WORLD
- **4:00p** TOUR ARMORY STUDIOS NY

**DAY 3**  
**NOV 5th**

- **9:45a** MEET IN SMALL GROUPS
- **10:30a** FILM TALK 3: POWER OF REGIONAL FILMMAKING
- **12:00p** PITCH CONTEST – $10,000 IN-KIND SERVICES

Judges deliberate - Winner announced.

- **2:00p** WRAP
FILM TALK I Get Real with NEFL*

Moderator John Romeo, PhatAkter Productions, welcomes industry mentors / returning lab fellows Maya Bastian (Toronto) and Gwendolen Cates (NYC) in kicking off NEFL10. Together, they will look back at lessons learned, how to approach the three day lab and navigating career path decisions in a rapidly changing media landscape. Hear how two extraordinary filmmakers are overcoming challenges and making waves around the globe producing original content.

* Virtual Tkts Recommended
Richard Lovrich's career began in New York City, where he wore multiple hats, from photographer to graphic artist and project manager for Major banks. He earned acclaim as the Albany Times Union's first art director, introducing innovative sections and garnering awards for his work. Richard's creative journey extended to Proctors in Schenectady, where, as its art, then creative director, he played a key role in its creative output and image development. Development that in time led to encompass Capital Repertory Theatre and Universal Preservation Hall under the banner of Proctors Collaborative. Today, as a versatile creative operating STUDIO LOVRICH, Richard offers diverse services to clients spanning various industries, most notably, locally, that of Creative Director of Armory Studios NY.

Richard dedicated nine years to the NEFL board, in addition to serving on various boards, balancing client work, literary pursuits, and worldwide advocacy for the rare disease community. Mike Camoin will interview Richard with topics ranging from the influence of Richard Florida and his groundbreaking 2002 book, The Rise Of The Creative Class, to managing creatives and the coming AI apocalypse.

Join us for a conversation "Living A Creative Life." Industry mixer tkt required.
Every industry has changed. Take baseball, managers use statistics and data points to make their best next moves. Entertainment is no different. Industry expert, Adam Heyes, with From The Heart Productions introduces an intelligent software program that provides filmmakers with data points you can take back to investors. Film Talk 2 is a must attend overview of Largo.AI offering superfast, detailed analyses of movies using artificial intelligence, which includes financial projections for box office and streaming, film comparisons, casting suggestions, audience demographics, and scene by scene breakdowns of emotionality and genre.

Largo.AI normally requires an investment beyond the reach of low budget filmmakers, yet now this intelligence is attainable to independents thanks to NEFL's partner From The Heart Productions. Remember, enter the Pitch Contest on Sun Nov 5th as one lucky winner will win a Largo.AI package worth over $4,000.

* Film Talk II is a virtual only event for the public, sponsored by From the Heart Productions, a non-profit organization based California founded by Carol Lee Dean.
Tapping into regional resources are in the palm of your hand is something Josh Friedman creator of the revolutionary app Crew Me Up might say. Discover how filmmakers have accessed resources in the northeast region.
PITCH CONTEST **

12p Nov 5th

PITCH YOUR PROJECT in UNDER 3 MINUTES and WIN!

CALLING ALL FILMMAKERS

Win $10,000 in Production Services

** A VIRTUAL EVENT
When Megan is assaulted by a customer, only Detective Obal will take the case, unwittingly uncovering a conspiracy that could cost them both their lives.
Lichen is the youngest filmmaker to ever attend NEFL. He writes, at present, there is a certain bias towards "magic" around the world, and this movie will help people understand it.

Script stage
Duration: 90 minutes

987871686@qq.com
From Bones to Bronze is the year-long journey of veteran bronze sculptor Gerald Shipper’s latest work in progress. The intimate 20-minute documentary explores the interplay of time, art and personal creativity contrasted by the natural rhythms and seasons of Wyoming’s majestic landscapes.

evnan@topazcreative.com
A film inspired by events that occurred in my hometown among my son's youth football teammates, Protect Our House is a journey to shine a light on sexual violence in highschool sports, to hold adults accountable for turning their backs on male victims of sexual violence and the toxic culture that keeps these issues in the dark, and to give survivors a space to heal and help others.

jennifer@picturelockfilms.com
After a break up, a middle aged couple have to come together one last time to collect the one asset: a prized kayak!

matthewsandrew12@gmail.com
When a religiously angst ridden college-aged girl confides in her sisters about a strange experience on her return home for break, it opens the door to something the three girls are not ready for.

herself@rebeccamlinek.com
This documentary delves into the remarkable journey of an immigrant woman who, prompted by an invitation from her American male friend, a resilient survivor of a stroke at over the age of 70, takes a daring leap to craft a documentary film on this extraordinary voyage.

utame2019@gmail.com
The Misadventures of Bucky & Beene follows the lives of two campy pirate radio DJ’s, Pepper Buckthorne who was once Miss Gay USA and her sassy younger sidekick, Jelly Beene who threaten the locals in upstate New York with their WRU-GAY in the morning radio show and befriend Sharon their free spirited albeit ditzy neighbor in the process.

thinedgefilms@gmail.com
A deceitful actor faces reckoning at the hands of a zealous extra for betraying his director wife during a macabre stage production.

thomasrachel946@gmail.com
When shut-down, middle-aged Hannah takes in a handsome young stranger with ties to her past, his presence, and secrets, arouse long-buried turmoil and desires. Her encounters with him, and with a mother facing dire circumstances, teach Hannah about the responsibility to pay her blessings forward, and how, finally, to be fully alive.

nwagman000@citymail.cuny.edu
Sam is unemployed and lonely in Stockholm. He calls his friend Ameer asking for company, but today is August 5 and it's his dead sister's birthday. Sam gets the company of his uninvited friends instead.
INDUSTRY MENTORS

MAYA BASTION – Producer, Karma Films

Award winning filmmaker with roots in conflict journalism, Maya frequently explores trauma related to displacement and migration. Her work is supported by Netflix, HBO, UN IOM, CBC and Canadian Film Centre. Her short AIR SHOW received national press and TIGRESS (NEFL7) was nominated for a CEC AWARD and screened at CANNES COURT METRAGE ’21, premiered at Festival De Nouveau Cinema Montreal.

Maya is in development with BLACKOUT MEDIA and KARMA FILMS on numerous narrative projects, is co-writing and directing a paranormal mystery series set in 1970’s Southeast Asia with REFLECTOR ENT. An alumni of TIFF Series Accelerator 2023, her comedy series HOW TO BE BROWN was recently selected for the 1497 Features Lab.

FLO MITCHELL-BROWN – Producer / NY Production Alliance

Experienced professional with a demonstrated history of working in the entertainment industry. Skilled in Budgeting, Event Planning, Microsoft Excel, Customer Service, Government Relations and Production Management. Strong business development professional graduated from Boston College. Co-Chair New York Production Alliance, Board Member New York Women in Film and TV, Co-Chair NYC BOE Media and Technology Commission and friend to NEFL.

MICHAEL CAMOIN - Videos For Change Productions

Producer / Director Mike Camoin’s short film “RELAX” shot on S16 mm premiered in Russia and led Camoin to establish the Capital Cinema Cultural Exchange, Inc. which hosts the international Northeast Filmmakers Lab. Camoin studied acting for directors with Judith Weston and led the independent film movement in northeastern New York, spurring talks to fuel the state’s first Film Tax rebate program. Best known for his documentaries INSIDE THE BLUE LINE and THE BATTLES OF SARATOGA, Camoin has served on feature films that have screened at Cannes, Toronto and Sundance. Camoin received the Roy W. Dean Award in 2021 for his doc SCARED TO DEBT: America’s Student Loan Scam and currently in post on PROJECT UNFURL: The Heart of Bona’s Basketball.

GWENDOLYN CATES – Documentary Filmmaker

An award-winning independent documentary filmmaker, photographer and author. Originally a photographer whose portraits of luminaries from Rosa Parks to George Clooney have been featured in national and international magazines, including PARADE, Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair, Life, and People, her critically acclaimed book Indian Country (Grove Press 2001) inspired Oprah to begin a series on Native Americans.

Her first award-winning documentary film WATER FLOWING TOGETHER (2007) about Navajo-Puerto Rican New York City Ballet star Jock Soto premiered nationally on PBS Independent Lens in 2008. (cont’d)
INDUSTRY MENTORS

(Cates Cont’d) Recent productions include WE ARE UNARMED (2020), a fresh look at the peaceful resistance to the DAPL pipeline at Standing Rock; THE GOOD MIND (2016), follows Onondaga Nation leaders as they fight for environmental sovereignty of ancestral lands stolen by New York State in violation of a 1794 treaty with George Washington; and the short GUSWENTA (2013) about the 400th anniversary commemoration of the first treaty between Indigenous people and early settlers on this land. Gwendolen’s current feature doc project THE DOCTRINE is about the Doctrine of Discovery, 15th century papal bulls issued by the Vatican that continue to devastate Indigenous Peoples and the planet today, filmed in the US, Rome, Italy, Guatemala, New Caledonia, and New Zealand, now in post. MOURNING IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN is about the Yazidis and Mandaeans, original peoples of Iraq, also in post. A native New Yorker, and the daughter of a linguist who was fluent in Diné Bizaad (the Navajo language), Gwendolen studied cultural anthropology at the University of Chicago.

CAROLE LEE DEAN – From The Heart Productions – Ventura, CA **

Carole Dean, author/producer/grantor. The Art of Film Funding Second Edition & The Art of Manifesting: Creating your Future. Executive Producer credits BAM 6.6, Women Behind the Camera, Step Away From the Stone, American Chain Gang. Carole created the Roy Dean Film Grant in 1992 and has given over $2,500,000.00 in grants to independent filmmakers. She is currently the President of From the Heart Productions, 501(c)3 non profit where she manages the Grant and fiscal sponsorships for the non-profit and teaches film funding through her Intentional Filmmaker classes found on FromtheHeartProductions.com and her podcasts on blogtalkradio.com. Her latest Power Point and book is How to Fund Your Film.

JOSH FRIEDMAN – Founder CREW ME UP

Joshua A. Friedman is a Producer, DGA Assistant Director, and Author of Getting It Done: The Ultimate Production Assistant Guide. A Decade of Experience on shows such as Law & Order: CI to his newest feature film Warning Shot have led Mr. Friedman to create a mobile labor platform to Connect filmmakers around the world (Crew Me Up). Mr. Friedman loves sharing his experience and cultivating new talent. Crew Me Up is a New Mobile Labor Platform for the Film Industry Available on iTunes. Why make 60 phone calls to hire 6 people? Crew Me Up offers detailed crew profiles, interactive availability calendars, favorite lists and more… all at the touch of button. Friedman is building a community based on a simple mission: Connect. Create. Collaborate ... Crew Me Up.
INDUSTRY MENTORS

TONY GADDY  Anthony Gaddy is a Co-Founder and President/CEO of the UpState New York Black Chamber of Commerce, the Upstate New York affiliate for U.S. Black Chambers. Founded in February 2019, The Chamber of Commerce is based in Albany and represents the Upstate New York region including the Capital Region, Central New York, Western New York and the Hudson Valley Region on behalf of Black Businesses and Underserved Communities. Gaddy an NEFL board member is also a screenwriter with a buddy cop comedy in development.

TONY GROCKI - Editor / Producer, Post Production Specialist
Tony has been working in the film industry for over 30 years. He has worked as an Editor on Films by The Coen Brothers, Jim Jarmusch, Abel Ferrara, and Paul Schrader. He has also been a Producer of a nationally distributed arts program from PBS Station WMHT-TV. He continues to collaborate with emerging filmmakers as an Editor and Producer on numerous independent feature films and short films.

ADAM HEYES  Adam Heyes: A versatile creative and business developer, specializing in working with filmmakers, artists, authors, teachers, and non-profits. He's an experienced producer and web content creator with a track record of launching and editing blogs for the Huffington Post. Over a decade of collaboration with From the Heart Productions, focusing on website development, design, pitch decks, marketing, online courses, and fundraising campaigns. Known for his contributions to award-winning documentaries such as "Ground Operations" and "Take Back Your Power." Adam holds degrees in Psychology from UCLA and Spiritual Psychology from the University of Santa Monica.

MELISSA HOUGHTON – Executive Director WiFV – Washington, DC
Melissa J. Houghton joined Women in Film & Video (WiFV) as Executive Director in August 2005. Since that time, membership numbers 900+ media professionals and program provision exceeded 90 professional development offerings for the last four years. WiFV serves as a fiscaler of independent media projects and provides the Randy Goldman Career Development Scholarship, the Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers, Carolyn's First Decade Fund and the Jane Cusumano/ WiFV Narrative Short Film Finishing Fund in its portfolio of programs that benefit members.
INDUSTRY MENTORS

RASHID HOWELL - Youth FX - Technical Director & Co-Founder

Rashid is a founding member of the Youth FX Organization. He is a director, cinematographer, editor and sound recordist having graduated from The College of Saint Rose, with a degree in new media and business. Specializing in directing, cinematography, editing, sound, and grip. He co-runs Youth FX’s Creative agency Rogue FX which has allowed him to produce 50+ short docs, commercials and narratives. Rashid as an educator in film and digital media has helped youth learn and understand the various technical skills and proficiencies that go along with filmmaking. Rashid believes the Youth FX’s creative education programming allows youth to obtain skill sets that can be applied outside filmmaking and digital media. Skills such as: communication, critical thinking, problem solving, and leadership.

DONNA PENNELL – Showrunner / Executive Produce

Donna has more than 675 broadcasted programs to her credit, in factual, sitcom, and scripted drama genres. CEO of Destiny Productions, she has produced programs seen on ABC, NBC, CBS, including HERE COMES THE BRIDE, HOLIDAY, OPEN HOUSE and OUT & ABOUT. Donna is a Schenectady Film Commissioner and a tireless CCCE Board member.

HEIDI PHILLIPSEN – FILMMAKER

Heidi is an award-winning producer, director, writer, and actress with 25+ years in the film, intl. TV & media industry. Her company Personae Entertainment Pictures’ first feature film, DARCY, which she produced (earning the PGA “produced by” mark), co-directed and acted in, won multiple film fest awards. Her self-penned feature KIDNAPPING LOVE, currently in development, made it to the top 15% of the Nicholls Academy Fellowship and was a quarterfinalist in ScreenCraft’s Screenwriting Fellowship in 2022. And her most recent project, Ukrainian-American cultural clash rom-com, LOVE & VODKA, is currently in post-production. She lives in Berlin, Germany with her husband, Niko Meissner. Full bio visit www.heidielizabethphilipsenmeissner.com

John Romeo – Phatakter Productions

Albany born stage and film actor, recently co-directed, shot and co-edited the documentary, “The Neighborhood That Disappeared”, and was Director of Photography and editor on “Breakfast of Champions”. He also recently appeared in “Fighting For Freedom” with Bruce Dern. His lengthy career on stage included working in London’s West End and Off-Broadway in NYC.
Chris Schiller – Entertainment Attorney

Producer and entertainment attorney Christopher Schiller, has honed his craft by learning for himself and providing a myriad of skills to others for decades. Beginning work on the technical side, camera, lighting, sound and post production, he grounded his all around knowledge. By screenwriting and producing others' projects he finds creative solutions for telling the story the best way possible. As a lawyer focused on entertainment law he assists his clients in all manner of legal and business issues within the industry. Understanding the whole picture allows him to explore and deliver solutions in the most inventive ways.

Romeo, Cont'd) He has taught Acting at Union College and Acting and Directing at Russell Sage College. He owns PhatAkter Productions, LLC Member of SAG-AFTRA and Actor's Equity and Upstate Independents Filmmakers Network. John serves as Vice-President of Capital Cinema Cultural Exchange, Inc.

NOTES

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Northeast Filmmakers Lab 2018
6th Edition
November 1-3 2019

Breaking Through
Northeast Filmmakers Lab
5th Edition
October 25 - 26th

Still Producing Dreams
November 3-5, 2023
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