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witness@telus.net - www.witnessproductions.ca

## CAROLE DUCHARME

Writer, Director, Producer



### BIOGRAPHY

Carole Ducharme is an award-winning writer, director, producer and founder of Witness Productions Inc. in Vancouver. Born in Montreal and a graduate of the University of Montreal's Law School, Carole has more than 20 years experience in writing, directing and producing in English and in French: documentaries, reality series, animated television series, multi-camera studio series and short films. Carole is currently writing the feature comedy *Le Donneur* with the assistance of Telefilm Canada, and has written the acclaimed feature script *The Women of My Life*, with the assistance of Telefilm, BC Film, Harold Greenberg Fund, Movie Central, NSI Features First.

## **CAROLE DUCHARME**

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### ***PRODUCER, DIRECTOR, WRITER***

Bilingual - French & English



### **SUMMARY OF SKILLS**

Highly gifted, creative, enthusiastic and experienced Producer, Director, Writer with extensive experience in reality series, documentaries and fiction.

- Strong ability to multitask, establish priorities, plan, organize, coordinate and independently manage creative projects and teams in a fast-paced environment.
- Talent for logic and reasoning to identify the relative costs and benefits as well as the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- Confident team leader, ability to cultivate a harmonious and cohesive team, to inspire the cooperation and confidence of others, and promote the "common purpose" of the team.
- Unique interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community.
- Self-directed, detail oriented and problem solver.
- Excellent decision-making skills.
- Great creative and crisis management skills.
- Flexible, receptive and open to change.
- Creative and imaginative visual sense.
- Great storyteller in terms of writing and filming, ability to balance character development, structure, pace, tone, humor and sensibility in all stories.
- Compassionate listener with the ability to make participants feel comfortable and open to sharing their most intimate feelings and stories.

### **CURRENT PROJECTS**

#### ***THE WOMEN OF MY LIFE*, feature film, French & English, production financing stage**

- Writer, Director, Producer
- Produced by Witness Productions (Vancouver) & Forum Films (Montréal)
- Distributed by Remstar and Alliance
- Developed with the assistance of Telefilm Canada, BC Film, The Harold Greenberg Fund, Movie Central, NSI Features First
- Invited at the French Production Forum, Namur International Film Festival, Belgium, October 2007
- Finalist at the Moondance International Film Festival 2006 Screenplay Competition (Hollywood)
- Quarter-finalist at the 2006 Filmmakers International Screenwriting Awards (USA)

#### ***LE DONNEUR*, feature film, French, in development**

- Writer, Director, Producer
- Produced by Witness Productions (Vancouver)
- Developed with the assistance of Telefilm Canada – Écrire au Long & programme d'aide à l'écriture de scénario

## **COMPLETED PROJECTS**

### ***SMART SEX TALK WITH DR. PEGA REN, 10 x 30min. sex talk show, 2008, English***

- Series Producer, Scriptwriter
- Produced by OUTtv; broadcast on OUTtv et HERE! (USA)
- Developing series concept, look and content, episode breakdown and timing, writing scripts, casting, coordinating and supervising the production and shooting in studio, live-to-tape with multiple cameras, directing interviews and segments.

### ***THE AFTERLIFE WITH SUZANE NORTHROP 10 x 30min. psychic-medium series, 2008***

- Series Producer
- Produced by OUTtv; broadcast on OUTtv et HERE! (USA)
- Developing series concept, look and content, episode breakdown and timing, writing scripts, casting, coordinating and supervising the production and shooting in studio live-to-tape with multiple cameras and live audience.

### ***BEN VOYONS, CAMILLE!, half-hour comedy, 2007, French***

- Writer, Director, Producer
- Produced by Witness Productions (Vancouver) & Les Productions Rivard (Winnipeg)
- Broadcast on SRC (Société Radio-Canada)
- Financed by Telefilm Canada, Canadian Heritage, SRC, National Film Board of Canada

### ***X-WEIGHTED, 13 x one-hour weight loss documentary series, 2006-2007, English***

- Director
- Produced by Anaïd Productions (Edmonton); Broadcast on Slice Network

### ***MAKING THE CUT – LAST MAN STANDING, 15 x 1 hr hockey docu-reality series, 2006, English***

- Story Producer, Director
- Produced by Network Entertainment Inc. (Vancouver); Broadcast on Global
- Developing series concept, stories and content; writing scripts; field director; directing interviews and segments with multiple cameras; viewing footage; writing paper edit; using Lanterna post-production software; overseeing the editing.  
[www.makingthecut.ca](http://www.makingthecut.ca)

### ***THE NEXT GREAT CHEF, 11 x half-hour culinary reality series, 2005, English***

- Producer, Story Producer of 8 x 3 min. culinary reality series for the web (MSN Sympatico), French
- Produced by Next Entertainment Inc. (Vancouver); Broadcast on Global  
[www.thenextgreatchef.com](http://www.thenextgreatchef.com)

### ***YOUR LIFE IS IN YOUR HANDS, PSA, 30 sec., 2005, English***

- Co-Producer, Co-Creator of the concept, Writer, Director
- Public Service Announcement for Covenant House, a shelter for street youth

### ***MAKING THE CUT - LE REPÊCHAGE BELL, 11 x 1hr & 2 x 2 hour hockey docu-reality series, 2004, English & French***

- Producer - French version
- Produced by Network Entertainment Inc. (Vancouver); Broadcast on CBC and RDS
- Developing series concept, stories and content; directing interviews and segments with multiple cameras; coordinating the shooting and post-production; managing the French budget, the French crew and service providers: transcribers, translators, dubbing and subtitling studios; overseeing all rough cuts until delivery to broadcaster; using Pilot Ware postproduction software; collaborating with the broadcaster; producing the on air promos; supervising the French web content.

### ***CANADA À LA CARTE, educational series, 13 x half-hour, 2003, French***

- Director, Co-Writer
- Produced by Les Productions Rivard (Winnipeg); broadcast on TFO (Toronto)

### ***MAN-MADE WOMEN, 1 hr documentary, 2001, English & Spanish***

- Associate Producer, Writer, Director, Sound Recordist, 2<sup>nd</sup> unit Camerawoman, Co-Editor
- Broadcast on Oxygen Network, The Documentary Channel, RDI
- Presented in competition at Hot Docs 2002 (Toronto)

**LES ENFANTS DU QUARTIER, half-hour documentary, 1999, French**

- Writer, Director
- Produced by Les Productions Rivard (Winnipeg) for TFO (Toronto)
- Winner of the Blizzard Award for Best Non-Dramatic Series

**STRAIGHT FROM THE SUBURBS, 24 min., comedy, 16mm, 1998, English**

- Writer, Director, Producer
- Produced by Witness Productions (Vancouver) and Big Deal Productions (Montreal),
- with the financial participation of the SODEC (Quebec), Telefilm Canada and the NFB
- Screened at more than 40 international film festivals; broadcast in Australia, Canada, USA
- Winner of the Nell Shipman Production Excellence Award for Best Short Film and Best Musical Score (Seattle, USA, 2000)
- Nominated for Best Screenwriter & Best Musical Score at the LEO Awards (Vancouver, 1999)
- Nominated for Best Short Film at the JUTRA Awards (Montreal, 1999)

**LOVE INTERRUPTUS, 8 min., drama, 16mm, 1994, English & French**

- Writer, Director, Producer
- Produced and distributed by Witness Productions, with the financial participation of SODEC (Quebec)
- Screened at international Film Festivals; broadcast on CBC, Knowledge Network and CF Cable 9
- Nominated for best photography at the Canadian Society of Cinematographer Annual Awards (Toronto)

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**PRODUCER, LEGAL & BUSINESS AFFAIRS**

**CENTRE DES ARTS MÉDIATIQUE (CAM) (Vancouver) August 2003 to April 2004**

Coordinator of the French Centre for Media Arts  
Developing, coordinating, financing and producing seminars, workshops, professional training sessions and other activities related to the film & television industry, and new media.  
Working in collaboration with the NFB, Radio-Canada, APFC (French Producers' Association of Canada)

**BARDEL ANIMATION LTD. (Vancouver) May 1999 to February 2000**

- Executive Producer, Legal & Business Affairs
- Developing & financing animated television series and feature films  
(*SILVERWING, CHRISTMAS ORANGE*)

**NOA NETWORK OF ANIMATION INC. (Vancouver) November 1996 to April 1999**

- Associate Producer, Legal & Business Affairs
- 13 half-hour animated television series: "CYBERSIX" (Canada-Japan co-production)
- based on the Argentinean comic book; broadcast on Teletoon in Canada
- Winner of two LEO Awards including Best Animated Production (Vancouver, 2000)

**ARK FILMS INC. (Vancouver) June to November 1996**

- Head of International Co-productions for feature films

**ALLEGRO FILMS (Montreal) February 1994 to May 1996**

- Legal Advisor
- Drafting and translating production agreements for feature films, international co-productions and television series  
(*SCREAMERS, LA PRÉSENCE DES OMBRES, LA COURTE ÉCHELLE, ARSENE LUPIN*)

**OBJECTIF PRODUCTIONS (Montreal) February 1994 to May 1996**

- Associate Producer for television commercials and corporate videos  
(*RO-NA, QUAKER STATE, BOMBARDIER, BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB,*)

**LES PRODUCTIONS LAZENNEC (Paris, France) June 1992 to June 1993**

- Head of International Co-productions & Co-Producer of feature films
- *MON AMIE MAX* by Michel Brault, with Geneviève Bujold (France-Canada);  
*LA MADRE MUERTA* (France-Spain)
- Developing scripts; financing projects in France for international co-productions
- Representing the production company in major European Film Festivals

**COMPAGNIE FRANÇAISE CINÉMATOGRAPHIQUE (CFC)  
& ROBUR DROITS AUDIOVISUELS (Paris, France) November 1991 to May 1992**

- Legal & Business Affairs
- Negotiating and drafting production agreements for international co-productions  
*LA PESTE* by Luis Puenzo (France-UK-Argentina-USA)

**QUEBEC FILM CLASSIFICATION BOARD (Montreal) October 1989 to October 1991**

- Legal Advisor to the President on film classification and distribution
- Drafting Law and Regulations for the revised Cinema Act
- Research on the Criminal Code definition of "obscenity" and on the impact of films on children

**CASTONGUAY, BUCHANAN, Lawyers (Montreal) October 1988 to June 1989**

- Lawyer: Film financing, tax shelters, author of articles on tax shelters in legal magazines

**SPIEGEL, SOHMER, Lawyers (Montreal) November 1987 to June 1988**

- Lawyer: Drafting agreements related to the film industry

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**VOICE OVER**

**Eaux Troubles** - documentary mini-series, French version – producer Red Letter Films (Vancouver), 2007

**Océans Nucléaires** – 2-part documentary, French version – producer Red Letter Films (Vancouver), 2007

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**TEACHING**

**SDEC B (Société de développement économique de la Colombie-Britannique) April-September 2002**

- Video Teacher, French
- Supervising the scriptwriting, pre-production, shooting, and editing of videos for the production of a CD-ROM promoting British Columbia to French speaking tourists

**La Boussole, French Community Center (Vancouver) January 2002**

- Documentary Teacher, Producer, French
- 4 week intensive documentary course for street youth from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside
- Supervising the scriptwriting, pre-production, shooting, and editing of a short documentary

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**EDUCATION**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>INSTITUTION</u>	<u>DIPLOMA</u>
1986-87	Quebec Bar School	License to practice Law
1983-86	University of Montreal	Law (BAC)
1982-83	Concordia University	Film Studies
1980-82	Bois-de-Boulogne College	Literature (DEC)

## **WORKSHOPS / MEMBERSHIPS / FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Scriptwriting workshop – Montreal, November 2007**

One day intensive workshop with Screenwriters Benoît Guichard (*Nitro, Cadavres*) & Isabelle Raynauld

### **French Production Forum – International Film Festival, Namur, Belgium, October 2007**

3-day screenwriting meetings and pitching workshop with Isabelle Fauvel

### **Directing Kids - Cineworks - Vancouver, January 17, 2004**

One day intensive workshop with Director Jessica Bradford and Casting Agent Carole Tarlington

### **The Women in The Director's Chair Workshop - Banff, AB, Dec 5 - 8, 2003 & Jan.22 - Feb.8, 2004**

4-day story & screenwriting workshop with Peg Campbell, Carolyn Mumchur

17-day directing workshop with Norma Bailey, Rosemary Dunsmore, Mary Ungerleider, Peter Wunstorf

### **Judith Weston Acting for Directors Workshop – Vancouver, May 2003**

3-day acting workshop with L.A. author and acting teacher Judith Weston

### **WIFVV & Cineworks Directing workshop - Vancouver, March 2003**

3-day directing workshop with Director John Pozer

### **Robert McKee Comedy Day - Vancouver, October 2002**

One-day comedy writing workshop with L.A. author Robert McKee

### **The Essential Questions of Story Development - Toronto, September 2002**

2-day writing workshop with Marguerite Pigott

### **Television Drama Director's Workshop - Oct.14-27, 2001 in Ottawa; Feb. 10-23, 2002 in Montreal**

4-week workshop: Multi-camera studio shooting and dual-camera exterior shooting for television drama  
Organized by PICLO, INIS, the French Producers Alliance of Canada, Telefilm Canada and Radio-Canada

### **Praxis Writing Workshop: The Comic Toolbox - Vancouver, November 1999**

2-day session with L.A. writer John Vorhaus: writing comedy for television, film and beyond

Member of **SARTEC** (Quebec's Writers Guild)

Member of **UDA** stagiaire # 113745 (Quebec's Actors Guild)

Treasurer and Board Member of **FRIC** (Front des Réalisateur Indépendents du Canada – Independent directors of Canada)

Member of **SACD** (Société des auteurs et compositeurs dramatiques – Dramatic authors and composer society)

Member of **Women in Film and Television Vancouver**

Member of **Praxis Centre for Screenwriters** (Vancouver)

**WIDC Banff World Television Festival Fellowship** recipient, 2005

**Banff CTV Fellowship** recipient, 1996 and 2004

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## **OTHER INTERESTS**

Scuba diving, skiing, golf, yoga, spirituality & meditation, travel, home renovation, real estate investment.  
Basic knowledge of Spanish.