

WIDC 2010 PERSONNEL BIOGRAPHIES
PPPM Mentors & Guests

MENTOR DIRECTOR



STACEY STEWART CURTIS
Toronto, ON

Stacey Stewart Curtis is one of Canada's most experienced directors. Stacey had a great time shooting the Lifetime/ Global Film *"The One that Got Away"* (aka *Gossip*) in Newfoundland. She has more than 130 hours of television programming under her belt - from *Majority Rules* to *Naturally Sadie*; *Godiva's* to *Cold Squad*; *The Best Years* to *The Guard*.

Stacey Curtis directed the entire first season of *Moccasin Flats*, (a series co-created by WIDC actor alumna Jennifer Podemski), and then went on to Associate Produce, as well as direct 5 of the 8 episodes of season two for Showcase and APTN. This edgy series followed a group of teens in the rough native ghetto of urban Regina.

Her directorial horizons include short films such as *Death by Landscape* - based on the Margaret Atwood short story, for Shaftesbury Films and Original Pictures. *Bliss* shot for Gala Films and *Back Alley* has been seen on Showcase and Oxygen. Her independent short *The Earliest Memory Exercise*, screened at the Los Angeles, NY, and Memphis International Film Festivals, the Crested Butte "Reel Fest" and the "Zeitgeist" in San Francisco. She is also in development with several feature films including *What You Need*.

Stacey was at the helm for the Movie for Television *What Katy Did* - a classic turn-of-the-century children's tale - produced by Tetra Films / Catalyst Entertainment for Carlton / ITV in Britain. Written by Susan Coolidge in 1872 and adapted for television by Olivia Hetreed (*Girl with a Pearl Earring*), *What Katy Did* stars Alison Pill and features Megan Follows, Kevin Whately and Dean Stockwell. Curtis also directed the popular romantic comedy *Recipe for Revenge* with Kim Huffman, Alex Carter and Corbin Bernson for Showtime and CTV.

Curtis has piloted 4 series - the historical anthology *Dear America* for HBO and Scholastic Books; the contemporary family drama *Black Harbour* set on the Canadian east coast for Fogbound Films and the CBC; the espionage mini-series entitled *Cover Me* for Serendipity Point Films and Alliance Atlantis; and *Zixx Level One* for Savvy Films and YTV.

Stacey Stewart Curtis was nominated for the 2002 Gemini Award for "Best Direction in a Dramatic Program" for the film *Dreamstorm*, based on the long-running series *North of 60*. This was her 4th Gemini nomination.

Stacey received the Gemini Award for "Best Direction in a Dramatic Series" in 1992 for the *Street Legal* episode *"Presumed Toxic"*. This is a fitting tribute, as she made her directorial debut in 1988 on this highly acclaimed Canadian Series.

Awarded the 1999 WIFT-T Crystal Award for Creative Excellence, Stacey is highly respected in the Canadian television industry. Recognized for her fluid and engaging style, she is renowned for her rigorous attention to detail. Stacey's contribution to the industry extends beyond her work behind the camera. She has worked with new and aspiring directors, through various mentorship programs, as Director-in-Residence at the NSI, the Aboriginal Screenwriters Program, and at WIDC in Banff.

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MENTOR ACTOR



LORI TRIOLO
Vancouver, BC

Lori began her career as a child in New York. She grew up doing theatre with her family in Queens and Long Island performing in community centers, churches and parks. In 1988 Lori was accepted to the State University of New York at Purchase. There she continued to quench her appetite for the performing arts on stage and behind the scenes directing. Lori's time at Purchase led her to the prestigious Neighborhood Playhouse School of The Theatre in NYC. It was there that she had the honour of working with Sanford Meisner. Triolo was an integral part of building the successful Belmont Italian American Playhouse, in the Bronx where Robert Deniro, Talia Shire and Kenneth Branagh sat on the Board of Directors. The film **A Bronx Tale** was cast out of the theatre.

Triolo later relocated to Vancouver and was immediately cast in an MOW with her idol, Katherine Hepburn. Selected leading Film and TV credits include **The Zero Sum**, **Battlestar Galactica**, **DaVinci's Inquest**, **The L word**, **Cold Squad's** Season Two, **Intensity**, **Indefensible** with Brian Dennehy and Lynn Redgrave and **Ignition** with Bill Pullman and Lena Olin. Lori was nominated for a Leo Award for her leading role in **For a Few Lousy Dollars**. Her most recent starring roles are on the series **The 4400** produced by Francis Ford Coppola, the half-hour comedy series, **Alice, I think**, **Men in Trees** and **Masters of Science Fiction** directed by Jonathan Frakes starring Brian Dennehy and John Hurt. Also an accomplished stage actress, Lori has starred in Vancouver productions of **The Sweetest Swing in Baseball** (Jessie Award nominee), **Italian American Reconciliation**, **Where's My Money**, **Miss Julie**, et al. for which she received the highest praise.

Over the last 16 years Triolo has lived in NYC, Vancouver and Los Angeles. In 2002 she returned to Vancouver from Los Angeles to build an intimate theatre that would cater to all types of performing artists and filmmakers. She became the Artistic Director and Resident Acting Teacher at The Beaumont Stage. Triolo created the Evolving Arts Collective focused on developing projects that are original, locally written, purpose driven works for the stage and screen. The company has produced over a dozen original works for stage as well as the 48 Hour Crap Shoot filmmaking competition, the Gong Show, Killhouse: A Carnival of Carnage and Vancouver City Limits New Music Review. The collective is committed to building a kind of theatre and film world that is truly collaborative and which speaks to the moral and social issues of our time.

Triolo continues to uphold this mandate by facilitating events such as The Cold Reading Series and CineKids which is a creative outreach program that brings youth from diverse backgrounds together to empower them with life skills through the exploration of live performance and filmmaking process. Lori continues working as facilitator with her clients for private one-on-one and on-set coaching for Actors and Directors bridging the gap in communication between the two.

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MENTOR DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY



ROGER VERNON, C.S.C.
Canmore, AB

A native of Alberta, Roger Vernon has combined his love of the mountains and his desire to make images into a flourishing career as an internationally respected cinematographer.

In the thirty-five years since attending The Banff Centre's Visual Communications program, he has applied his skills throughout the genres in motion picture photography. Educational films, documentaries, commercials and narrative are all part of his visual language. He is perhaps best known for his mountain and adventure related subjects, which have taken him into the remotest corners of the globe.

Roger has worked on a number of feature length dramas, most notably UNFORGIVEN, the 1992 western that was nominated for best cinematography and won four Academy awards including Best Picture. Most recently he photographed the second unit of Summit Entertainment's NEW MOON and ECLIPSE the second and third movies in the highly successful "TWILIGHT" franchise.

Other productions that include his work are: LEGENDS OF THE FALL, THE EDGE, ALASKA, ALIVE, PAYCHECK, ELEKTRA and MYSTERY, ALASKA to name but a few. With numerous nominations for direction and cinematography to his credit, he is the recipient of a Gemini award for cinematography, three cinematography awards from the Alberta Motion Picture Industry Association and a Golden Sheaf for cinematography from the Yorkton Film Festival.

Roger has earned the admiration and respect of his peers for both his achievements as a cinematographer and his dedication to mentoring the next generation of filmmakers.

He was inducted into the prestigious Canadian Society of Cinematographers in 1993. Roger is the past President of the International Photographers Guild, IATSE local 669.

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MENTOR DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY



PETER WOESTE, C.S.C.
Delta, BC

Peter was born in Unna, Germany and immigrated to Canada with his family at the age of 9. His childhood hobby of photography and fascination with cameras led to film studies at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology and later at the American Film Institute under the tutelage of various mentors including notables such as, Vittorio Storaro, Vilmos Zsigmond, Laszlo Kovacs, Vic Kemper, Howard Schwartz, Dick Glouner, and others.

Over the course of Peter Woeste's 38 year career in film and television, he has been recognized with over 18 awards and nominations including 3 Gemini Award nominations, an American Society of Cinematographers nomination, 2 Leo nominations, a Blizzard Award and a Canadian Society of Cinematographers Award among many others. His work on the television movie Christmas Snow contributed to an Emmy Award win for Best Cinematography and 9 years later, he was also part of the team receiving an Emmy Award nomination for Best Mini-Series for In Cold Blood.

Since 1999, Peter has directed a dozen episodes of Stargate SG-1 and it's spin-off Stargate Atlantis as well as working as Director of Photography on 94 episodes of the series.

In addition to Stargate SG-1, Peter's television DOP credits include Double Bill (BBC), Coliseum (USA Network), Video Voyeur: The Susan Wilson Story (Lifetime), Escape From Mars (Paramount/UPN), In Cold Blood (CBS/Hallmark), For Those Who Hunt the Wounded Down (CBC), The Outer Limits (MGM/Atlantis/Showtime), Profit (FOX), The Ruby Silver (ABC), Sliders (FOX/Universal), Neon Rider (Global), and The Odd Couple: Together Again (CBS/Paramount), etc.

His camera work is also recognized on the feature films The Tortured (Erica Christensen, Jesse Metcalf, Bill Moseley), Love Happens (Jennifer Aniston, Aaron Eckhart), Stargate:Continuum, The Ark of Truth, Cool Runnings (John Candy), Leaving Normal (Christine Lahti), Count a Lonely Cadence (Martin Sheen, Charlie Sheen, Laurence Fishburne), We're No Angels (Robert DeNiro, Sean Penn), Immediate Family (Glenn Close, James Wood), and Cousins (Isabella Rossellini, Ted Danson), Distant Thunder (John Lithgow, Ralph Macchio), etc.

Peter and his wife Nicole Forest make their home on Westham Island near Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

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MENTOR DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY / TECH-XERCISE



DEAN BENNETT, C.S.C.
Calgary, AB

Dean Bennett started his career in the film industry over twenty-five years ago. He has worked at most positions on the camera crew including grip and gaffer, later moving into camera. He has had the privilege of being involved in a broad spectrum of work including commercials, documentary and drama. In the mid 1980's Dean turned his sights toward directing and attended the Electronic Media Program at The Banff Centre.

While spending several years shooting commercials in the early 1990's Dean started directing some of those projects and accumulated numerous regional and national accounts. During this time he never lost sight of his desire to work in drama and since 1992 has worked on over 150 hours of television drama, miniseries and feature films.

In 2003 Dean directed an episode of a series he was shooting. Since then he has added six more episodes from various series. He has also directed two movies for television, including his latest, WAKING UP WALLY – The Walter Gretzky Story. He is presently completing post-production work on a series pilot for CBC called HEARTLAND.

Dean has also completed three screenplays and these days finds himself spending more and more time developing his passion for writing. Over the years he has also nurtured a love of painting and continues to fill his "spare time" hovering over a palette and canvas. Dean has been involved with Women in the Director's Chair for four of the ten program years. In fact he credits it with restoring his own passion for independent filmmaking. He loves the idea of providing a safe place to learn and co-create

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MENTOR PRODUCTION DESIGNER



JOHN BLACKIE
Cochrane, AB

John has worked in the film and television industry for over 30 years garnering numerous awards and nominations for his work. He has production designed across Canada including seven feature films with filmmaker Anne Wheeler, winning an AMPIA Award for Best Art Direction for *BYE BYE BLUES* and a Gemini nomination for *THE DIVINERS*. His television series work, to name a few, includes *LONESOME DOVE: THE OUTLAW YEARS*, *HONEY I SHRUNK THE KIDS: THE TV SERIES*, *MYTHQUEST*, *DINOSAURIEN*, the German series *IM TAL DER WILDEN ROSEN*, and *MUTANT X* for which he was nominated for a Gemini Award and a DGC Craft Award for achievement in production design.

Movies of the Week too numerous to list include *PROBABLE CAUSE*, *WAKING UP WALLY: THE WALTER GRETZKY STORY*, *AGENT OF INFLUENCE* (Gemini nomination), and *TO SERVE AND PROTECT: TRAGEDY AT MAYERTHORPE*, now in post production.

Starting as a graphic designer for ACCESS the educational television station in Alberta, John has an appreciation for the learning process and the inspiration it can offer to individuals at every stage in their careers.

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MENTOR EDITOR



LISA BINKELY, C.C.E.
Vancouver, BC

Award winning editor, Lisa Binkley began her career in post-production in 1989, after having studied theatre and film production at the University of British Columbia and graduating from the Media Resources Program at Capilano College. Since then she has worked on various feature films, movies of the week and television series.

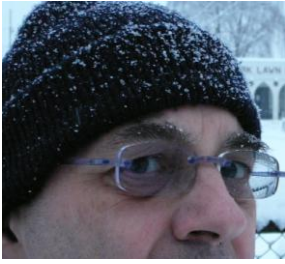
In 2004, her work was recognized when she received both a Gemini and a Leo Award for her editing of the 6 part mini-series, "Human Cargo". This Canadian/South African co-production was directed by Brad Turner ("24") with an international cast starring Kate Nelligan and Nicholas Campbell. Over the years her list of television credits have included, MGM's critically acclaimed science fiction series, "The Outer Limits" and Showtime's "The L Word", "Cold Squad", "Touching Evil", "Call of the Wild" and "The Chris Isaak Show". Over the years, Lisa has had the opportunity to work with such acclaimed directors as Marleen Gorris (Academy Award Winner – "Antonia's Line"), Moises Kaufman (The Laramie Project), Lynne Stopkewich ("Kissed"), and Academy Award Winner, Kimberly Pierce ("Boys Don't Cry"). Recently, Lisa edited the Carl Bessai feature film, "Normal" which starred Carrie-Anne Moss and Kevin Zegers and was nominated for Best Motion Picture by the 2009 Genie Awards. She has just completed work on the new Brent Butt television series for CTV called "Hiccups" which stars Nancy Robertson.

Lisa has also produced and directed a documentary called "Revealing Anisia" which is currently airing on both the Bold and Documentary channels. The film documents the making of a life sized female figure from a two ton block of Carrara marble. The film provides a rare glimpse into the heart and the work of a successful Canadian artist as he coaxes his vision free from the cold white stone.

Lisa is a voting member of both the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television and the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences and a member of the Canadian Cinema Editors Association.

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MENTOR EDITOR



ROGER MATTIUSSI
Vancouver, BC

Roger Mattiussi began his career editing animated children's specials in Montreal and Toronto. After he moved to Toronto he worked with director/producer Sturla Gunnarsson and writer/producer Steve Lucas on "After The Axe," an Academy Award nominee for Best Feature Length Documentary.

He continued to edit on numerous TV series as a picture and sound editor before moving to Vancouver to work as the second unit director on the TV series, "MacGyver." After one year, he decided to follow his heart and moved to Australia for several years. But when the Australian Film and TV industry collapsed in the early 90s, he returned to Canada to continue his editing and second unit directing career.

Amidst occasional forays to Europe, where he edited the WW II biopic "Bonhoeffer" in Berlin and the Irish comedy "On The Nose" in Dublin, he edited TV series such as "DaVinci's Inquest" and "About A Girl."

In the past few years he has gone from editing "100 Days In The Jungle" which won the Gemini for Best TV Movie to working on "I, Robot," to the commercially successful Canadian teen road movie, "Going The Distance" to the independent cult favourite, "Fido," and most recently, "Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day."

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MENTOR AUDIO POST PRODUCTION

OREST SUSHKO
Los Angeles, CA, USA

Orest Sushko is a feature film re-recording mixer with Todd AO Studios in Los Angeles, CA - and a graduate of McMaster University in Hamilton.

Upon graduating, Orest pursued his vocation at Master's Workshop in Toronto combining a novel apprenticeship in both music recording and sound-for-picture disciplines, encompassing ADR, foley recording, music editing, and mixing a vast array of television shows and films. In music, he refined a unique background, which included scoring sessions for television and film, in addition to recording and mixing album projects. Orest also served as remote recording engineer on Toronto's CFNY Discovery Mobile mixing for a variety of musical acts including The Barenaked Ladies, James, Beautiful South, and Sarah McLachlan. From 1994 to 2003, Orest continued as a re-recording mixer with Casablanca Sound and Picture - a division of Alliance Atlantis Communications.

Orest's work has garnered him two Emmy nominations, an Emmy Award, 12 Gemini nominations, three Genie nominations, a Genie Award, and a CAS (Cinema Audio Society) Award. He is also the recipient of an International Monitor award, numerous MPSE accreditations, and a Golden Sheaf Award.

Orest has had the distinct privilege to mix several films for acclaimed director David Cronenberg including ***Crash, Spider, A History of Violence*** and ***Eastern Promises***. He received Genie nominations for ***Crash*** and ***Spider***, as well as the Genie award for Best Overall Sound for ***Eastern Promises***.

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GUEST COMPOSER



NATHAN HILTON
London, UK

Nathan Hilton is a composer, producer, and sound engineer from London, UK. He recently graduated from the University of Surrey's Tonmeister programme, where he specialized in composition and recording techniques. As part of the programme, he spent a year working as an in-house assistant engineer at Phoenix Sound Studios – a commercial recording facility based at Pinewood film studios. Nathan has also professionally worked on several freelance projects ranging from a recording project studio design, engineering for a big band album, to producing and recording EPs for upcoming bands in London.

As a composer, Nathan has had works performed at the Guildford International Music Festival in both 2007 and 2009. Recently, he composed music for a short film by director and filmmaker Michael Klekamp. He is currently working on a solo album of electronic music, as well as building up his library of compositions.

Website – www.myspace.com/nathanhiltonmusic