

**THE
WOMEN
IN THE
DIRECTOR'S
CHAIR
WORKSHOP**



Volume 13, Issue 1
June 2008



WIDC2009

*Dare to Transform
Vision into Reality*

Mid-career women directors take creative risks, test original material, hands-on through all the components of live action fiction screen production with professional mentors and peers.

WHEN, WHERE, HOW

WIDC SIM: December 5 to 8, 2008

WIDC PPPM: January 15 to February 1, 2009
The Banff Centre, Alberta, CANADA

For more information or an application form:
www.creativewomenworkshops.com
www.banffcentre.ca/bnmi
www.actra.ca

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Director Participants: September 30, 2008
Actors & Crew: October 31, 2008



Providing major
support since 1997

**SUCCESS
STORIES INSIDE!**

THE WIDC PROGRAM

PHASE ONE:

Story Incubation Module (SIM), explore a psychological approach to character development followed by five weeks story-editing in preparation for production at the PPPM. Led by award-winning writer and Jungian expert, Dr. Carolyn Mamchur.

Sponsored by:



We gratefully acknowledge the support of
CBC Television, WIDC 2008 SIM Sponsor

PHASE TWO:

Prep, Production and Post Production Module (PPPM), working with professional actors, cinematographers, designers and crews, practice casting, rehearsing, leading and communicating through mentored hands-on directing experiences. Emerge with a DVD* of the works-in-progress for personal promotion and analysis and a new network of professional associates. *not for broadcast or festival screening

PHASE THREE:

Ongoing support for your short and long-term career plans, Alumnae Workshops and ongoing WIDC Alumnae networking opportunities.



CTV WIDC Career Advancement Module (CAM)

Delivered in conjunction with select Canadian women's film festivals and special WIDC Events, an intensive, individually tailored mentoring workshop for mid-career Canadian women screen directors will define and refine skills and relationships needed to achieve career success. Participants benefit from feedback and coaching from senior professionals in addition to attending festival events. Go to: www.creativewomenworkshops.com. An initiative of the CTV/CHUM Benefits.

PRODUCTION & PARTICIPATING SPONSORS

Facilities and equipment contributed in kind by:



and the IATSE members that donate the use of their own equipment.

With the participation of:



The M. Cutler Family
ACTRA Toronto
ACTRA Manitoba



THE MENTOR DIRECTOR'S CHAIR



What Past Mentor Directors say...

"This is an opportunity to experiment without any real judgment."
Donna Deitch, 2008

"We need to have a program like WIDC in Canada. It's a great opportunity for women directors to build career momentum and gain recognition for their talent."
Lea Pool, 2007

"At WIDC you can take risks, make mistakes and discover talents you never knew you had."
Anne Wheeler, 1997, 2006

"WIDC has been seriously road-tested... graduates emerge a real step ahead in realizing their projects"
Gaylene Preston, 2005

"This excellent program is making a difference and needs to continue."
Patricia Rozema, 2003

KARI SKOGLAND ~ named one of Hollywood Reporter's "Ten Directors to Watch" for her debut feature film *Liberty Stands Still*, award-winning filmmaker Kari Skogland just wrapped *50 Dead Men Walking*, starring Sir Ben Kingsley. Her 2008 released best-seller adaptation of *The Stone Angel*, starring Ellen Burstyn, Ellen Page, Kevin Zegers, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. Her films have won awards at major North American festivals and around the world. Kari's television work has garnered Gemini nominations for *Traders*, *The 11th Hour*, and her CBC movie *White Lies*, also nominated for an International Emmy won a Tout Ecran. A DGC Best Director Award recipient for mini-series *Terminal City*, Kari was the honoured director at the 2008 Female Eye Film Festival.

WIDC PERSONNEL*

A team of seasoned professionals including: Directors of Photography, Production Designers, Editors, and a Mentor Actor are invited to offer individual and group sessions on a variety of topics tailored to each participant's individual learning plan; collaborating, coaching, and offering constructive feedback.

*Personnel may be subject to change



"It is worthwhile in all areas for crew, actors and not just directors. We all benefit from being allowed to try."
~ Carol Macdonald, IATSE 669, Camera



Sponsored in part by:



STOHN HAY CAFAZZO DEMBROSKI RICHMOND LLP
Entertainment and Media Lawyers



SCHOLARSHIPS

Contact Carol Whiteman, Creative Women Workshops for more details.

DIRECTOR'S CHAIR SCHOLARSHIPS

WIDC 2008 Scholarship
provided by:



QUEBECOR
Fund



BRITISH
COLUMBIA
FILM



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL



NEW!



**The CTV WIDC
Scholarship Fund**



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada



Actra Fraternal
Benefit Society



Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts

Twinsletown Productions Lila Roychowdhury Memorial Scholarship

ACTOR SCHOLARSHIPS

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CREW SCHOLARSHIPS

Professional Crew sponsored in part by:



WORK STUDY / VOLUNTEER CREW SCHOLARSHIPS

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UNIVERSITY OF
REGINA



Emily Carr University
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology
The Regina Film and Video Student Society

SASKFilm
Saskatchewan Community Network
Saskatchewan Motion Picture Industry Association (SMPIA)

ALUMNAE UPDATES

WIDC 1997

INES BUCHLI ~ was selected for the NSI Features First program for her feature film *Skin to Skin* with Vancouver-based writer Marlene Rodgers.

ANNIE FRASIER HENRY ~ is producing a film for fellow WIDC alumna Shelley Niro.

MEGAN SMITH HARRIS ~ recently executive produced, wrote and directed, *Child Bride* a one-hour documentary about the experiences of girls under age 16 who get married in America. The program will air, July 8, 2008 on the national cable channel WE tv as part of their popular series, *Secret Lives of Women*. Currently, Megan has several television documentary projects in development through her production company, Pyewackitt Productions.

KATIE TALLO ~ Katie's freelance career continues to thrive in 2007-2008 with her being hired to direct and write four new one-hour episodes of OLN's documentary series *Truth, Duty, Valour: Season IV*. One of the "go-to" freelance directors in Ottawa for government and corporate video production, Katie's directing career is proving to be varied and non-stop. She intends to continue to support other women directors by remaining an active board member of Creative Women Workshops.

WIDC 1998

PEPITA FERRARI ~ is now in post-production on the NFB production, *Capturing Reality: The Art of Documentary*. The feature-length documentary which includes interviews with a selection of forty high profile international documentary directors is expected to have a festival release this fall and will have an extended DVD version with bonus material.

STEPHANIE MORGENSTERN ~ along with her writing partner Mark Ellis are co-creators and writers of *Flashpoint* (previously *Critical Incident*). Developed at CTV, it was picked up for 13 episodes, and sold to CBS. *Flashpoint* is a one-hour ensemble police drama, inspired by Toronto's Emergency Task Force and premieres on CTV and CBS, July 11th, 2008.

WIDC 1999

FIF FERNANDES ~ is putting her performing talents to use as a therapeutic clown at the Calgary Children's Hospital and loving it!



WIDC 2000

MIEKO OUCHI ~ is currently focusing her creative talents in the recurring role of Nori Sato, base commander in Global's new series, *The Guard*.

WIDC 2001

IRENE ANGELICO ~ her documentaries have been selected to represent the best of the NFB at retrospectives in London and France, and included in The Fifty Greatest Documentaries of all Times at the international Salute to the Documentary. She is also the founding chairperson of CIFIC-Montreal, the Canadian Independent Film Caucus. Since WIDC, she has written and produced *She Got Game*; *Behind the Scenes of the Women's Tennis Tour*; *Unbreakable Minds*; *Vendetta Song* and *Canadaville, USA*; and written and directed *Black Coffee* and *Inside the Great Magazines*, a three-part special, which will be shown on Global this summer. Currently, Angelico is producing *Space Race 2* about the next great turning point in human history.

MARILYN NORRY ~ her live stage brain-child, *My Mother's Story* combines the life stories of 20 extraordinary ordinary women as written and told by their daughters. Storytelling at its best, this 90 minute show documents the lives of women from all over the world, from all races, from all of the last century, living through all kinds of heartache and joy.

ALISON REID ~ the winner of the 2007 DGC Ontario Emerging Television Director Award presented by WIFT-Toronto, Alison is in post production on her first feature film, *The Baby Formula*, a dramedy about two women in love who get pregnant by making sperm from their own stem cells. The film received funding from Telefilm Canada and will be broadcast on Super Channel.



ALUMNAE UPDATES

WIDC 2002

ANNIE BRADLEY ~ CTV BANFF Fellow alumna, 2004 WIFT/KODAK New Vision Award winner, and 2005 @Wallace Studios WIDC Alumnae Award recipient, has directed over 40 short films, commercials, music videos and docs. Annie is one of five directors to move forward to the Short Dramatic Film Program from the 2007 Canadian Film Centre Director's Lab and is putting final touches on her dramatic short *Pudge*. She has also teamed up with producers Avi Federgreen (*One Week, High Life*) and CFC alumna Kerry Young (Cursing Hanley) on her feature project *The Astronomy of Self*, co-written with Thomas Care. Other projects in development: a documentary, *The Extortionist's Picnic* and the feature script based on the novel *Like a Hole in the Head*, currently being considered by U.S. companies.

SHIRLEY CHEECHOO ~ directed the dramatic feature entitled *Superior*, and received the 2007 National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the Arts category. Shirley is also a CFC alumna with many achievements including the Eagle Spirit Award and is a past CTV BANFF Fellow. Her films have screened at the Sundance Film Festival, the AIF San Francisco and Vancouver International Film Festival.

PATTI HENDERSON ~ is currently working on the third draft of her feature film *Moving Mountains* and is developing lifestyle programming. Currently she is directing a 'sizzle' reel for a lifestyle / travel show.

SHANDI MITCHELL ~ received Telefilm Canada development funding for her feature film *The Disappeared* being produced through Gorgeous Mistake Productions.

JACQUELINE SAMUDA ~ is the inaugural recipient of the MPPIA WIDC Feature Film Award with her feature film project *Bread*, which is now in the financing phase. In March 2008, at the annual Women in Film & Television Vancouver Spotlight Awards, she also received the Sharon Gibbon Lifetime Member Award for service to the organization and advancing its mandate in the industry. Jacqueline is in development on another feature screenplay, *The Bid*, set in the fast-paced world of auctions.

WIDC 2003

MAIRZEE ALMAS ~ is a returning director on the hit series *Smallville*. Her latest episodes aired in the 2007/08 season on the CW network.

ANITADORON ~ her latest film, *Late Fragment*, North America's first interactive feature premiered at the 2007 Toronto International Film Festival and will be released by Mongrel Media July 10th. She is working with Serendipity Point Films, Blueprint Entertainment and the CBC on her television series *Roma Dreams* and is in post production on a documentary about the making of a play by Judith Thomson with fellow director and WIDC alumna Veronica Tennant.



PATRICIA HARRIS SEELEY ~ this past year she directed 8 episodes of a series called *DreamChasers*, 13 episodes on a paranormal series, fall 2007, and wrote 2 episodes of the *X-Weighted* series.

ZARQA NAWAZ ~ series creator, *Little Mosque On the Prairie* has received numerous accolades this year including the WIFT-International Innovator Award and the prestigious Canada Award at the 2007 Gemini's. She will direct an episode of *Little Mosque* this season.



SHELLEY NIRO ~ is directing a film project with fellow alumna Annie Frazier Henry as producer.

GENEVIEVE POULETTE ~ her latest short film, *Meet-market.ca*, was selected in the WIFTI 2008 Short Film Showcase, and screened in 20 cities around the world in honor of International Women's Day. The film has also been sold to Movieola. Geneviève is now developing a TV show based on the film and she is also working on the series *Killer Next Door 4*.

WIDC 2004

TAMMY BENTZ ~ is associate producing segment profiles with Moore Media for Business Television. Her half hour documentary *Passion Hunter: Saying Yes* premiered at the 2007 Whistler Film Festival while her prequel half hour doc, *Passion Hunter: Impulse*, screened at the 2008 Female Eye Film Festival in Toronto. Tammy also directed final projects for Capilano College's Full Time Acting Program which screened at Pacific Cinematique, April 2008. She is currently developing a one-hour doc about the plight of religious women in the Catholic Church.

CAROLE DUCHARME ~ was story producer and director on the reality series *Making The Cut – Last Man Standing* (Global); she directed episodes of the documentary series *X-Weighted* (Slice), nominated for a 2008 Banff Rockie Award; she wrote, directed and co-produced the half-



hour comedy *Ben Voyons, Camille!*, (Radio-Canada). With Telefilm development funding she wrote the treatment for her feature film *Le Donneur*, a romantic comedy, and is beginning production financing for her feature film *The Women of My Life*, to be co-produced with a Montreal based production company. *The Women of My Life*, developed with the assistance of Telefilm Canada, BC Film, The Harold Greenberg Fund, Movie Central, NSI Features First Program and WIDC, was invited to the 2007 French Production Forum in Namur, Belgium. Carole is currently producing two 13 half-hour series for *OUTtv*, a sex talk show and a medium series. www.caroleducharme.com

RENAE MORRISSEAU ~ her musical group M'Girl was selected by APTN as one of seven musical acts in Canada to make a music video. Renae will direct *Eye's Wide Open*. www.myspace.com/mgirlmusic.

ANNE-MARIE NGO ~ her recent directing work includes several short fiction films and television series such as *R-Force* and *Tete Premiere* (Vrak.tv) for which she was nominated at the Prix Gémeaux 2007 (Best Direction – youth series). Anne-Marie has written, produced and directed the short films *Cadavre Exquis (or Cupid's True Nature)*, 2006, and *In Vivo* (2008), both honored (Silver Remi Award and Gold Remi Award) at the Houston International Worldfest Film Festival. Anne-Marie is also in the process of production financing for her first feature film. www.chupaschinoise.com

ALISA PALMER ~ is directing theatre. She has premiered 6 productions in 12 months, including acclaimed productions of *Top Girls*, *East of Berlin*, *The Clean House* and *The Philanderer*. She has just opened Marsha Norman's Pulitzer Prize winning *Night Mother*, and returns to the Shaw Festival for her fifth season directing the revival of the hit premiere of *Belle Moral: a Natural History* by Ann-Marie MacDonald. She has twice been named Finalist for the prestigious Siminovitch Prize for Directing.

WIDC 2005

LESLIE ANN COLES ~ *Should've Been There* (SHBT), a theatrical feature doc created, produced and directed by Coles is currently in post production. *Should've Been There* received funding from the National Film Board of Canada (NFB), Filmmaker Assistance Program (FAP) to assist with the film's completion.



MEGHNA HALDAR

~ her NFB super 16mm documentary feature, *Dirt* about the meanings of dirt and disposability premiered May 2008.



ARLENE HAZZAN GREEN ~ is currently directing 6 episodes of the lifestyle comedy *Wedding SOS* for Slice. She previously directed 8 episodes of *Smart Woman Survival Guide*, a sitcom/lifestyle hybrid for W Network and 13 episodes of *Big City Broker* season 2 starring Brad Lamb for HGTV. She is also in development on a new sitcom called "*Welcome to Greenburg*" with co-creator Lisa Robertson and a lifestyle series called *Who's Your Farmer* based on the book *Apples to Oysters* written by Marg Webb.

JINDER OUJLA-CHALMERS ~ received the WIFT-Toronto NBC Universal Development Incubator award for her feature film *Elvis and Mrs. Singh* script. In 2007 she produced, wrote and directed a one-hour doc, *No Ordinary Man* based on the life of Alberta Premier Ralph Klein. Jinder is also developing a one-hour drama series.

SHERRY WHITE

~ her short film *Diamonds in a Bucket* has been winning awards at festivals across the country. With Justin Simms she co-wrote *Down to the Dirt* which screened at Cannes 2008. She is writing an MOW for CTV, just finished editing 15 min short film called *Spoiled*, and her feature film *Crackie*, which she workshoped at WIDC, received production funding from Telefilm's Low Budget feature fund and is going to shoot it fall 2008.



WIDC 2006

RITA SHELTON DEVERELL ~ recently completed *Not a Drop*, a 1-hour docu-drama, her 2007 @Wallace Studios WIDC Alumnae Award film that will screen at Winnipeg's FemFest and air in OMNI's 2008/09 season. August 2007, her Stephen Lewis Foundation benefit performance of *McCarthy and the Old Woman* earned funds for African grandmothers whose families are affected by AIDS/HIV. October 2007 she was one of five story-tellers / bloggers invited to Centennial College's storytelling Webinar. Rita is an active CWWA Board member, also serving on advisory boards including: Western University Journalism Program, Media Awareness Network, Canadian Multicultural Radio (as chair); Canadian Broadcast Standards Council (adjudicator); and was recently appointed to the Ontario College of Art and Design Board of Governors. She was keynote speaker for Concordia University's 2008 Annual Lecture on "Diversity in Media", and will perform her latest one-woman show, *Big Ease, Big Sleaze* at the Winnipeg Fringe Festival.

JENNIFER KIERANS ~ is currently in post-production on her first feature film, a teen drama entitled *The Bend*. Jennifer wrote, directed and co-produced the film with production financing from Telefilm Canada. *The Bend* is expected to premiere in spring 2009.

ALUMNAE UPDATES

WIDC 2006

MICHAELIN MCDERMOTT ~ is in the final stages of post-production on her short film, *Joy Ride*, a dark little story that she has written, produced and directed with the assistance of the BC Arts Council, Cinéworks, UBCP and FAP/NFB. It stars the brilliant WIDC acting alumna Victoria Nestorowicz.



CLAUDIA MEDINA ~ her short film *Finding Llorona* has screened at film festivals around the world winning awards at WIFT-Vancouver's Women In Film Festival and the Female Eye Film Festival. Claudia is a filmmaker, writer, and educator from the west coast of BC. Her filmmaking deals with the stories and influences of her tri-national background (Mexico, Italy, Canada) and how they are transposed onto the Canadian cultural landscape; dedicating herself to filmmaking and facilitating youth to tell their own stories through this medium. She also works as a camera operator, editor, and field producer for documentaries and collaborates with artists on performance/installation events in which she does live video mixing.



KALLI PAAKSPUU ~ created *World Without Water* with Suzette Araujo and Tahir Mahmood in a 2007 residency in the Canadian Film Centre's Telus-Lab Interactive Arts and Entertainment Programme. A new media interactive installation, *World Without Water* takes the banal act of walking into a private bathroom and turning on the faucet as a framework for a meditation on the future of our most precious resource – water. A popular and fun favourite at Toronto's Nuit Blanche Arts Festival, 2007, this innovative new documentary entertainment uses interactive theory, a live connection to Flickr.com and a soundscape based on the song, "There's a Hole in the Bucket" to enable a worldwide activism and consciousness about water conservation. http://www.cfccreates.com/our_projects/view_project.php?id=135

LESLEY ANN PATTEN ~ her doc *Generation XXL* was nominated for Best Youth Programming at the 2008 Banff Rockie Awards. The film has won a number of awards, most recently Best Doc at the Hollywood International Children's Film Festival. She was nominated for a Gemini, and won Best Indie Producer of Children's Programming at the 2008 CFTPA Prime Time awards. She is writer-director on the feature film, *Te Juro* being produced by Thom Fitzgerald, Emotion Pictures, Halifax with Andres Woods, Woods Producciones in Chile as the international co-producer. The script has been developed with assistance of Film Nova Scotia Film Development Corporation and Telefilm Canada.

NADINE VALCIN ~ finished her first short drama *Fire and Fury*. Her short script *In Between/Entre deux* was awarded an NSI Drama Prize. She will be directing the project fall 2008. She participated in the Telefilm Canada Program, Écrire au long to promote French language scriptwriters outside Quebec. Her feature film project *Trajectoires* earned development funding. She directed the award-winning documentary *Black, Bold and Beautiful* and most recently completed two documentaries – *Derrière l'image*, Sylvie Bélanger and *Still Waiting for Justice* for the National Film Board of Canada.

WIDC 2007

SMITA ACHARYYA ~ received Alberta Foundation for the Arts funding for her short film *Sorry Girl*, featuring WIDC alumna Kelly-Ruth Mercier. The idea was conceived during Smita's participation in the 2007 WIDC workshop. WIDC alumna Laurence Veron is lending her talent as the film's editor along with WIDC Director of Photography mentor Dean Bennett and Art Director mentor John Blackie who have joined the team.

KATRIN BOWEN ~ recently directed a music video for Kat with Trike as an all in one motion control shot. Fall 2007, she directed the final episode of *The Last 10lbs. Bootcamp* and is about to direct the food episode of *Uber Guide in Sonoma for the Eyes*. Katrin will direct the sexy, hilarious feature film *Love Bites* summer 2008; produced by Cheryl-Lee Fast, Fast Productions. Katrin received development funding from Telefilm Canada to write the feature film *Ellis and Louise*, an epic love story based on her father's experience after the war. BC Film's Passports to Market sent Katrin to 2008 Cannes.



ALANA CYMERMAN ~ was recently awarded a Conseil des Arts et des Lettres Ontario-Quebec artist residency grant to write and direct a compilation film *The Mystique of Lost Ladies*. Meanwhile, she continues to crack away at her feature film script, *Erma Invents the Love Machine* whilst developing a series of fantastical children's shorts, the first of which includes, *Julia Julep*. She will be directing *The Perfect Vacuum* this summer thanks to the assistance of a Canada Council for the Arts production grant.

SIBEL GUVENC ~ was selected to 2007 Toronto International Film Festival Talent Lab as a writer/director/producer, successfully completed the Telefilm/CFTPA mentorship program where she was mentored as a producer by Sandra Cunningham and recently completed her feature film screenplay, *Eyes of Dreams*, a psychological drama that explores the Eastern and Western approach to psychology through the struggle of a man who has waking visions that reveals the future and a choice he must make between two women.

TARA HUNGERFORD ~ Since WIDC 2007, Tara's directing credits include eight episodes of the hit CBC documentary series, *The Week The Went*, five music videos (*Shuyler Jansen*, *Deep Dark Woods*, *Ambush*, *Steve Dawson and Shane Yellowbird*), two online videos for Future Shop and a CMT half hour television special. She is currently in production on a music video for Doc Walker and a television pilot for The W Network. Tara has been nominated for the 2008 Leo Awards for the music video, *In This Room*.
www.tarahungerford.com

KELLY-RUTH MERCIER ~ directed the world premiere of *A.B.C., part of Women at Play(s)*, January 2008, the west coast premiere of *Red Light Winter* to rave reviews in March, and the successful sketch comedy show *Vic & Jack* by former members of the Vancouver cult comedy troupe '30 Helens'. She associate produced the *Sci-Fi MOW NYC: Tornado Warning* and continues as a mentor, coach, and instructor. Her film *No One Knows You Like Your Mother* won a DGC/BC Film KickStart grant and goes to camera summer 2008. In June, she stars in fellow WIDC alumna's Smita Acharyya's *Sorry Girl*, edited by alumna Laurence Véron. Fall 2008, she will direct *The Monster Trilogy* for stage then head to Los Angeles to continue her studies in directing for television.

LAURENCE VERON ~ will write, direct and produce monthly webisodes in French and English, featuring a couple of PEI's favourite sons, Chuck & Albert in a wide variety of places and scenarios as they tour the communities; back-stage, off-stage and inside what's new and exciting in PEI, the beautiful province they call home. These moc-umentary style videos offer an idea of what "more or less" happens in the run of a day for these brave Acadians.

WIDC 2008

ALLISON BEDA ~ has just completed two short films and is getting ready to send them out to festivals! They are the BC Arts Council and BravoFACT! funded *30-LOVE* and the short dance film *Just a Minute*. She is presently in Los Angeles workshoping scenes from the feature film comedy script *The Take-out Girl* in the Judith Weston Actor/Director Lab. She is also working on a little project with singer/songwriter Adrienne Pierce (the voice in the short film *30-LOVE*). She is represented by Barbara J. Bird, The Characters Agency, Vancouver, BC. <http://www.a-muse-productions.com/>



MARIE CLEMENTS ~ has written the next draft of her feature film *Tombs of the Vanishing Indian*.

KATHERINE FITZGERALD ~ is wrapping postproduction on her Bravo!FACT film *Outward Gate*. She is in pre-production on her next short film *The Fixer and the Swimmer* scheduled for camera, fall 2008. Her previous short *Murdoch's Other Eye* screened at the 2008 Dawson City Film Festival. She has just finished directing a training video for Sick Kids Hospital about Knowledge Translation, and will be directing educational videos for the Ontario Ministry of Education, fall

2008. She is currently writing her feature *The Lockmaster*, set on the Rideau Canal, and is developing two short films, *Trajan's Column*, and *The Mantle of Flowers* for production in 2009.

KAREN HINES ~ an award-winning actress, writer and stage director, her first short film, *My Name is Pochsy: An Industrial Film* has been winning film festival awards across the continent and Karen will soon be directing her second: a half-hour Canada Council-funded film *Horribly Beautiful World*, summer 2008. (www.pochsy.org) Karen is story consultant on a CTV MOW being written by fellow WIDC alumna Sherry White, and is in development on a short film with alumna Lulu Keating. She is currently writing two black dramedies for television, and *Crazy Like a Girl*, the feature film she workshoped at WIDC, receiving Alberta Foundation for the Arts development funding. Karen is the 2008 WIDC BANFF Fellow.

LULU KEATING ~ has just completed Draft 2 of her original screenplay, *Klondike Kalahari*, the story of a South African surviving the Yukon wilderness, a segment of which she workshoped at WIDC. She is currently directing a 10-minute video for Tr'ondek Hwech'in (the First Nation in Dawson City Yukon).



Her recent short, *Dawson Town Melted Down*, has been included in a compilation called, *Picturing the Yukon*, and it has been distributed to 8,000 Geist magazine subscribers. Lulu is in development on a dramatic series, a documentary and several shorts.

ANNE MARIE NAKAGAWA ~ recently selected for the Art of Documentary 2008 workshop with the Praxis Centre for Screenwriters, will be workshoping her documentary film *Point of Return* with the assistance of mentor directors Jennifer Baichwal and Connie Field. This film has received Canada Council development funding which will take Anne Marie to England in the fall. She is also working on her feature screenplay *Realm of Reject* with the assistance of an Alberta Foundation for the Arts Film and Video Grant. Anne Marie recently returned from Ottawa where her NFB documentary *Between: Living in the Hyphen* was screened at the National Archives of Canada in collaboration with the Department of Canadian Heritage and Asian Heritage Month. She is the 2008 recipient of the Artist in Residence Award at EMMEDIA Gallery and Production Society where she will begin her tenure immediately.

PEGGY THOMPSON ~ is currently taking a master class with director Bobby Roth (*Lost*, *Prison Break*, *Criminal Minds*) and is working on a new feature film project with development support from Telefilm Canada.

MICHELLE WONG ~ received a project grant from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts to adapt her one-act play *Eve's Perfect Apple* into a short dramatic script. She is taking a one-year sabbatical from her position as Executive Director at The New University Television Society (NUTV) based at the University of Calgary to explore film and television opportunities in the U.S.

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WIDC 2008 Directors and Mentors



FRONT:

Allison Beda,
Katherine Fitzgerald,
Anne Marie Nakagawa,
Lulu Keating, Donna Deitch
(mentor director), Michelle Wong,
Marie Clements **MIDDLE: (mentors)**
Roger Vernon, Carol Whiteman, Richard
Walden, (directors) Karen Hines, Peggy Thompson
BACK: (mentors) Richard Schwadel, John
Blackie, Daria Ellerman, Janet Laine Green

WIDC AWARDS

WIDC BANFF Fellowship

The Banff World Television Festival provides an annual opportunity for one WIDC alumna to attend the Festival to promote herself and her work. This year's recipient is Karen Hines (WIDC 2008).



WIDC Feature Film Award

Encouraging more fiction feature films directed by Canadian women, this award represents industry leadership from some of the most significant companies in western Canada. The 2008 prize package, valued at nearly \$100,000 in kind, was presented to Jacqueline Samuda for her feature film *Bread*, along with \$15,000 towards post production from BC Film. Deadline January 15, 2009.



Centennial College @Wallace Studios WIDC Alumnae Award

This year's winner, Katherine Fitzgerald (WIDC 2008) receives the prize award valued at \$10,000 (non-transferable in kind rentals from @Wallace Studios) along with a full year subscription to mymediabiz.com an interactive web portal and promotional tool sponsored by @Wallace Studios.



Designed by Angela Ling (wondersparkcreative.com)
Photos by Don Lee, Laura Vanags and various



NEW! WIDC CTV Director Development Award



To acknowledge and encourage the work of mid-career Canadian women directors, one recipient will be selected annually to receive a mentorship package along with a \$10,000 cash prize towards the development of her skills and her next screen directing project. An initiative supported by the CTV/CHUM Benefits.

For information: www.creativewomenworkshops.com

WHAT 2008 PARTICIPANTS ARE SAYING...

“

"This is the most transformative learning experience I have had the pleasure to be a part of."

~ Marie Clements, Director

"...mirrors the pace and dynamics of an industry set."

~ Anne Marie Nakagawa, Director

"...an exemplary program without equal."

~ Lulu Keating, Director

"...supportive atmosphere... high level of talent and creativity."

~ Peggy Thompson, Director

"...a profoundly satisfying experience."

~ Daria Ellerman, Mentor Editor

"Every actor's dream. What an efficient way to hone my skills."

~ Dorothy A Atabong, ACTRA Actor

"Gifted women with vision, keen and eager workstudy placements, fellow colleagues and professionals who really care about the work."

~ Allan Belyea, IATSE 212, Key Grip

"What a program! This is an experience I'll always remember. Thanks to everyone involved."

~ Arlene Arnold, DGC, BC, 1st AD

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