



Revealing one of Canada's best kept secrets!

At WIDC Canadian women screen directors unlock talents, break barriers and reveal a side of story-telling never seen before. WIDC alumnae continue to make us proud winning accolades including Genie, Gemini, Emmy and Rockie nominations and awards. WIDC alumnae films and programs continue to screen at major film festivals in Canada and abroad, and air on major television networks and specialty channels. (See Alumnae Updates).

Are you ready for an opportunity of a lifetime?

As a WIDC participant you will embark on a journey to hone more than your directing skills in this critically acclaimed program that takes directors through all the components of a professional dramatic media production with professional (ACTRA) actors and (DGC, IATSE) crews. As a WIDC participant you become part of a growing network of film, television

and new media professionals who are excited about telling compelling stories for screen; ambitious about making meaningful contributions and committed to keeping joy alive in their work. As you develop and practice the art of directing, communicating, leading teams, and capturing the imagination, you will be transformed.



Photos by Don Lee

Top left: Mieko Ouchi Right: Patricia Harris Seeley @Wallace WIDC Alumnae Award-winners
Bottom left: Veronica Tennant, Rockie Award nominee/ WIDC BTVF Fellowship

At WIDC 2005

New Zealand's Gaylene Preston (*Perfect Strangers*), award-winning feature film and television director, will mentor this year's participants in taking risks, developing their own unique style and testing original material in a safe educational environment. The WIDC program builds confidence and releases creativity by fostering a team-spirit approach to dramatic storytelling for screen.

PHASE ONE During an intensive Story Incubation Module (SIM) in December, led by a senior story editor, participants examine the elements of story telling during one-on-one and group sessions on story structure, improving dialogue, and taking a unique psychological approach to character development. Scripts are honed for production at the WIDC PPPM the following January.

WIDC SIM



cbctelevision

We gratefully acknowledge CBC Television, major sponsor of the 2004 session of the WIDC Story Incubation Module (SIM).

PHASE TWO During the Prep, Production and Post Production Module (PPPM) in January / February participants explore aspects of working with actors; delve into working with the cinematographer, camera, lenses and styles of blocking for camera. They look at key aspects of production design and post-production, casting, rehearsing, leading and communicating through classroom and hands-on exercises with the actors and crew.

PHASE THREE The PPPM continues with the emphasis on process over product, each participant directs and edits an original MAIN Scene. Keeping the learning goals of the directors at the forefront, participants receive coaching and mentorship from WIDC's seasoned faculty and support team while they take their work from pre-production, through production and post-production. Participants leave the PPPM with a not-for-broadcast copy of their work for personal analysis, a variety of new contacts, and applied knowledge of industry practices.

PHASE FOUR Director graduates are supported in their short and long-term career plans and all participants become part of the WIDC Alumnae Network.

When, Where, How

December 3 to 6, 2004 ~ WIDC SIM
January 20 to February 6, 2005 ~ WIDC PPPM
The Banff Centre, Alberta, CANADA

Fill out the application form inside or visit these web sites for more information:
www.creativewomenworkshops.com
www.banffcentre.ca/bnmi
www.actra.ca

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

DIRECTOR PARTICIPANTS: September 30, 2004
ACTORS / CREW: October 31, 2004
WORK STUDY / VOLUNTEER CREW: October 31, 2004



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The Mentor Director's Chair

"This excellent program is making a difference and needs to continue."

Patricia Rozema
2003 Mentor Director

A virtual bridge for the director participants between the curriculum and the practical application of the directors' skills, the MENTOR DIRECTOR provides an overview of all the components of the course.

Gaylene Preston, recently awarded the Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit by the New Zealand Governor-General, has been celebrated as one of New Zealand's best-loved filmmakers, having made some of the most enduring popular classics of New Zealand cinema. Her feature films including *Perfect Strangers* with Sam Neill,

Bread and Roses, *Ruby and Rata*, and *Mr. Wrong* have garnered multiple awards in New Zealand and abroad. She is equally at home making documentaries. Highlights include the feature documentary, *War Stories Our Mothers Never Told Us* which was in official selection for Venice and Sundance Film Festivals and *All The Way Up There*, Special Jury Prize, Banff Mountain Film Festival. She is a story-teller whose films have a distinctive flavour, which entertain while presenting serious subjects with humour and warmth. Her compassion and understanding of real life, real people, combined with her immense talent for portraying on film real stories, makes Gaylene a New Zealand film industry icon. She is the first filmmaker to receive a NZ Arts Foundation Laureate Award. WIDC participants will also benefit from Gaylene's knowledge of producing and building audiences since her films have been both self distributed in "four-wall" fashion and by traditional distributors in the US markets.

WIDC Personnel

A team of seasoned professionals offers individual and group sessions on a variety of topics tailored to each participant's individual learning plan.

Carol Whiteman Creative Women Workshops co-founder, President & CEO and WIDC co-creator is a two-time Governor General's Award nominee. Whiteman produces and facilitates the workshop, conducts one-on-one meetings with participants, as well as post-workshop coaching and follow-up.

Peg Campbell (MENTOR STORY EDITOR) an award-winning documentary and narrative film director/producer (*Street Kids*, *In Search of the Last Good Man*), associate professor of advanced film production and script writing at Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, co-founder of Women In Film and Video Vancouver, Cineworks, the Independent Film and Video Alliance and Creative Women Workshops, is a WIDC co-creator. Campbell leads sessions on story structure and character analysis, funding and career planning.

Christianne Hirt (MENTOR ACTOR) star of film (*For the Moment* with Russell Crowe, *Heart of the Sun*) and television productions (*Lonesome Dove - The Series*), is a co-founder of the Company of Rogues Actors Studio and one of the foremost instructors of the Meisner technique in Canada. She is a director alumna (1998) of WIDC and has a feature film and television series project in development with Rogue Films Canada. At WIDC she leads sessions on working with actors and how to coach dynamic and credible performances.

Roger Vernon and **Peter Wunstorf** (MENTOR DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY), both highly respected Canadian cinematographers whose work has garnered numerous nominations and awards, Vernon (*Unforgiven*, *Alive*, *Mystery Alaska*) and Wunstorf (*The Grocer's Wife*, *Double Happiness*, *Smallville*, the pilot) lead technical sessions on camera, lenses, blocking and camera choreography, and leading a crew. Past guest DOPs have included, **Richard Leiterman**, **Greg Middleton**, **John Clothier** and **Dean Bennett**.

Carolyn Mamchur (GUEST INSTRUCTOR, SIM) is a professor at Simon Fraser University in BC, an award-winning author and a popular speaker at PRAXIS, Centre for Screenwriters. Her collected works include psychology texts (including *A Meeting of Minds*, *A Teacher's Guide to Cognitive Type Theory and Learning Style*), articles, papers, children's books and ten feature film scripts (including *Arousal* based on a Barbara Gowdy story for Back Alley Films and a half-hour drama for CBC). At the Story Incubation Module (SIM) she will present thought-provoking sessions on character analysis and development using Personality Type and Temperament Theory.

Sara Diamond Director of Research, The Banff Centre, and Artistic Director/Executive Producer, Media & Visual Arts, The Banff Centre, Bell Canada Award winner, Creative Women Workshops co-founder and WIDC co-creator, presents a session on new media content creation, funding and career planning.

Sandra Richmond, Partner, McMillan Binch, conducts a session about the issues of Ownership, Copyright and General Entertainment Law following the workshop.

Mentor Editor (TBA) a senior Editor will lead discussions about the theories and traditions of picture editing and how to bend the rules in new and creative ways. She also provides mentoring to the editors at the workshop.

ADDITIONAL GUEST SPEAKERS (TBA) offer constructive feedback on the director participants' work and a perspective on current production trends in Canada in a session on: The Landscape for Canadian Women Directors.

Personnel may be subject to change.

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 THE BANFF CENTRE

 ACTRA



Carol Whiteman



Peg Campbell



Peter Wunstorf

ALUMNAE UPDATES

WIDC 1997 **Annie Frazier Henry** ~ executive produced and wrote *Don't Call Me Tonto*, a comedy feature, starring David Hasselhoff, Gordon Tootoosis and Michael Moriarty. *Tonto* received Best of the Festival at PEI and aired on Movie Central. *Spirit of the Game*, her recent documentary, received the 'MILAGRO' Award for Best Indigenous Film at the Santa Fe International Film Festival.

Katie Tallo ~ co-produced, co-wrote, and voice directed *Just Jamie*, an animated series for YTV. Her feature film *Posers* had its World Television Premiere on The Movie Network in September 2003.

WIDC 1998 **Tina Keeper** ~ is the 2004 National Aboriginal Achievement Awards honoree for Arts and Culture.

Sheila Jordan ~ is prepping to shoot her 2003 NSI Drama Prize short film *Kathleen's Closet*, with producer Diana Wilson, a story of a young nurse, a dying woman, and a secret that's keeping her here.

Stephanie Morganstern ~ attended the Berlinale Talent Campus to develop her feature film, *Remembrance*.

WIDC 1999 **Veronica Tennant** ~ has directed / produced 6 award winning/nominated films in the last four years, her latest, *Shadow Pleasures* written and narrated by Michael Ondaatje aired on CBC Television March 2004 and has been nominated for a Banff Rockie Award.

WIDC 2000 **Mieko Ouchi** ~ co-winner of the 2004 @Wallace WIDC Alumnae Award for her short film, *Assembly*, Ouchi's latest documentary *Minor Keys* aired on CBC Television spring 2004.

Glynis Whiting ~ won the Tri-Cities Quick Flicks Challenge (a 48 hour film competition) and had more fun that you can imagine as writer/director.

Nettie Wild ~ won the 2004 Best Documentary Genie for her film *Fix: The Story of An Addicted City*.

WIDC 2001 **Irene Angelico** ~ is directing documentaries, *Romancing the Bean*, the three-part special Inside the Great Magazines which she is co-producing, along with *The Broken Mind*, a kind of "Hoop Dreams" of Schizophrenia and *Vendetta Song* about Eylem Kaftan's search for her Kurdish roots and the cause of her aunt's death in a vendetta between two Kurdish villages.

WIDC 2002 **Annie Bradley** ~ her recent performance art film *Tongue Bully*, is in competition for the Zebra Poetry on Film Festival Prize in Berlin and her dance/opera film *In the Hothouse* plays at the Utah Arts Festival, June 2004. Annie has a number of feature projects in development with Acetylene Films including the features *Like a Hole in the Head*, and *The Astronomy of Self*.

Shirley Cheechoo ~ was selected for the NSI Aboriginal Cultural Trade Initiative designed to take projects and establish co-productions and other business relationships in New Zealand and Australia and, her CFC Director's Lab short film *In Shadow* screened at Sundance 2004.

Jacqueline Samuda ~ is in development with Movie Central with her feature film *Bread*. Her short *50 Questions* screened at the 2003 VIFF, won first runner-up at the Whistler International Film Festival, and will screen summer 2004 at Vidfest and WIFVV's "Summer Shorts" at Pacific Cinematheque.

WIDC 2003 **Jennifer Calvert** ~ completed her Kick Start project *River Burn* which is now being submitted to festivals.

Anita Doron ~ is finishing up her latest short film, an OMDC Calling Card Drama, *Elliot Smelliot*, won the @Wallace Toronto Jewish Film Festival Award, is in development with two TV series and her reality theatre project, and in collaboration with Dora-nominated actress Amy Rutherford, has been selected for the 2004 BTVF's New Player's Pitch.

Patricia Harris Seeley ~ co-winner of the 2004 @Wallace Studios WIDC Alumnae Award for *The Consort*, completed an hour-long documentary, *Viva Bengali* for A-Channel and a short film *Superhero Wannabe* for Bravo!FACT.

Desiree Lim ~ shot *Some Real Fangs*, a musical-comedy short produced in association with Moving Pictures Inc, Japan, is completing Phase 1 of 2003 NSI Features First Program with the romantic comedy, *Lucky Luck* and is in pre-production for an episode of CHUM Limited's "13 Anthologies on Love", *Floored By Love*.

Zarqa Nawaz ~ winner of a 2003 NFB Reel Diversity Award is completing principle photography on her documentary and is developing a comedy series for television.

Genevieve Poulette ~ directed her short film *Capernaum*, which she workshopped at WIDC.

Continued on next page

WIDC ALUMNAE AWARDS & PRIZES

WIDC Banff Television Festival Fellowship

As WIDC Alumnae continue to be recognized for their fine work, Creative Women Workshops is partnering with the Banff Television Foundation to create an opportunity to enable WIDC Alumnae or other women directors to attend the TV Festival should their work be nominated for a Banff Rockie Award. This year's fellowship recipient is WIDC 1999 alumna and winner of the 2003 @Wallace WIDC Alumnae Award Veronica Tennant, nominated for her film, *Shadow Pleasures*. For next season's award, simply notify Creative Women Workshops www.creativewomenworkshops.com of your Rockie nomination and you will be considered for this prize. First preference goes to WIDC Alumnae. (Prize value, \$2,000 non-transferable)



@Wallace Studios WIDC Alumnae Studio/Location Award

In partnership with Creative Women Workshops, @Wallace Studios has created an opportunity for WIDC Alumnae to shoot their films in their choice of three state of the art studio facilities or at The Distillery Historic District Location, subject to availability. This year two WIDC Alumnae (see Alumnae Updates) were selected to receive the prize award valued at \$10,000 (non-transferable in kind rentals from @Wallace Studios). Only WIDC alumnae are eligible to apply for this Award however visit the @Wallace Studios web site for more information on general rental rates and other opportunities. Look for more details about next year's award at: www.creativewomenworkshops.com and www.wallacestudios.com



Production and Participating Sponsors

The WIDC Workshop could not achieve such high educational standards without the facilities and equipment contributed in kind by:



WIDC is also produced with the participation of:



The M. Cutler Family

Women In Film & Television – International and Alberta

What 2004 participants have said about their WIDC Experience...

"The WIDC Workshop is an essential tool for mid-career women directors to experiment and explore new possibilities in filmmaking."

Carole Ducharme, Vancouver, BC

"Invaluable...stimulated my imagination more than I expected...very clear...too brief...magic...I'm cooking with gas! I got exactly what I came for and more. I am indebted to the program."

Alisa Palmer, Toronto, ON

"...so concentrated, you learn 6 months of practical working knowledge. It has altered my life."

Tammy Bentz, North Vancouver, BC

"There is no other program like this in the country. Women In the Director's Chair is building a future for women in our film and television industry. Our industry is begging for a more cohesive, united, and collaborative process in storytelling. Women In the Director's Chair is taking great strides towards those goals. Congratulations."

Shaun Johnston, Actor, Edmonton, AB

"Excellence is cultivated, not spontaneous. Your investment (in WIDC) anticipates such a result."

Kirsten Carthew, Camera Trainee, Yellowknife, NWT



Photos by Don Lee

ALUMNAE UPDATES

Continued from previous page

WIDC 2004 **The entire graduating class** ~ has developed an anthology of eight short films which they're pitching at the 2004 BTVF!

Tammy Bentz ~ is scheduled to direct *The New Mum Fitness Video* July 2004 in Vancouver.

Carole Ducharme ~ is developing a one-hour comedy with CBC Television based on her award-winning short, *Straight From the Suburbs*, Carole is the recipient of a CTV Fellowship to attend the 2004 BTVF.

Christine Lippa ~ in development on a comedy series with director/producer Norma Bailey, Christine received a CTV Fellowship to attend the 2004 BTVF.

Teresa Hannigan ~ won the World Wide Short Film Festival Script Giveaway with the re-write of her short film *Scarlet Runners* which she workshopped at WIDC.

Anne-Marie Ngo ~ completed a music video spring 2004 and was accepted at the Université de Montréal for a Master in Cinema Studies.

WIDC 2004 Director Participants Front: Binky Mendez, Christine Lippa
Middle: Teresa Hannigan, Anne-Marie Ngo, Renae Morriseau
Back: Carole Ducharme, Tammy Bentz, Alisa Palmer

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Public Relations Officer

Director's Chair

ELIGIBILITY

The directing ensemble will include qualified candidates from diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, ages, and regions of Canada. You could be one of the eight director participants selected by a nationally representative jury of film, television and video professionals, if you are a Canadian woman with:

- A recognized track record directing low budget dramatic films, television or video projects (long or short form),
or
- A recognized track record directing documentary, experimental video, television specialty format, etc.
or
- Some directing experience, crossing over to directing with a recognized set of highly transferable skills (a performer, producer, writer, AD, etc.).

Any combination of these skills and attributes will be considered.

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TUITION and OTHER COSTS

Director participants are required to pay the costs of:

- SIM Tuition \$800.
- WIDC Tuition \$3,500.
- WIDC Accommodations and meals at The Banff Centre \$1,200 (approx.).
- WIDC Return Travel to The Banff Centre (prices vary depending upon place of residence).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Tuition rates are based on a \$200/workshop day formula. The rest of the actual costs of the workshop are subsidized by our generous sponsors. Partial scholarships may be available to help director participants cover the costs of attending WIDC.

Contact Creative Women Workshops for more detailed scholarship information.

Did You Know?

- Approx. 65 individuals (directors, actors, crew) attend WIDC each year.
- 70 Canadian women directors have graduated from the WIDC program since 1997.
- 39% of WIDC grads received acknowledgements (prestigious screenings, nominations, awards) for their work between June 2003 and June 2004.

Actor Scholarships

The WIDC Workshop creates a safe place where actors can interact with directors as well as other creative personnel and elements that can influence the actor's craft. Actors give and receive feedback, learn from each other, and share information about what's going on for actors regionally and nationally. Actors leave the program with a deeper understanding of their craft and a new set of professional contacts.

Ten actors are selected, primarily based on the casting needs of

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the MAIN Scenes being shot by the directors. Selected with the assistance of professional casting personnel the acting ensemble consists of as broad a representation of regions, ethnicities and backgrounds as possible and is dedicated to helping director participants develop new and better ways of communicating with actors. Actors' economy return travel, accommodations and meals at The Banff Centre, plus a \$75/workshop day honorarium is covered by the workshop. You must be an ACTRA member in good standing to be eligible.



WIDC 2005 Mentor Actor Christianne Hirt (left) is a 1998 director alumna; pictured here directing actor Kathryn Kirkpatrick (right).

Crew Scholarships

The crew is made up of professional technicians and crafts people, as well as volunteers who fill apprentice/assistant positions as work studies. Professional crew can practice their craft in a supportive environment where they can stretch their creative muscles. Providing mentorship for the work study crew members, professional crew members also practice their leadership and communication skills. Work study crew members receive hands-on production experience, as well as one-on-one and group instruction. With access to a variety of levels of production, all crew members leave the program creatively charged and revitalized, with new professional connections.

Union crew members are selected by the organizers with the assistance of the sponsoring craft and technical unions/guilds.

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Positions available include: 1st ADs, Directors of Photography, Camera Operators, Editors, Electrics, Grips, Make-up/Hair Artists, Production Sound Technicians, Script Supervisors and Set Decorators. Professional crew's economy return travel, accommodations and meals at The Banff Centre, plus a \$75/workshop day honorarium are provided by the workshop.

Work study crew members are selected with the assistance of sponsoring institutions. Positions available include: Trainee AD/PAs, 2nd Camera Assistants, Grip/Electric Swings, Sets, Props, Wardrobe, Sound Boom Operators. Scholarships are provided by sponsoring post secondary institutions and regional agencies for work study crew members tuition, travel, meals and shared accommodations costs.



Jim Clare, IA669 instructs camera trainees.

Photos by Don Lee

WORK STUDY / VOLUNTEER
CREW SCHOLARSHIPS
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University of Calgary

University of Regina

SAIT

Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design

North West Territories Education, Culture and Employment