



## **2011 Fourth Annual Bel-Air Film Festival Announce Feature and Documentary Judges**

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**CONTACT: FELICIA SPAHR, PUBLIC RELATIONS, PH: 310-774-0855,  
EMAIL:FELICIA@BELAIRFILMFESTIVAL.COM**

**September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (LOS ANGELES)** – The fourth annual Bel-Air Film Festival announces its feature and documentary judges. This year's festival will be held October 12<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> and will be screening 36 films, which includes 23 World Premieres and 6 Los Angeles Premieres. Screenings will be at the Skirball Cultural Center, the UCLA James Bridges Theater, and the Luxe Sunset Hotel. Judges will be deliberating on the winners for each of the festival's award categories. Closing night will be a private ceremony on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Luxe Sunset Hotel.

### **FEATURE AND DOCUMENTARY JUDGES**

**Randi Wilens:** Randi Wilens is a graduate of The University Of Southern California's School of Cinema. She frequently lectures in their film department, as well as, at Loyola University's, Music Industry class.

Randi is an Executive Producer and manages directors for all filmed content (she represents production companies and independent directors)... Music Videos, Film Title Sequences, Live Concerts/Festivals 2D & 3D, Documentaries, Viral/Branded Content, Animation, Tour Visuals, Interactive Media, Promos, Commercials and Features. She is involved from the written concept through post-production, working extensively with artists, managers, producers, label/film executives, agents, above and below the line talent, etc...

She is also head of marketing, branded content/film projects for DAVE STEWART's Weapons of Mass Entertainment. Recent completed documentary projects include, STEVIE NICKS, JOSS STONE, and SUPER HEAVY, respectively, for theatrical distribution.

Other recent work includes:

SUPER HEAVY music video, "MIRACLE WORKER," the band features: DAVE STEWART, MICK JAGGER, JOSS STONE, DAMIAN MARLEY, and A. R. RAHMAN... directed by PAUL BOYD.

Currently in pre-production on a DENNIS RODMAN documentary entitled: "DENNIS RODMAN: Wanted Dead or Alive," directed by PENNY MARSHALL. DENNIS was inducted into the 2011 NBA: HALL OF FAME, by the 11-time NBA champion: PHIL JACKSON, all of which was caught on film.

JEFF LYNNE documentary (legendary artist/producer, ELO, TRAVELING WILBURYS).

WYNTON MARSALIS and ERIC CLAPTON, live in Lincoln Center, 'Plays the Blues.'

PAUL SIMON, Live at Webster Hall.

These were all directed by revered filmmaker/photographer MARTYN ATKINS.

MARK LUCAS directed CARNEVALE in RIO in 3D.

FOO FIGHTERS: "Back and Forth," directed by Academy Award winning documentary filmmaker, JAMES MOLL. This was released theatrically in 2011.

She represents director/ animator JAMIE CALIRI, whose acclaimed film title sequences include: LEMONY SNICKET'S: A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS and THE UNITED STATES OF TARA (for which Jaime won an EMMY). JAMIE won two CLIO awards for his UNITED AIRLINES commercial spots, "Heart," and "Dragon,"

Randi produced, Jaime directed, the 1997 GRAMMY Nominated BEST MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR (MORPHINE, "Early to Bed" Dreamworks/Geffen Records).

Also represented is revered animator PETER SLUSZKA. SLUSZKA directed the film title sequences for the feature: YOUTH IN REVOLT. Recently, he designed the animation for the new BJORK music video, "CRYSTALLINE," directed by MICHEL GONDRY.

Director/ animator/ designer GIOVANNI BUCCI directed the film title sequences for the feature, THE LOSERS. He also created content for: MTV, NIKE, RED BULL, WARNER BROS., SONY ....

Randi has worked with major brands: PEPSI, JET BLUE, AMERICAN EXPRESS, RED BULL, CONVERSE, CISCO, and JIM BEAM.

Tour visuals have included The DECEMBERISTS, SHAKIRA, and MADONNA to name a few.

COACHELLA 2011 Main Stage featuring The Strokes, Mumford & Sons, and Arcade Fire. iTUNES MUSIC FESTIVAL 2011 in London featuring Coldplay, Arctic Monkeys, Adele, and Foo Fighters. BONNAROO, ERIC CLAPTONS CROSSROADS, RED BULL SOUNDCLASH and AUSTIN CITY LIMITS MUSIC FESTIVAL (in 3D).

A few live concerts include: PARAMORE, MATISYAHU, QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE, DIDO, 30 SECONDS TO MARS, GEORGE MICHAELS 2009 WORLD TOUR, STONE TEMPLE PILOTS, INCUBUS, LENNY KRAVITZ, PITBULL, ENRIQUE IGLESIAS, and SHAKIRA.

She has collaborated with film studios and independent producers on feature film tie-ins, for such motion picture as: TRANSFORMERS, DAREDEVIL, BIG DADDY, SHREK 1 and 2, and THE GIRL WITH THE PEARL EARRING.

Randi has produced music videos in markets as diverse as Latin America, Canada, Europe, and Asia and every genre of music including: ROCK, R & B, HIP-HOP, COUNTRY, METAL, POP, ELECTRONICA, and INDIE.

In 2007 RW Media embarked on managing musician/composer ASDRU SIERRA, one of the founding members of the GRAMMY award winning Latin/fusion/jazz collective OZOMATLI, for Film and Television scoring. His work has been featured in MR. and MRS. SMITH, NACHO LIBRE, NEVER BEEN KISSED and 21 GRAMS.

In the early nineties, Randi gained notoriety when she produced NINE INCH NAILS "Happiness in Slavery," and DANZIG "Its Coming Down." The videos hit the music industry by surprise using themes of S&M and performance art, creating major buzz amongst top industry executives. The marketing of the videos were

ahead of their time as promotion came by way of word of mouth due to their extreme imagery and content. These videos set a precedent for what was to become the viral market.

In 1997, Randi launched RW MEDIA. Partial list of credits include: MADONNA, KANYE WEST, JOHN LEGEND, JENNIFER LOPEZ, GOO GOO DOLLS, DAVE MATTHEWS BAND, AVRIL LAVIGNE, COUNTING CROWS, BLINK 182, PAUL OAKENFOLD, THE SHINS, THE HIVES, AUDIOSLAVE, RICKY MARTIN, THE FUGEES, KEITH URBAN, SUGARLAND, MARILYN MANSON, BON JOVI, MARY J. BLIGE, METALLICA, CYPRESS HILL, and THE DEFTONES... among hundreds of your favorite artists.

**Palak Patel:** Palak Patel is President of Production of Joe Roth's production company, Roth Films, which recently produced ALICE IN WONDERLAND for Disney and KNIGHT AND DAY for Fox. They are currently in pre-production on XXX3 for Paramount starring Vin Diesel and OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL for Disney with Sam Raimi directing.

Patel was President of Production at Paula Weinstein's Spring Creek Productions, which had a first look deal at Warner Bros. While at Spring Creek, Patel was producing over a dozen projects including the high profile "Thundercats," a tent pole for Warner Bros. with Jerry O'Flaherty (Gears of War) directing. In addition, Patel is producing "In the Heart of the Sea," with Ed Zwick directing, "Kings County," with Courtenay Hunt directing, "Mob Cops," with John Hillcoat directing, "Men" with Todd Phillips directing, and "Irreparable Harm" with Eugene Jarecki directing.

Patel worked closely with Weinstein overseeing Monster-In-Law, Rumor Has It, Looney Tunes, Envy, Blood Diamond, and Recount directed by Jay Roach. Prior to joining Spring Creek, Patel was West Coast Story Editor at Focus Features working closely with Russell Schwartz, Scott Greenstein, Donna Gigliotti, and others. While at Focus, Patel worked closely with senior executives on Traffic, Gosford Park, Nurse Betty, Deliver Us From Eva, Possession, The Kid Stays In The Picture, The Man Who Wasn't There, and assisted the acquisitions department on In The Mood For Love, Monsoon Wedding, and Wet Hot American Summer.

Patel started out in the business as an intern/assistant on The Sixth Sense in his hometown of Philadelphia. After moving to Los Angeles, he worked as a development assistant at Paul Schiff Productions on Wes Anderson's Rushmore.

**Todd Shotz:** Todd has spent the past decade developing and producing film, television, theatre and media projects. In 2009, he founded Flying Monkeys Entertainment with partner Sam Levine to leverage his cross-platform experience and facilitate development, production, financing and distribution of converged media projects for FME, its partners and consulting clients. Todd recently produced the TV pilot for docu-series WAY OUT to air on A&E this fall. He also consults for branded entertainment and WebStar company Hitviews on content deals and strategic partnerships.

Prior to FME, Todd was VP of film and television development at Cheyenne Enterprises, producer Arnold Rifkin's and actor Bruce Willis' production company, where he worked on films such as HOSTAGE, JUST MY LUCK, LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD and TIMBER FALLS as well as the TV series TOUCHING EVIL. Todd oversaw production on the acclaimed documentary feature WRESTLING WITH ANGELS about legendary playwright and activist Tony Kushner that debuted at Sundance 2006, enjoyed a year-long theatrical release before premiering on PBS in December 2007. Before moving to Los Angeles, Todd spent six years in company management of such Broadway shows as the Tony Award-winning revivals of KISS ME, KATE and Tom Stoppard's THE REAL THING. He received his degree in English and Theatre from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Sam Levine:** Sam has spent the past five years immersed in first-to market new media companies focused on content creation, distribution, monetization and the emerging trans-media space. Since 2007, Sam has been the Vice-President and Head of West Coast Operations for Hitviews, the premiere online marketplace connecting Fortune 100 brands, like Microsoft, FOX and Pepsi, with the world's top online video creators and social media stars. In 2009, he founded Flying Monkeys Entertainment with partner Todd Shotz to facilitate production, financing, distribution and media convergence for their internal projects as well as for their partners. Digital distribution and content-generating technologies are at the core of FME's efforts.

Prior to the formation of FME, Sam developed feature film and television projects as an independent producer with companies such as Sony, Lions Gate, New Line, MPCA and Cheyenne Enterprises. Sam produced the first live broadcast from an airplane in television history with KTLA News and helped TV icon Fred Silverman develop and write the content for Connexions, the world's first interactive television network. As a media consultant, Sam's past clients were as diverse as the World Extreme Fighting Organization, Wall Street & White House executive coach Sarano Kelly, and The Zone: Health and Wellness. He received his degree in Broadcasting from New York University.

**Liz Davis:** After graduating from Baylor University with a degree in International Business, Liz Davis began a successful career in the world of wireless communication for AT&T. Although very young, Liz quickly moved up the corporate ladder and began her role as a Global Executive. With an innate understanding for converging media and innovative technology, Liz proved unstable, negotiating deals for Fortune 500 companies such as Cisco and Frito Lay.

After 4 successful years, Liz felt it was time to take on a new frontier and dove into the domain of international film distribution. At Strategic Film Partners, Liz led Acquisitions and Co-productions for domestic and foreign distribution, and cultivated relationships with buyers from every major territory throughout the world.

After experiencing each side of the film business, Ms. Davis opened Davis Entertainment, an innovative and quickly growing Commercial and Music Video production company. Davis Entertainment has created award-winning commercials for top brands such as Pringles, Puckers, Stauffer's, Old Spice, and more. Davis Entertainment is embracing the new media platforms and change in the industry to capitalize; the tools to bring higher production value to the table are at our fingertips now more than ever.

**Danielle Hinde:** Danielle Hinde started her career as a dancer, where she began a long-standing love affair with music videos and film. Today she operates her own company, Domsday Entertainment, serving as both Executive Producer and as a Director's Representative to filmmakers such as Paul Hunter, Sophie Mueller, Bret McKenzie, Jon Watts, Jamie Thraves, Daniels and many more. Previously she worked at Partizan Entertainment, helping foster the careers of innovators like Michel Gondry, Traktor, Hiro Murai and Ace Norton. In addition to producing the documentary *Outside In: The Story of Art in the Streets*, she has recently overseen groundbreaking new videos for Raphael Saadiq, Foster the People and Ellie Goulding as well as the feature film *Nine Types of Light* for TV On The Radio.

**Michael Goldfarb:** Hailing from Bel-Air, Michael Goldfarb got his first taste of the entertainment industry while at Brown University. There he received his Bachelor of Arts in Modern Culture and Media, filmed many shorts along the way, and also served as the Publicity Coordinator for the largest student run film festival in the country, The Ivy Film Festival. Michael later attended Chapman University where he completed a joint MBA/MFA in film producing. Michael now works at IMAX Filmed Entertainment as a Business Analyst, conducting research and analysis into the viability of new film project opportunities that create business potential and revenue streams across all media platforms. Among the special projects that Michael has spearheaded at IMAX, the development of IMAX Open House has been wonderfully

successful in bringing together young professionals working in the entertainment industry to come to the IMAX Santa Monica office for an evening of mingling and movies.

Michael sits on the Associate Board of OUR HOUSE, an organization that provides grief support for children and adults who have experienced the death of a loved one.

**Eva Gardos:** Eva Gardos is an accomplished writer, director, and editor who has worked on such films as *An American Rhapsody*, *Bastard Out of Carolina*, and *Agnes Brown*. The film, *American Rhapsody*, which Gardos wrote and directed, garnered the Best Feature Award from the Los Angeles Film Festival and the Audience Favorite Film Award from the Nantucket Film Festival.

Having received her B.A. from Mills College and her Masters Degree from CCNY, Eva has taught the Sundance Institute Summer Workshop and currently teaches the Masters in Film Directing Classes at the New York Film Academy.

**The awards that will be given at the festival include:**

**Audience**

Best Audience Feature Film  
Best Audience Documentary Film  
Best Audience Short Film

**Jury**

Best Jury Feature Film  
Best Jury Feature Film Directing  
Best Jury Feature Film Cinematography  
Best Jury Documentary Film  
Best Jury Documentary Film Directing

**Mission Statement**

The Bel-Air Film Festival promotes the appreciation and knowledge of film, and seeks to recognize the most creative films and individuals in the film industry each year. The Festival's goal is to inspire filmmakers and help provide them with the resources needed to further their knowledge.

Sponsors: Jet Blue, Gridlock Denim, Luxe Sunset Hotel, UCLA James Bridges Theatre, Open Air Production, Real TV Films

For more information please visit [www.belairfilmfestival.com](http://www.belairfilmfestival.com).

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