

Friday, February 6

7-9:30

How In The Hell Do I Get My Film Made? Gary Goldstein, guest speaker with Warren Etheredge and John Jacobsen – Gary will talk about the challenges in getting a film made, but will also listen and work on the scripts presented at the seminar

Gary Goldstein has produced some of Hollywood's top feature films, including among others: *Pretty Woman* (Touchstone/Disney) starring Julia Roberts and Richard Gere, *The Mothman Prophecies* Sony/Lakeshore) starring Laura Linney and Richard Gere, and *Under Siege* (Warner Bros.) starring Steven Seagal and Tommy Lee Jones.

Saturday, February 7 - Warren Etheredge and John Jacobsen

9:30 – 1:00

Is Your Story Worth Telling?

- An examination of the 10 submitted scripts
- One page treatments are read out loud by the author
- Warren and John evaluate stories with class, discussing structure, theme, and worthiness of story – is it worth doing at all? Is there a story there? What is its appeal to actually get bought? Premise and theme? Protagonist/Antagonist, etc...

1:00-2:00

Lunch

2:00-5:00

Sub-plots and Character Arc Execution

5:00-7:00

Dinner

7:00-9:30

Liz Glotzer, President of Castlerock Entertainment on **How LA Works** - Liz will talk with John Jacobsen about the LA scene, but will also listen and work on the scripts presented at the seminar

Liz Glotzer joined Castle Rock Entertainment at its inception, and was promoted to President of Castle Rock Entertainment in 1999. During her tenure, Castle Rock has produced over 80 films including: *MICHAEL CLAYTON*, *THE MYST*, *FRACTURE*, *MUSIC AND LYRICS*, *SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION*, *WHEN HARRY MET SALLY*, *MISERY*, *HONEYMOON IN VEGAS*, *IN THE LINE OF FIRE*, *THE GREEN MILE*, *A FEW GOOD MEN*, *CITY SLICKERS*, *BEST IN SHOW*, *MISS CONGENIALITY*, and *POLAR EXPRESS*.

Sunday, February 8 - Warren Etheredge and John Jacobsen

9:30 – 1:00

The Building Block: Scene Execution

- Continuation of script discussions as needed
- Also explore Dialog and Tone in submissions
- Tuning your ear and writing fresh, authentic dialog
- If you don't feel it, it's not there – tone at all costs
 - > Use 2 scenes with live actors to demonstrate

1:00-2:00

Lunch

2:00-5:00

First 10 pages and The Crisis and Climax - **Set ups and Pay Offs, the Art of Expectation**

- Examine the first ten pages of some submitted scripts– do they grab us, do we want to read more
- Examine 10 pages from a produced script to show how it CAN work
- What does your script tell us about character and how to focus it
- What are you setting up?
- Crisis or Cave scene – the most important scene in the film for the writer
- Climax – the movie might suck, but if your climax sucks, there's little chance this film will sell
- Importance of setting up expectation and delivering

5:00-7:00

Dinner

7:00-9:30

Do It Locally and Do It Yourself

- An exploration of the local scene, what is and what could be with filmmakers Tom Skerritt (confirmed), Rick Stevenson (confirmed), Lynn Shelton, George Wing, David Skinner (confirmed if in town), Richard Hutton (confirmed), the Zoo Team, James Longley, and John Sinno – all names subject to change

*speakers and faculty subject to change

Speaker Panel Bios

Rick Stevenson is a Seattle native known for his work in film and television in the United States, Canada and Great Britain. Stevenson's production credits include PRIVILEGED (1983) starring Hugh Grant; RESTLESS NATIVES (1985) starring Ned Beatty, PROMISED LAND (1987) starring Meg Ryan and Kiefer Sutherland; SOME GIRLS (1989) starring Patrick Dempsey, Jennifer Connelly and Andre Gregory; and CROOKED HEARTS starring Jennifer Jason-Leigh, Noah Wylie, Juliette Lewis and Peter Coyote. Stevenson made his feature film directorial debut in 1995 with MAGIC IN THE WATER, starring Mark Harmon and Joshua Jackson. His next, widely lauded, feature film was THE DINOSAUR HUNTER with Christopher Plummer (1999). This was followed by ANTHRAX (2001) starring Cameron Daddo, David Keith, William B. Davis, Ed Begley Jr. Most recently, Stevenson directed, co-wrote and produced EXPIRATION DATE (2006) starring Robert Guthrie, Dee Wallace Stone and David Keith. Stevenson has directed many programs for television including ED for NBC and his work as a director of television commercials has garnered a myriad of awards. In 2004, Stevenson founded **TheFilmSchool** with Tom Skerritt, John Jacobsen, Warren Etheredge and Stewart Stern. He holds a PhD from Oxford University, a master's degree from the London School of Economics and a bachelor's degree in history from Whitman College in Washington State. Rick is married with four children.

Tom Skerritt While in his last year at UCLA, Tom Skerritt debuted as a film actor in *War Hunt*, an independent 1962 anti-war film that also featured New York theater actors Robert Redford and Sydney Pollack. Since then, Skerritt has appeared in more than 35 feature films, including Robert Altman's *MASH*, *A River Runs Through It*, *Harold and Maude*, *The Turning Point*, *Alien*, *Top Gun*, *Steel Magnolias* and *Contact*. He is a winner of an Emmy Award for Best Actor for his role in CBS's *Picket Fences* and has directed many episodic and long-form television productions.

David Skinner As the owner and manager of ShadowCatcher Entertainment, Mr. Skinner is responsible for the Company's strategic and financial planning, as well as the development, financing and production of film and theatre projects. He has worked as an Executive Producer on SMOKE SIGNALS, which won the Audience Award at Sundance, was purchased by Miramax, and is the highest growing film to come out of Seattle, THE BOOK OF STARS, GETTING TO KNOW YOU, GAME SIX, OUTSOURCED, and THE AMERICAN PASTIME. **ShadowCatcher** invested in the successful Broadway revival, *Frankie and Johnnie in the Clair de Lune*, and taking an Associate Producer role in two Off-Broadway shows, *Debbie Does Dallas*, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, which opened at the Minskoff Theatre with Alfred Molina. **ShadowCatcher** worked as an Executive Producer on a Mike Hoffman film, *Game Six*, with Michael Keaton, Robert Downey, Jr. and Bebe Neuwirth; script by Don DeLillo. The film premiered at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival. In 2003 **ShadowCatcher** sold *The Skeleton Key* to Universal Studios. The Iain Softley film stars Kate Hudson, Gena Rowlands, Peter Sarsgaard and John Hurt. The Company optioned the Jeannette Haien's popular novella, *The All of It*, which has been adapted by the respected screenwriter, Lew Carlinio. The Company began a working relationship with the experienced film and television producer, Norm Stephens, resulting in the successful option of the screenplay, *Zulu Wave*, which is being developed in partnership with National Geographic Films. Norm also brought Tom Kinninmont's project, *Blind Man's Bluff*, which has been adapted by Gilbert Adair from his novel by the same title. Raoul Ruiz is attached to direct. **ShadowCatcher** also optioned Dave Hunsaker and Allesandro Camon's coming-of-age story, *Inside Passage*, for which Hunsaker will write the screenplay. David served as the President and Chairman of the Board of Trustees for A Contemporary Theatre, as well as the Chairman of the Seattle Theatre Group, which operates the historic Paramount Theatre and Moore Theatre. He is currently serving on the Board and chairing the Development Committee for the \$40 million Seattle Chinese Garden project, the

largest horticultural project of its kind outside of China, which involves design teams from China and the United States.

Richard Hutton oversees Vulcan Productions here in Seattle and its feature film and documentary units, and also directs all of Vulcan Inc.'s media development projects, including initiatives in the education, museum and entertainment sectors. Feature films produced or co-produced under Hutton's direction include the forthcoming Humanitas Prize winner *Where God Left His Shoes*, starring John Leguizamo; the critically-acclaimed *Hard Candy*, starring Ellen Page; *Bickford Shmeckler's Cool Ideas*; and Independent Spirit Award winner for Best Picture, *Far From Heaven* (starring Julianne Moore, Dennis Quai). Under Hutton's direction, Vulcan Productions has produced or co-produced a wide range of shows for PBS: *Judgment Day: Intelligent Design on Trial*, a two-hour, Peabody Award-winning program for NOVA chronicling the latest battle in the war over evolution; *Strange Days on Planet Earth*, a four-part series on the environment; the Emmy Award-winning *Rx for Survival*, a six-part series on global health; the Peabody and Grammy Award-winning *No Direction Home: Bob Dylan*; and the Emmy and Grammy Award-winning Martin Scorsese Presents *The Blues*. Hutton was also the executive producer of the critically acclaimed, Emmy-nominated PBS series, *Evolution*; the Peabody Award-winning *Black Sky: The Race for Space*; and the blues concert film *Lightning in a Bottle*.