



TAKE TWENTY MENTORS

ILLUMINATE FILM FESTIVAL 2018

FUNDING

Claire Aguilar

Director of Programming and Policy, International Documentary Association (IDA)



At IDA, Claire oversees IDA's professional development, education, mentorship and training initiatives. She serves as the primary programmer for IDA's biennial "Getting Real" conference which is next scheduled for September 2018. She sets strategy around IDA's policy and advocacy work supporting filmmakers around a range of issues. Claire is the former Director of Programming and Industry Engagement at Sheffield Doc/Fest, one of the leading festivals for documentary and digital media. Claire curated and directed the film programme for Doc/Fest 2015 and 2016,

programming over 350 films and working with over 200 filmmakers and media creators. At the Independent Television Service (ITVS), she served as Vice President of Programming and Executive Content Advisor, working on program content and strategy for the organization, including commissioning programming from international and U.S. independent producers. She co-curated the Emmy and Peabody awarded series Independent Lens, a prominent showcase of independently produced programs on PBS. A second-generation Filipina American, she holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communications Studies and a Master of Arts in Film and Television Studies from UCLA. She is Vice President of the Board of Women Make Movies, and serves on the Executive boards of Firelight Media, European Documentary Network (EDN) and the Why Foundation.

Giancarlo Canavesio

Venture Capitalist, Producer, and Founder, Mangusta Productions/Mangu.tv



Giancarlo Canavesio, venture capitalist, documentary producer, Mangusta Productions principle and Mangu.tv founder, is recognized as one of today's most prolific producers of controversial, paradigm challenging, and mind expanding films, with themes covering psychedelic and plant medicines, consensual non-monogamy, conscious capitalism, tantric sex, new frontiers on mysticism and science, and indigenous wisdom. His documentaries making the list for “best social change” docs are — *2012 Time for Change*, *Neurons to Nirvana: Understanding Psychedelic Medicines*, and *The Lottery of Birth*. Feature documentaries released in 2017 and 2018 include *The Last Shaman* and *Monogamish* alongside

Summer In The Forest, *Weed The People* and *Taiwa*. New paradigm docs on DMT, cosmic orgasms, channeling and new capitalism are in various stage of development for release in 2019. Most recently Mangusta Productions partnered with global specialized distributor Abramorama to create “Mangurama” - a distribution imprint and fund to expand consciousness through films.

PRODUCING

Beverly Camhe Writer/Producer



Ms. Beverly Camhe has enjoyed a career as a writer and producer which encompasses an eclectic and successful mix of film, television and Broadway productions while working in association with some of the industry's most highly regarded talent.

Ms. Camhe was made senior VP of Lorimar Productions in the heyday of the company, producing *Dallas* and *Knots Landing*.

She formed a long term association with the academy award winning director of *Midnight Cowboy*, John Schlesinger. She developed many films with him including *The Falcon* and *The Snowman* starring Sean Penn.

Ms. Camhe formed her own production company in 1985 and wrote and produced many successful television movies and feature films, with major film studios.

With Orion pictures, Camhe produced *The Believers*, directed by John Schlesinger starring Martin Sheen. She also produced *The Package*, directed by Andrew Davis starring Gene Hackman and Tommy Lee Jones. With Universal Studios, Camhe produced the comedy hit, *Junior*, directed by Ivan Reitman and starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, Danny De Vito and Emma Thompson.

Camhe launched her career in brand building and marketing with *The Celestine Prophecy*, the best selling, transformational novel by James Redfield. She also had several successful sequels published, and produced a feature film based on the original book.

In recent years she has combined her producing, writing and marketing skills to craft a "cause marketing" component to all her projects.

Ms. Camhe, while serving as an ambassador for The Earthday Network, was asked to produce a documentary for the King of Morocco, Mohammed VI, to call attention to his Green Initiative and his commitment to the environment. She brought Academy Award winning director, Barbara Kopple, to Morocco to film the King's first Earth Day. Ms. Camhe produced a documentary on the Bernard Madoff financial crime of the century, *In God We Trust*. Camhe created a "call to action" to support legislation protecting investors from losing their life savings.

Ms. Camhe is currently developing a slate of socially responsible television series. Ms. Camhe is also developing a slate of socially responsible feature films-MOVIES THAT MATTER.

Ms. Camhe is currently writing and producing a feature film, *SAVING HUMPHREY*, with her colleague Dr. Diana Reiss who is a world renown expert on dolphin cognition and animal communication. The

film is based on her book *The Dolphin in the Mirror* and dramatizes her role in rescuing the forty-five ton humpback whale that was washed ashore in San Francisco Bay in 1985. This film is a call to action to protect and promote empathy for marine life .

Ms. Camhe received a BA in Philosophy and Theology from Boston University and pursued graduate work in Cinema Studies at the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. She is a member of the Writers Guild of America.

Adam Schomer

Producer, *HEAL, The Highest Pass, One Little Pill*



Adam Schomer and his company, i2i Productions, are known for going to extreme places and lengths to follow heroic stories that bring insights into important issues and ourselves.

Our award winning film *THE HIGHEST PASS* (2012) was theatrically released and took a deep look at fear and death amidst an epic Himalayan motorcycle adventure. *THE POLYGON* (2014) explored the villages most affected by forty years of Soviet nuclear testing. *ONE LITTLE PILL* (2015) reveals a startlingly simple new method to treat alcoholism that has been held back for too long. We returned to the Himalayas to produce and direct a follow up to *The Highest Pass* titled *THE ROAD TO DHARMA* (2018), which is an 10 episode docu-series for television that is currently in post production and takes us on an inquiry into what it means to be truly free.

Recently, Adam Schomer produced and released the feature documentary *HEAL* (2017) that looks at the science and journey behind changing one's beliefs, thoughts, emotions and perceptions in order to cure disease. *HEAL* is a #1 Best-Selling Documentary on iTunes and features the likes of Dr. Deepak Chopra, Gregg Braden, Dr. Bruce Lipton, Dr. Joan Borysenko, Anita Moorjani and many more esteemed consciousness experts. *RED DRESS WHITE BUFFALO* (2019) is a feature documentary diving into the missing and murdered indigenous women of the Lakota Tribe and the spirit of those women that can no longer go unheard; currently in post production. i2i Productions is located in Santa Monica, California.

Stephen Simon

Academy Award® winning Producer and Founder, The Spiritual Cinema Circle



Stephen Simon was the head of production for film companies owned by legendary Hollywood producers Ray Stark (*Funny Girl*, *The Goodbye Girl*, *The Way We Were*) and Dino De Laurentiis (*Serpico*, *La Strada*, *3 Days of The Condor*). As an executive, Stephen supervised the development and/or production of films such as *Smokey and The Bandit*, *Kuffs*, *The Cheap Detective*, *Russkies*, *The Gate*, *Murder by Death*, *Casey's Shadow*, *Once Upon a Crime*, and *The Electric Horseman*.

Stephen personally produced such acclaimed projects as the Academy Award® winning *What Dreams May Come* (starring Robin Williams and Cuba Gooding Jr.), the cult classic *Somewhere in Time* (Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour), and *All The Right Moves* (Tom Cruise). Stephen directed and produced Indigo and the film version of *Conversations with God*.

In 2004, Stephen co-founded The Spiritual Cinema Circle (www.spiritualcinemacircle.com), a monthly DVD distribution service that became an immediate international success. The Circle is now in its 15th year with subscribers in all fifty United States and around the world. Stephen has written two books, *The Force is With You* (2002), and *Bringing Back The Old Hollywood* (2011).

MARKETING/PR

Mark DeNicola

Social Media Strategist and Owner, Beam Beam Productions Inc.



Mark DeNicola is the Owner and Creative Director of Beam Beam Productions Inc. a boutique agency based in Toronto, Canada that specializes in helping businesses, projects, and personal brands of all sizes optimize their use of social media.

Some of Mark's most notable work includes serving as the social media consultant for the documentary *HEAL*, for which he helped build a social media strategy and a series of Facebook ad units that collectively not only surpassed all of the film's established goals, but helped spearhead them to the top of the sales charts in numerous countries.

In addition to his work in social media, Mark also holds a great passion for personal development which he shares through regular articles and vlogs on his personal website that to date have collectively served over 20 million readers.

John Raatz

Co-founder, GATE: Global Alliance for Transformational Entertainment



Veteran marketing and PR professional, John Raatz, is the Founder and Principal of the pioneering “transformational” marketing & PR firm, The Visioneering Group, whose mission is Linking Spirit, Vision & Progressive Values with Compassionate Communication to Promote a Positive and Sustainable Future™. Established in 1988, Visioneering exclusively serves the Cultural Creatives (body/mind/spirit) market and was the first such firm to do so.

A transformational entertainment and media pioneer, Raatz, along with author Eckhart Tolle and actor Jim Carrey, co-founded the Global Alliance for Transformational Entertainment, an organization dedicated to mobilizing and supporting entertainment and media professionals who want to express their own transformational vision and values through their work.

Raatz is an industry veteran, who has represented scores of clients including foremost transformational authors, performers, and thought leaders including Eckhart Tolle, Fritjof Capra, Peter Russell, Daniel Quinn, Madonna, Kenny Loggins, Donovan and films including *Mindwalk*, *A Brief History of Time*, *What the Bleep Do We Know!?*, *Peaceful Warrior*, *The 11th Hour*, and Tom Shadyac’s *I AM*.

Since 2004, Raatz has served as a member of a Grammy Awards screening committee, was a judge on the Blue Ribbon panel of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Gold Quill awards, was a producer and industry judge at the Inspiration Film Festival in Los Angeles, and co-produced the 2006 Inspiration Film Festival. Most recently John was appointed Executive Director of the David Lynch Masters in Film Program at Maharishi University of Management. Raatz and GATE have joined with Pacifica Graduate Institute to create the world's first certificate program in transformational storytelling.

DISTRIBUTION

Anna Darrah

Distribution Strategist, Filmmaker, Film Buyer



Anna Darrah is an experienced film buyer, negotiating with and licensing over 800 films in her 12 years working for Gaiam and Spiritual Cinema Circle. She has been an active player on the festival circuit and currently advises filmmakers on custom distribution strategies. Anna is also a filmmaker; two of the documentaries she produced aired on The Sundance Channel, and her short film *THE MATTER OF MAGIC* is currently playing on Pay TV around the world. She has produced and directed 2 episodes for the ZILLOW.COM series, *HOMEMAKERS*, and is co-producer on the recently released *MEOW WOLF: ORIGIN STORY*, which premiered at SXSW. Anna has enjoyed jurying and participating in film festival panels and workshops here and abroad and currently teaches a two-day Film Distribution Workshop. Anna authored a chapter in *Swimming Upstream: A Lifesaving Guide to Short Film Distribution*.

Scott Glosserman

Founder/CEO, GATHR Films



Glosserman founded Theatrical On Demand® pioneers, Gathr Films, in August of 2011 after producing and directing his latest feature, *"The Truth Below,"* a teen psychological thriller for MTV Films. Scott co-wrote, produced and directed the cult horror favorite, *"Behind The Mask: The Rise of Leslie Vernon,"* (Anchor Bay/Starz Media).

He produced and co-directed the feature documentary, *"Truth in Numbers?: Everything, According to Wikipedia,"* under his banner, Glen Echo Entertainment, which he founded in 2003.

Various feature development projects included *"Tal"* (based on the Paul Fenimore Cooper book of the same name) and *"Playing House"* that was preemptively sold to Paramount Vantage in 2008.

Scott is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, The Writers Guild of America and the Directors Guild of America. He has guest lectured in Film Studies and the Business of Film at Yale and The University of Pennsylvania. Scott is a member of the UPenn Libraries Board, and he is on the Board of Trustees at Montserrat College of Art in Danvers, MA. Scott recently founded Docutegrity, which will provide a

ratings system for accuracy in documentary and historical fiction TV and film, and which will create annotated versions of films and television shows for the educational market.

Trina Wyatt

Trina Wyatt, CEO, Conscious Good



Trina's love of inspirational stories, her passion to use business as a force for good and her commitment to personal growth, led her to found Conscious Good, a media studio for a new generation. Conscious Good curates, produces and distributes the highest quality media content via the most innovative platforms.

Most recently, Conscious Good launched the Conscious Good Studio Series, a monthly film series and community event for yoga and meditation studios worldwide. Most recently, Conscious Good launched the Creators' Network, the premiere networking platform for conscious creators to connect and collaborate.

In parallel to her work with Conscious Good, Trina is producing feature film, *Love & Oatmeal*, with Black Label Media, directed by Peter Sattler and starring Ben Platt and Lola Kirke.

Before launching Conscious Good, Trina assumed the role as Gaiam TV's (Gaia's) first Chief Content Officer. Prior to Gaia, she worked as the CFO at Prana Studios and oversaw its acquisition of Rhythm and Hues. Before this, she was the COO/CFO of Intrepid Pictures, a film production and financing company that made such genre films as *The Raven*, *The Strangers*, and *The Cold Light of Day*.

Other career achievements include helping guide Withoutabox through the due diligence process with Amazon until its successful sale to IMDB as well as taking over for the Managing Director of Film Independent, the largest non-profit organization dedicated to independent film.

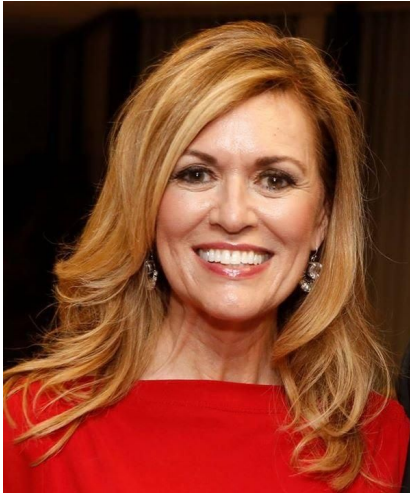
One of Trina's most notable and rewarding career achievements was launching the Tribeca Film Festival for Robert De Niro and taking the reigns as its first Festival Director.

This past April, Trina was honored to join the Evolutionary Leadership Circle, a global group of leaders committed to elevating universal consciousness.

Trina received her MBA from NYU and her undergraduate degree from UCLA. An avid yogi for over twenty years, Trina completed her Kundalini yoga teacher training at Golden Bridge. She lives with her husband, Sasha, and her children Lola and Trust in Ojai, CA.

IMPACT STRATEGY

Sandra de Castro Buffington **Founder, Conscious Media Impact**



Sandra de Castro Buffington is a global leader in social impact entertainment and pioneer in conscious media. Sandra seeks to awaken the human spirit and ignite change by empowering writers and producers of television, film and emerging media to integrate storylines that elevate consciousness, and improve health, justice and wellbeing worldwide. Her groundbreaking work resulted in 565 storylines that aired on 91 television shows across 35 networks. For her work, Sandra was named by PODER Magazine one of the “Nation’s 100 Most Influential Hispanics” in 2012.

As founder and former director of UCLA’s Global Media Center for Social Impact (GMI), Sandra infuses television, movies and new media with uplifting storylines to awaken, unite and engage viewers worldwide. Awarded the World Film Institute’s Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2014 and The Female Eye Honorary Maverick Award in 2015, Sandra works extensively with Hollywood, Bollywood, and other creative capitals of the world to inspire and develop storylines that have profound impact on consciousness and behavior. In partnership with the Writers Guild of America West, Sandra connects writers and producers to experts on topics of social value to inspire and inform their scripts and builds campaigns around storylines to maximize impact. As an international speaker on storytelling for transformation, Sandra inspires and catalyzes audiences worldwide.

JoAnne Fishburn
Founder/CEO, Good Influence Films



Good Influence Films works with filmmakers and change makers to build outreach and audience engagement strategies around a variety of arts and media projects. This work includes building communication strategies, partnerships, and media and sponsorship opportunities.

The company was founded by JoAnne Fishburn, who comes from a background in feature film production and financing as well as documentary filmmaking, having been involved with projects for HBO, History Television, Discovery and National Geographic. Her producing credits include *Fezeka's Voice* which won Best International Documentary at Tri-Continental Festival 2009 and was nominated for Most Inspiring Documentary at the Henley Intl Film Festival 2010.

In 2009, her UK company received a grant from the Fledgling Fund to develop and launch an outreach and engagement strategy for *Pig Business (More4)*, about the impact of factory farming and the “true cost of cheap meat”. The film featured activist and Marchioness Tracy Worcester and environmental lawyer, Robert Kennedy Jr. She was also involved in the early development of 'Earth: A New Wild' a 5-part series and co-production between PBS, National Geographic and Passion Planet, with funding from the Ann Ray Charitable Trust and The Nature Conservancy.

Returning to Canada in 2012, and expanding on her work in media and social change JoAnne authored a report commissioned by Breakout Educational Network entitled “Can Media Affect Social Change?” about the social impact of the CBC Nature of Things, documentary 'Save My Lake' narrated by David Suzuki.

In Canada, JoAnne worked as an impact consultant on a number of feature documentary and television projects including 'Cyber-Seniors' an intergenerational comedy about the digital divide and 'The Messenger', an award-winning film about the alarming decline of global songbird populations. In 2016, JoAnne founded and launched Good Influence Films, a company that works with filmmakers and change makers helping them to use films as tools for social change. In 2017, as a response to the Truth and Reconciliation calls to actions, Good Influence Films launched Indigenous 150+, an Indigenous film and conversation series that puts Indigenous voices center stage and uses films as tools for reconciliation. Indigenous 150+ is an on-going initiative in partnership with M'Wikwedong Native Culture Centre, Great Lakes Métis Council and First People's Group.

Other consulting credits include Reelworld Film Festival's inaugural Media Impact Conference 2016, for whom she also developed a 2-day impact producing course for emerging filmmakers. She has also been an invited speaker and teacher at the Available Light Film Festival in the Yukon and contributing curator to ILLUMINATE Film Festival's Conscious Film Convergence in Sedona, Arizona.

DIRECTING

Lisa Leeman

Filmmaker, ***AWAKE: The Life of Yogananda, One Lucky Elephant, Crazy Wisdom***



Lisa Leeman believes that strong narrative and character-driven films can change the world, one story at a time.

Leeman has produced, directed, written & edited award-winning feature & short documentaries for the last thirty years. Her work mainly focuses in two areas – what she calls ‘sideways social issue filmmaking’ and films that explore faith and spirituality.

Her ‘sideways social-issue’ films illuminate contemporary social issues through intimate character-driven stories that follow people at critical turning points, as they personally grapple with an issue that society at large is also wrestling with (gender identity; interfaith marriage; cross-species relations; spirituality). Roger Ebert named Leeman’s *One Lucky Elephant* as one of the best documentaries of 2011.

Lisa believes biography is a powerful way to cinematically explore spirituality. She co-wrote, co-directed, and co-produced the award-winning feature documentary *AWAKE*, winner of the Audience Award at the Illuminate Film Festival. *AWAKE* screened theatrically for 48 weeks in the U.S. and grossed over \$1.5 million dollars at the box office, screening in over 220 markets. It is one of only 17 films directed by women in the 250 top-grossing films of 2014. Unusual for a documentary, it screened theatrically in 17 countries, including India, France, Germany, Brazil, and Mexico. Leeman produced *Crazy Wisdom*, a portrait of the renowned Tibetan meditation master, Chogyam Trungpa (Best of Fest, Santa Barbara International Film Festival).

She is currently developing a narrative non-fiction series on the history of yoga and Vedanta in the United States, inspired by the books *American Veda* and *The Subtle Body*.

Lisa’s groundbreaking first film, *Metamorphosis: Man into Woman*, won the Filmmaker’s Trophy at the 1990 Sundance Film Festival & garnered the top broadcast ratings on POV, PBS’s documentary showcase. Leeman is currently shooting a sequel, following the film’s transgender animation artist at a new crossroads, twenty-five years after the release of *Metamorphosis*.

Lisa is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and is a tenured Professor of Cinematic Arts at USC’s School of Cinematic Arts. She has taught master classes on documentary filmmaking for USC & the U.S. State Department in China, Portugal, Jordan, the West Bank, Malawi, the Republic of Georgia, and Azerbaijan. She writes articles on the ethics and art and craft of documentary filmmaking. In addition to Sundance’s Filmmakers’ Trophy, honors include an Emmy nomination and the once-in-a-lifetime American Film Institute Independent Filmmaker Grant. Lisa’s work has been seen in theaters, festivals, and broadcasts around the world, including IDFA, PBS, HBO, OWN, ARTE, Channel 4.