



DOCUMENTARY
ORGANIZATION OF CANADA
DOCUMENTARISTES
DU CANADA

137-2906 West Broadway,
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6K 2G8
www.docbc.org
docbc@docbc.org

DOC BC 2009 Board

Nick Baker

Nick Baker has been working in broadcasting for the past ten years. After completing a post-graduate diploma in broadcast journalism at Portsmouth, England he began his career as a journalist and newsreader at an independent radio station in north London. A year later Nick moved into local television news and for the next six years worked as a reporter and producer at several different local TV stations across England. In 2000 he wrote a book, which was published in the UK about the television industry called 'Broadcasting: Breaking Down the Barriers.' It includes exclusive interviews with famous TV presenters and offers advice to people considering a career in TV themselves. Before moving to Canada in 2003 Nick worked in London as a news producer for the UK's main breakfast channel, 'GMTV.' After arriving in Vancouver Nick worked for Global Television as a writer on the morning news show and then worked as a producer and director for a local technology show called 'Dave Chalk Connected.' After a stint at City TV News as a news producer on the breakfast show and then Force Four Productions as a story producer Nick moved to Make Believe Media where he is currently an associate producer.

Deanne Esdale

Born on the shores of the Shuswap Lake in BC, Deanne works in Vancouver's thriving media and communications industries as a dedicated producer, writer and presenter.

Deanne's track record includes roles in almost every aspect of production for documentary programmes and drama: in-house associate on *ZeD*, CBC's Emmy-nominated, cross-platform series, line producer on *Not Just a Bad Day*, winner of the Silver Chris Award, associate producer on *Tailor Made* for CBC TV, development writer for *Branded* for Global Currents, coordinator and casting producer for lifestyle television series on 'W' and Slice, assistant producer on *Eve and the Fire Horse*, winner of the special jury award at Sundance, and researcher for *Fido* and *The Delicate Art of Parking* with Anagram Pictures. Currently she sits on the board of the Documentary Organization of Canada, works at Oscar-nominated Paperny Films, and instructs sessionally at Vancouver Film School.

Deanne formerly worked in cultural/community education, as an ESL teacher in Japan, and as a career counselor for almost five years in BC. She has a human geography degree from the University of British Columbia and certification in Arts and Entertainment Management.

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Rina Fraticelli

Rina was the Executive Producer of the Pacific & Yukon Studio of The National Film Board of Canada. Responsible for overseeing a production staff of 12-14 and a core budget of \$2M+. Overseeing a staff of 14 and a production slate of 20 -30 projects at any given point, including shorts and feature length films from every genre, with emphasis on documentary and animation.

As an Independent filmmaker, Rina was the Genie Award-winning producer of documentaries and documentary-drama hybrids on a broad range of arts, history and social justice subjects, including **Fiction and Other Truths**: a film about Jane Rule (Lynne Fernie and Aerlyn Weissman directors); **Years from Here** and **Changing Ground** (John Walker director); **Celesta Found** and **The Lynching of Louis Sam** (David McIlwraith, director) as well as directing a number of short art films for Bravo!FACT including **Suzu Lake**; **Strands** (solo dance by Peggy Baker); and **Iron Hill**.

Rina was the Writer, Interviewer, Assistant director (to Lea Pool) **Women: A True Story** (Les Production Point de Mire) a six hour international series narrated by Susan Sarandon. CTV.

Currently Rina is a Consultant for the BC Institute of Film Professionals for the Women's Labour Study and BC Film for their Documentary Training Initiative. She is also the Speaker on the *Ethical issues in documentary filmmaking*, **Frames of Mind**, a series of films about mental health **Invited Guest**, *Guangzhou International Film Festival*, in December.

Alan Goldman

Alan Goldman is a producer, writer and director with extensive experience in news, documentary public affairs and commercials. He began his career in radio and was part of the award-winning team that produced the five part national CBC Radio documentary series **A Matter of Survival**, hosted by Dr. David Suzuki. Moving to television, Mr. Goldman researched and produced for **Venture**, **Shirley** and for documentary production companies like Stornoway Productions of Toronto. He produced **All Day Breakfast**, a documentary exploring the culture of Toronto's diner restaurants and three one hour shows for Duncan Productions including **Weird and Wonderful** (Seen on Global), and **The Funny Side of Death**, broadcast nationally on CBC's Witness program. Mr. Goldman also produced the one hour special **Glowing In The Dark** which aired on Bravo! CBC Roughcuts, NHK (Japan) and in the United States on America Movie Classics, the documentary looks at the history of neon light in Vancouver, Los Angeles and Las Vegas. The film won the prestigious Heritage Society of British Columbia award and the Heritage Vancouver Advocacy Award. Mr. Goldman devised and produced a 22-part series on books for the CBC (**Booked On Saturday Night**) and

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worked as a producer on the national CTV program Gabereau. Mr. Goldman is working in Vancouver as freelance producer/director and teaching at the Pacific Audio Visual Institute.

Maia Iotzova

Maia Iotzova has always been intrigued by the beauty of daily life and the playful nature of art. She was born in Bulgaria where she received a strong base in the traditional artist mediums of drawing and painting, and graduated from a major Technical Secondary School receiving her diploma in photography. During those years Maia was also deeply touched by the political upheaval that swept through Eastern Europe.

After coming to Canada she attended University of Guelph, Ontario where she Majored in Fine Arts, but also had the opportunity to delve into Plant and Natural Sciences, and Ecology.

Always challenging herself as an artist, Maia started dealing with issues close to her heart like, environmental degradation, in often subtle and humorous ways. Four years ago she delved into documentary film and has been actively involved in that field ever since. Her first film '*Grass Through Concrete: The Struggle to Protect the Red Hill Valley*' (72min, ©2004) documents the dramatic fight to protect the last large green space in the heavily industrialized east end of Hamilton, Ontario. (www.grassthroughconcrete.com).

Maia is currently developing a new documentary, '*Green Dream*', in which she explores two things she is perplexed by as an immigrant to North America: Our obsession with the perfectly manicured green lawn and, simultaneously, the loss of green space at an epidemic rate.

At the moment her other work concentrates on exploring environmental themes through playful and socially conscious art and she is currently creating various projects with garbage and working toward a documentary on the subject.

Julia Ivanova

Director/producer/writer/cinematographer Julia Ivanova was born in Moscow, Russia. Since moving to Vancouver, Julia has been working as a documentary filmmaker, a freelance journalist for Radio Canada International, and as an adoption coordinator. She directed four three documentaries and is currently working on two more films. Julia works in collaboration with the filmmaker Boris Ivanov, Julia's brother through their company Interfilm Productions (www.interfilm.ca). Interfilm has been recently commissioned by CBC Newsworld's *The Lens* for a one-hour documentary *Price of Heartache* which will explore the international marriage fraud.

"From Russia, For Love"(2000), a documentary about adoption of older children, was produced by Interfilm Productions Inc. (CBC Newsworld Passionate Eye). It has been televised in 26 countries.

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Julia directed a documentary “*I Want a Woman*” (2003) for Make Believe Media (CBC Newsworld Rough Cuts/ IFC). *I Want a Woman* followed the quest for love of four Russian immigrant men in Vancouver.

“*Moscow Freestyle*” (2006) (CBC Newsworld The Lens/Knowledge Network/SCN) told the story of a Canadian ESL teacher who lives and works in Moscow. It was produced by Interfilm Productions Inc.

“*Fatherhood Dreams*”(2007), (GLOBAL TV, Knowledge), a documentary about gay men and fatherhood. It was produced by Interfilm Productions Inc.

Susanne Keeping

Susanne is an Accounting Professional from Alberta. Currently Susanne is completing a CGA designation. After completing her education in Alberta, Susanne began her accounting career as a bookkeeper in 1996 and has since worked in public practice preparing personal and corporate tax returns and year-ends for small businesses.

Susanne changed her focus from public practice to begin working in industry in 2001. Since then, she has gained accounting experience in the oil and gas industry working for a logging and drilling company, in the construction industry working for an international supplier of building materials and in the manufacturing industry working for a company with facilities in Canada and the United States that manufacture telescopic, truck-mounted cranes and attachments for heavy equipment and machinery.

Susanne moved to Vancouver in September 2006 and has transferred her accounting knowledge to the film production industry. Her main areas of expertise in accounting involves financial statement reporting, developing budgets, variance analysis, job costing, cash flow projections, capital asset tracking, audit working paper preparation and preparing business cases for capital expansion and process improvement initiatives.

Leah Mallen

Leah Mallen has been working in the film and television industry for over twelve years. She attended the acclaimed Canadian Film Centre, and studied Film and Directing at New York University. After working for several years independently as a casting director, publicist, production manager and producer, Leah joined the Vancouver-based company Screen Siren Pictures in 2001 where she produced and developed various film and television projects over six years. She served as Vice President of the company in 2005/2006. Selected credits produced at Screen Siren include the feature length, international co-production documentary *Hammer and Tickle*, co-produced with Alegria Pictures of Paris and directed by renowned UK director Ben Lewis. The film premiered at the 2006 Tribeca Film Festival and won Best New Documentary at the 2006 Zurich Film Festival. The film, a mixed media production of live-action and animation, explores the world of humour throughout the communist regimes of Eastern Europe and Asia. A book based on the film will be published in

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2008. Leah also produced the documentary *Breaking Ranks*, a story about US army war resisters coming to Canada to seek refugee status, which was selected to premiere at the Montreal World Film Festival and aired on Global Television. The film was also nominated for three Leo Awards, including Best Social Political Documentary. Leah has also produced the feature length film *The Score* for CBC's Opening Night, based on Vancouver's Electric Company Theatre's award-winning play. The film tells the story of a female geneticist struggling with the challenges of keeping her genetic research lab on the cutting edge meanwhile facing her own genetic destiny when she tests positive for Huntington's Disease. The film was selected to screen at the INPUT festival in Taipei in 2005 and has the endorsement and support of Genome Canada, which screens the film at genetic conferences and events across the country.

Leah's other credits include several acclaimed short films including *The Space Between* (2003), written and directed by Chad Lowe, starring Oscar © winner Hilary Swank, which screened at the Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Tribeca, Palm Springs, and Cambridge Film Festivals. She also produced Mark Sawers' Genie-nominated short film *Lonesome Joe* (2002) for Canal+ and the Comedy Network, which screened at the Toronto, Cambridge and Vancouver Film Festivals. Her first short film with Mark Sawers was the Genie-nominated *Shoes Off!* (1999), which screened at the Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver Film Festivals, along with several international festivals and won *Best Short Film* at the International Critics Week at the *Cannes Film Festival* and was broadcast on HBO in the US.

Recently, Leah formed the company Twofold Films, her own film and television company where she will be producing a slate of documentary and dramatic projects with award winning and acclaimed directors and producers. She is an active board member of both the Documentary Organization of Canada and the Hot Docs Festival in Toronto and is an active member of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television.

Michaelin McDermott

An eclectic career that encompasses photographer to director, Michaelin has over a decade's experience as a film and TV unit photographer and for four years was a producer at The Discovery Channel. Her most recent independent writer, director and producer credits include the short drama REPLAY, and LIGHT: MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE – a two-part mini-series shot in HD for Discovery Channel, Canada. LIGHT was nominated for a Leo Award as best documentary and has international distribution.

Currently, Michaelin is developing several independent documentary projects, a cooking series and story editing two features.

She was a recent participant in the Banff Centre's Women in the Director's Chair and serves on the BC board of DOC as well as being National Co-Vice Chair which is almost a full time job in these uncertain days.

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Peter Campbell - VIFPA Representative

Peter Campbell is a multi-award winning documentary and feature filmmaker who's subjects range from personal journeys (*Cherry Kingsley~ Recognizing the Person; Kuper Island ~ Return to the Healing Circle; My Son the Pornographer*) to global perspectives (*Speaking Out ~ Women of Uganda; Killer Whale and Crocodile; The Art of Compassion*).

President of Gumboot Productions Inc. in Victoria, BC, Peter is currently developing a feature documentary (Highlife Supa Pawas) and a theatrical feature (Sointula) and several projects involving nature deficit disorder in children..

Earlier this year Peter was in Kenya, where he produced several films for Rotary International and UNEP.

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DOC BC 2009 New Board Members

Brishkay Ahmed

Brishkay Ahmed is a film and journalism graduate with a passion for documentary films. In 2007, her company ChitChat Productions was formed. Creating social issue projects for television and radio is the goal as is hope that people 'chitchat' daily about world issues.

Brishkay is currently working on a radio documentary for the CBC Radio's The Current , about the first family guidance center in Afghanistan. She is also editing her documentary "Daycare Diversity" for the Ministry of Children and Families.

Brishkay supports her filmmaking passion as a contract researcher and corporate trainer and spends her free time enjoying being six years old with her twin daughters.

Michael O. Dayan

Born in Vancouver, Michael Oved Dayan holds a PhD in Communication Studies from McGill University and additional degrees from Columbia University and the University of Toronto. Michael's research focus is on interpersonal communications, mass media theory, documentary film, and personal identity. Michael's first film, Glimpses of Heaven, about the autobiographical memories of three British Columbia artists won "Best Director" at the 2007 Las Vegas International Film Festival and "Honorable Mention" at the 2008 Rhode Island International Film Festival. Michael is now engaged in making his second film, about a medical clinic for nomads of Eastern Tibet. Prior to entering filmmaking, Michael worked as a strategic consultant on national advertising campaigns.

Les Lukacs

With numerous international TV and film projects under his belt in over 12 years of post-production experience, Les brings a wealth of industry knowledge and skill to every project.

Les graduated with honours from British Columbia Institute of Technology, and went straight into post-production. The time spent at Rainmaker Digital and Northwest Imaging, two of Vancouver's biggest post houses, gave him a firm grip on taking a show from production to completion. Through this time, Les worked on such projects as NBC's "Mysterious Ways" and the feature film "The Sixth Day". At Sextant Entertainment, Les was responsible for the delivery of a full slate of projects, from the animated series "The Mr. Hell Show" to the Lonely Planet sequel "Treks in a Wild World".

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Looking for greater challenges, Les traveled to China to supervise Los Angeles based, Ruddy Morgan Organization's first series overseas: a fully shot and completed HD production in 2002.

Back in Vancouver, Les found new challenges, including a one hour daily TV series for the CBC network, and the successful implementation of a production/post pipeline for Vancouver's Nerd Corps Entertainment, and their 39 episode animated series, Dragon Booster. Les was also the Head of Post Production for Bardel Entertainment, overseeing post and deliver on three different projects simultaneously. Independently, Les has focused on developing ideas in both the dramatic and lifestyle genres. In 2006, Les finished producing his first feature, which traveled the festival circuit. He also was a key creative person on a feature length documentary that is currently in DVD release and broadcasting in Canada and Internationally. Les was recognized with an award for his work at the 2007 Leo Awards. Recent projects include an associate producer position on a remake of the "Flash Gordon" franchise for US and international distribution, and producing a short feature currently in festival distribution.

Les has been able to combine his accounting background with his production experience to form a unique combination of skills to deliver successful projects from concept to completion that exceeds the expectations of both the creative and financial players. Currently, Les is developing a number of dramatic and non-fictional concepts for both TV and film that are earmarked for production in the coming year.

Adelina Suvagau

Adelina Suvagau is a respected TV Producer with 18 years experience and is currently the producer, director, videographer and editor of Rompost TV, the Romanian Television Show for Omni BC, cable 8. Awarded for the Best Television Show in 1993 by the Association of Television Professionals in Romania, Adelina produced over 300 television shows for the Romanian National TV Station between 1990 and 1995. Trained as a BBC correspondent in Europe, Adelina Suvagau worked in 1995 as the News Director for Amerom Television, an American TV station licensed in Bucharest, Romania.

In 1995 Adelina moved to Vancouver from Romania, with her husband and daughter, and founded Sonia Productions Inc. Sonia Productions Inc. has earned a reputation for technical and creative excellence and consistent completion of projects on time and within budget. Sonia Productions Inc. specializes in Television and Documentary Production, TV Commercials, Training Videos and DVD production. Sonia Productions recent clients include: Omni BC, Channel M, Royal City Musical Theatre, The Artbiz, Online Films, Insight Films, BCIT.

Adelina Suvagau produced since 2004 over 244-television episodes for Channel M and currently she is producing a weekly TV series for Omni BC. Adelina Suvagau TV program is broadcasted weekly: Saturdays at 1:00 PM and Sundays at: 10:00 PM on cable 8 in Vancouver. In recognition for promoting Romanian Culture in Canada, BC Romanian Community Centre awarded Adelina Suvagau in 2006 with the Culture Promoter Award.

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Adelina Suvagau has a B.A. degree in Business and Economics and she graduated with diploma from: BBC Worldwide training (in London UK), North Shore Film School (in North Vancouver, BC) and BCIT-New Media (in Burnaby, BC).

Vanessa Warheit

Vanessa Warheit has worked as a director, producer, editor, and cinematographer of non-fiction video since 1999. Her independent film credits include Producer/Director/Editor for *HYPERLINK* "<http://www.faultymemories.com/>" *Constructing Experience: The Many Lives* *HYPERLINK* "<http://www.faultymemories.com/>" *of Treasure Island*, which aired in the San Francisco Bay Area on PBS and NBC, and Associate Producer for the national PBS documentary *Great Wall Across the Yangtze*. Vanessa has been an editor and post supervisor for commercial TV shows, a shooter for independent documentaries, and director, producer, and editor for numerous educational documentaries for corporate and government clients. She also lectures at the university level on documentary film theory and practice.

Vanessa holds a Master's in Documentary Film & Video Production from Stanford University, and a BA with honors from Bryn Mawr College. She is currently completing her first feature documentary for PBS, *The Insular Empire: America in the Marianas*. She lives with her husband and 3-year-old son in Vancouver, BC.

Shauna Whittal

Shauna graduated from the Professional Film Studies program at Capilano College in 2000. She then went on to work as an Assistant Production Co-ordinator on various independent films and TV series. In 2001 she and her husband Josh started Wandering Gecko Entertainment Inc. and produced the dramatic feature film "The Gutter Diaries" which went on to win Best Director at the New York International Independent Film and Video Festival (2006) and Pumelo International Film Festival (2007) as well as second place Best Experimental Film at The Indy Gathering (2007). They are currently in post production on their second feature film "City of Vendettas" which is due to be completed this fall. Shauna is also working as an Accounting Assistant for Omni Film Productions Ltd. while working towards her CGA designation.

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