

# 2022 Buyers Guide

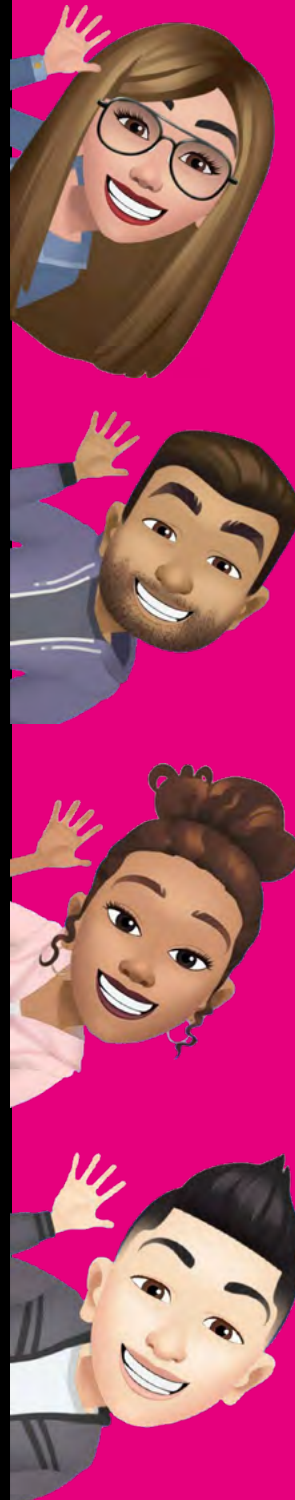
# OMNI CULTURAL TV

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

# NATPE

NAVIGATING CONTENT

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## MESSAGE FROM NATPE PRESIDENT & CEO JP BOMMEL

The National Association of Television Program Executives (NATPE) is proud to be a charter supporting partner of the inaugural Omni Cultural TV Festival. NATPE warmly welcomes you to this groundbreaking celebration of creativity – the producers bringing their personal vision to the screen, the industry executives donating their time and expertise to this wonderful event, and those attending in support of a vibrant and dynamic creative community.

Fostering creators with the passion and skills required to capture original dramatic and comedic stories and compelling unscripted content is a keystone of NATPE's mission. As the service organization of record to the television and streaming content industry, NATPE's ability to connect talented "emerging producers" with the companies

and executives who can further their careers is consistently part of our ongoing efforts. This is evidenced in our many events, conferences, and bespoke initiatives which provide invaluable connectivity to producers with fresh viewpoints and new voices.

Kiki Melendez and Latin Hollywood Films have forged a remarkable relationship with NATPE. Ms. Melendez rapidly transitioned from a NATPE Miami conference attendee (successfully securing important media business relationships) to the role of speaker and moderator for our conferences. Her experience as a producer and business person, coupled with her tenacious drive for quality in her own productions, is matched only by her commitment to helping her peers striving for the same in their careers. When Ms. Melendez presented her vision of the Omni Cultural TV Festival, it was compelling and inspiring. Bringing a thriving community of emerging producers with brilliant and varied cultural perspectives together with acquisition decision makers and industry professionals is precisely aligned with NATPE's ideals. NATPE deeply appreciates the tremendous efforts of Kiki Melendez, festival Co-Founder Cindy Cowan, and the entire Omni Cultural TV Festival organizing team.

The entire NATPE family welcomes what we believe will become a career-changing experience for many. We're as excited as you are to see the wit and intelligence of the participating producers on full display for the engaged industry professionals who have graciously offered their insight, expertise, and in some cases, a path to future success.

What will we find today that will become the television of tomorrow? What great stories and undiscovered points-of-view will become indelible? Which of the varied shows screened today will be future fan favorites, discussed beyond the screen? It will be exciting to find out together...we're glad you're here to be a part of it.

**FROM EVERYONE AT NATPE**





## Message from Festival Founder Kiki Melendez

Welcome, One and All, to our Virtual Omni Cultural TV Fest 2022!

It actually isn't the first time for us. This idea was born in 2016, when our company launched The Latin Hollywood Films Upfronts in NYC and in Los Angeles at Raleigh Studios. Collectively, we had more than 1,400 industry professionals in attendance and we received amazing reviews from the New York Daily News and many other outlets.

We knew we were on to something good and much needed so we launched Omni Cultural Tv Fest in 2019. Omni because it means all inclusive, it means we welcome diversity and celebrate inclusion from all cultures. It was such a huge success that we immediately had great partners like Marco Gomez who became our Angel. We were set to do our second year at the Directors Guild of America but then the Pandemic happened. I struggled with the fact that so many submissions would be stuck in limbo. Our filmmakers needed hope more than ever, but I wanted it to be worth it,

I wanted to build an event that would bring the executives and our filmmakers together so we were blessed to discover S.T.R.E.A.M. World a non-profit that encourages and educates our youth in technological innovation.

This platform populated by your avatar was the perfect answer. Our panel of judges are incredibly supportive and adventurous. They all jumped in to be part of our panels and to judge this year's selections, at press time 3 film makers have been requested by one of our top production companies and a distributor!

Our company, Latin Hollywood Films, has been able to get two thirteen-episode talk shows, one comedy special, five Spanish language comedy specials, and a docu-comedy theatrically released. Yet, even with all this experience, we found it a constant challenge to get a shot at the pitch table for new projects and to get our content on the air.

We offer an exciting full-day program with informative panels meant to inspire you, screenings from producers from all walks of life - all coming together to support each other. The most beautiful thing of all is to discover YOU - to support you, and give you the best shot to get your work in front of the right people so that you can share your project with the largest audience possible.

To all the buyers, distributors, networks, OTT platforms, and industry professionals -- we are grateful that you share our mission to discover new talent and we know that you are here, as we are, to celebrate diversity. We are especially grateful to the entire team at NATPE for their incredible support for our talented community.

To my volunteers and Omni Team from "Day Uno" - I could not have done this without your passion, commitment, and inspiration. You are my rock! May this first year be the beginning of a legacy of encouragement and inclusion that will continue to inspire.

Kiki Kiss!

Kiki Melendez  
Founder, Omni Cultural TV Fest

### KIKI'S BIO

KIKI MELENDEZ is an actress, writer, comedian, and CEO of Latin Hollywood Films, Inc. She created Kiki Desde Hollywood, which aired on Galavisión, a National Spanish Language Network, and also created the ALL female, cross-cultural Kiki Melendez' Hot Tamales Live! that aired on Showtime Networks. Additionally, she also created the first-ever Spanish language stand-up comedy show, Locos Y Contentos for Estrella TV National Network.

In 2015, her Docu-Comedy, Journey of A Female Comic, qualified for the 2016 Academy Awards. The film also became part of the Permanent Core Collection at the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences Library. In 2017, Latin Hollywood Films produced a full season (13 Episodes) of Kiki Mobile, America's first Mobile Talk Show that aired on A+E Networks' fyi and was distributed by RMVISTAR worldwide. She is currently working on "Ninos De Cristo" a documentary on the Orphanages in developing countries, Broads Abroad a 90 Min Comedy Special, and releasing her first book Jan 2021 "Chase Hope and Faith" A Faith based Novel inspired by a true story.



## Message from Festival Co-founder Cindy Cowan

Welcome, to our Virtual Omni Cultural TV Fest 2022!

We are so grateful to all the industry leaders and executives that are here. Thank you for your support in our celebration of diversity. Likewise, I'd like to applaud our sponsors for believing in this inaugural endeavour. Hope you see the potential of this festival for many years to come.

I am very proud to be the co-founder of the first annual Omni Cultural TV Festival. It is our hope that by coming here today and being a part of this festival, you will leave with lasting relationships and business acumen that can help move your projects forward.

Television is changing rapidly. With the advent of streaming platforms, cable, network, the web, and social media; moreover, with the primary viewing medium becoming more mobile and personal such as tablets and phones, there is an abundance of opportunity for content creators to get their projects out there. Our goal is to give you insight and tools to monetize it.

By putting you in front of industry leaders across all fields such as talent, writers, directors, executives, and distributors, we hope that after you leave today, you will have either had your project placed in front of someone who could move it forward or you will have learned something from one of our many panels. At the very least, we hope you saw something that resonated with you or formed a relationship that can become invaluable in the future.

Television has never been better than it is today! It is an exciting time to be in this business. Hopefully, the OCTVF can help you find your audience and support you in giving birth to your creation.

We are very excited you are here!

Cindy Cowan  
Co-founder, Omni Cultural TV Fest

### CINDY'S BIO

CINDY COWAN is an Emmy-winning, Oscar-nominated producer who co-founded Initial Entertainment Group (IEG) with Graham King in 1995. It became the leading film production and foreign sales company.

From 1995 till its sale to Splendid Films in 2000, IEG had many successes including: an Emmy nomination for Rent-A-Kid, starring Leslie Nielson; Emmy, Golden Globe and People's Choice nominations for If These Walls Could Talk, starring Cher, Sissy Spacek, Anne Heche and Demi Moore; and won a United Nations Award for Savior, starring Dennis Quaid.

Since forming her new production company, Cindy Cowan Entertainment, Cowan has produced Scorched, starring Woody Harrelson and Alicia Silverstone, executive produced Fifty Dead Men Walking, starring Sir Ben Kingsley and Jim Sturgess; she also produced Red Lights starring Robert De Niro, Sigourney Weaver, Cillian Murphy, and Elizabeth Olsen. Directed by Rodrigo Cortes, Red Lights was the opening night premiere at Sundance, January 2012, and was the highest selling film at that festival. Cowan is also a recipient of the Telly Award for producing a short called, La Ruta — a story about the perilous immigration journey into the United States.

Currently, Cowan is producing The Untitled 'NSync Project alongside TriStar and Lance Bass about super-fans who followed 'NSync in the 2001 Pop Odyssey tour.

# General Festival Screenings

(\*All Times listed in Pacific Standard Time)

## THEATER 1

Aprox. Start Time	Project Name	Category	Project Type
9:30 am	Abandonment	Short Film	Short, Student
9:45 am	Apocalypse Love Story (Official Trailer)	TV MOVIE TRAILERS:	Other
9:48 am	Badge of Honor	Pitch Ticket VIP Package	Student
10:10 am	Beautiful Violence	Short Film	Short
10:22 am	BEST DAY EVER	Short Film	Experimental, Music Video, Short
10:24 am	Black Bird	Short Film	Experimental, Short
10:34 am	Case 0013	TV PILOT	Short, Student
10:57 am	Character	Short Film	Short
11:25 am	Come close to me	Short Film	Short
11:43 am	Crystal City	TV PILOT	Television
12:32 pm	Cultural Exchange	Talk Show	Web / New Media, Other
12:42 pm	Dear Mama	TV PILOT	Documentary, Short, Television, Web / New Media, Other
1:10 pm	Dorothy Non Deve Morire	Short Film	Short
1:30 pm	El Día de la Union	TV MOVIE TRAILERS	Trailer
1:32 pm	Fickle	STUDENT SUBMISSIONS:, Short Film	Short, Student
1:49 pm	Fix Mi Casa	TV SIZZLE REELS - NON-SCRIPTED	Reality
2:52 pm	Formula Dreams	TV PILOT, FOREIGN LANGUAGE TV SIZZLE REELS:	Documentary, Television
2:17 pm	Go! Capitaine	Short Film	Short
2:37 pm	History of the Olympic Games	STUDENT SUBMISSIONS:, ANIMATION:	Animation, Documentary, Student, Web / New Media
2:47 pm	Home with TíoLouie: PRIME LATINO MEDIA	TV PILOT	Television
2:58 pm	Incurable	Short Film	Short
3:14 pm	Just Like Lemonade	Pitch Ticket VIP Package	Television
3:30 pm	Just Like Water	Short Film	Short
3:42 pm	KOGA AND FRIENDS - "Shelter"	ANIMATION:	Animation
3:50 pm	LATinX	TV SIZZLE REELS	Television
4:09 pm	Lose to Win	Short Film	Short

# General Festival Screenings

(\*All Times listed in Pacific Standard Time)

## THEATER 2

Aprox. Start Time	Project Name	Category	Project Type
9:30 am	Love Locked	STUDENT SUBMISSIONS:	Student, Television
9:54 am	Mommy Mafia	Pitch Ticket VIP Package	Television
10:16 am	Mrs. Whittle's Cottage Trailer	TV SIZZLE REELS - SCRIPTED & NON-SCRIPTED:	Television, Web / New Media
10:19 am	New to the City	Short Film	Short, Television
10:39 am	Noir Brothers	SHORT FORM WEB SERIES:, FOREIGN LANGUAGE TV SIZZLE REELS:, Short Film	Short, Television, Web / New Media
10:48 am	On / Off	ANIMATION:	
10:55 am	PRIME LATINO MEDIA Músic	TV PILOT	Television
11:15 am	Psychic School	TV PILOT	Television
11:45 am	Puckheads	Pitch Ticket Basic Package	Television
11:48 am	PUMP	TV SIZZLE REELS - SCRIPTED & NON-SCRIPTED:	Short, Television
11:56 am	Scratch This The Series	SHORT FORM WEB SERIES:	Web / New Media
12:16 pm	Smothered	Short Film	Short
12:21 pm	Taffy the Pink Hippopotamus	ANIMATION:	Animation, Short
12:27 pm	Terra Beach	Short Film	Short
12:48 pm	The #SAVAGECHATSERIES	Talk Show	Web / New Media
1:24 pm	The Gaze	SHORT FORM WEB SERIES:	Short, Television, Web / New Media
1:38 pm	THE LOVE PITCH	TV SIZZLE REELS - SCRIPTED & NON-SCRIPTED:	Television, Other
1:41 pm	The Road to Transformation	STUDENT SUBMISSIONS:	Documentary, Short, Student
1:47 pm	The Vortex	Short Film	Short
2:00 pm	To The Moon	Short Film	Short
2:05 pm	Together Alone	Short Film	Short
2:16 pm	TRUE NORTH: Honest Stories of Finding Home	TV PILOT, Pitch Ticket Basic Package	Documentary, Short, Television
2:40 pm	TUNNEL	Short Film	Short
3:06 pm	Unconventional	Short Film	Documentary, Short, Other
3:36 pm	Womanhood	STUDENT SUBMISSIONS:, Short Film	Animation, Short, Student
3:38 pm	Worried about the matches?	Short Film	Short
3:54 pm	Kiki Expo	Expo	Expo

# Festival Sessions & Events

(\*All Times listed in Pacific Standard Time)

## STREAMITORIUM (Main Stage #1)

8:45AM – 8:55AM	WELCOME - Speakers: Kiki Melendez, Cindy Cowan
9:00AM – 9:45AM	NFT 101: What is It and How Do You Profit?
9:50AM – 10:35AM	The Format Doctor is In
10:40AM – 11:25AM	Pitch Perfect
11:30AM – 12:15PM	Dating Your Character
12:20PM – 1:05PM	Between the Sheets: Book to Screen 101
1:10PM – 1:55PM	Make It Sizzle
3:15PM – 4:00PM	Where are They Now: Omni Success Stories
4:05PM – 4:45PM	NATPE Networking Party (Sponsored by NATPE)

## 2:00pm - 2:45pm Pitch It! (Zoom Break out Rooms\*)

\*This session is for participants who purchased PITCH IT! Packages

## IMAGITORIUM (Main Stage #2)

9:30AM – 10:15AM	The Power of Television
10:20AM – 11:05AM	Virally Speaking: Social Media Sensations
11:10AM – 11:55AM	What's the Deal: Distribution 101
12:00PM – 12:45PM	Conversation with "Starmaker" Michael Greene
12:50PM – 1:35PM	Women Directors: Calling the Shots
1:40PM – 2:25PM	Reading Between the Lines: Multicultural Actors in Hollywood
2:30PM – 3:25PM	Special Screenings and Q&A: Win it to List it! \ Ganar para Listar
3:30PM – 5:30PM	Kontakto: Star Search

## 5:00pm - 6:00pm Awards Ceremony

## 6:00pm - 8:00pm VIP After Party (House of Grooves)

## 6:00pm - 8:00pm Fireworks & Boat Rides at the Beach

# AWARDS CEREMONY

Location: **Streamitorium Main Stage #1**

**Starts at 5PM-6PM PT / 8PM-8PM ET**

Hosted by:

**Zulay Henao & Gabrielle Walsh**



## WINNER CATEGORIES

- **BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE**
- **BEST ANIMATED**
- **BEST DOCUMENTARY**
- **BEST SCRIPTED COMEDY**
- **BEST SHORT FILM**
- **BEST SHORT WEB SERIES**
- **BEST TALK SHOW**
- **BEST FILM/ SHORT**
- **BEST DRAMA SCRIPTED**
- **BEST UNSCRIPTED**

Zulay Henao is a Colombian-American film and television actress. She co-starred in a number of films such as *Illegal Tender* (2007), *Fighting* (2009), *Takers* (2010), *Boy Wonder* (2011), *Hostel: Part III*, *The Single Moms Club* (2014) *True Memoirs of an International Assassin* (2016).

In 2014 she began starring as one of the lead characters in the Oprah Winfrey Network series, *If Loving You Is Wrong*. Most Recently she can be seen on *The Oath*, and *Stumptown*.

Gabrielle Walsh is an American actor best known for her lead role in the international feature horror film, *Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones*. On television, Walsh starred in award-winning shows such as *The Flash*, *Shameless*, *9-1-1*, *The Vampire Diaries* and *East Los High*. Other credits include *Star*, *Making Moves*, *Agent X*, *Dusk till Dawn: The Series*, *The Brave* and *Small Shots*.

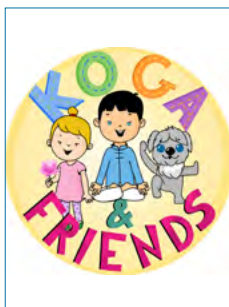
A Chicago native, Walsh attended Northern Illinois University, where she spent a semester abroad in Russia at the Moscow Art Theater School and received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting.

## AWARDS WILL INCLUDE:

- A Pitch meeting with select Industry Executives, Distributors and Production Companies.  
(Meetings are set at the sole discretion of buyer's and their content mandate)
- Featured in the 2022 Omni Cultural TV Fest Winners Panel at NATPE [www.natpe.com](http://www.natpe.com)
- Cindy Cowen Entertainment Pitch Meeting for select winners. Based on company content mandate.

## 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

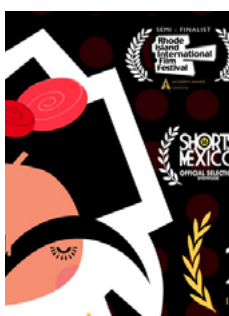
# Animation



### KOGA AND FRIENDS - “Shelter”

Koga and Friends presents the adventures of a ten-year old boy named Koga whose mother is a kung fu master and whose father is a yogi. Koga teaches his gang of friends how to utilize practical mind/body techniques while navigating through entertaining storylines. In the “Shelter” episode Koga teaches his sister, Lily, how to breathe through some stitches she has to get. Later, Koga’s family brings their friend Rosa to an animal shelter where she encounters an emotionally wounded...

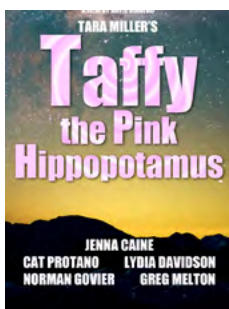
For inquiries contact: Philip Kholos



### ON / OFF

Endless distractions threaten to destroy creativity.

For inquiries contact: Alessandro Squitti



### TAFFY THE PINK HIPPOPOTAMUS

A pink, passionate, polite hippopotamus named Taffy lives in an orange lake surrounded by blue and yellow trees, green roses and purple grass. One morning, Taffy happens upon two sad flowers, Mr. and Mrs. Emerald Green Rose. Upon learning that some of the trees had stated that roses should be the color red, Taffy helps the roses understand that the color of their petals does not affect their true inner beauty. She then helps settle a dispute between Miss Dirt and Mr. Grass about his purple color. Finally, in the midst of a thunderstorm, she learns of Mr. Rain’s anger caused by discord in the lives of characters around the lake. Taffy convinces Mr. Rain to calm his storm into gentle sprinkles. With harmony in her heart, Taffy is tickled pink, all the way home.

For inquiries contact: Artie Romero

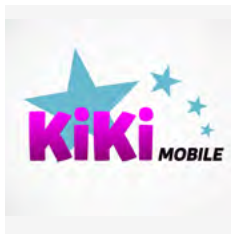
# Latin Hollywood Films Presents



## Hot Tamales \*not in competition

Kiki Melendez presents Hot Tamales Live - bringing together seven of today's most talented and diverse comedians for one hot and hilarious stand-up comedy special. From sizzling Brazilian dancers to hilarious performances.

Two one hour specials filmed  
Contact: Latin Hollywood Films



## KiKi Mobile \*not in competition

The Kiki Mobile is a unique 1-hour, weekly magazine show with so much variety it will make your head spin! The Kiki Mobile is a souped up, state-of-the-art RV with its very own talk show set! A set that includes all the latest gadgets and easily opens for public viewing at any location. This show brings viewers to the greatest VIP events in the nation. Wherever there is action the Kiki Mobile is there!

13 episodes on National TV, International distribution avail.  
Contact: Latin Hollywood Films



## Lit in the Valley \*not in competition

Lit in the Valley is a half-hour docu-series that focuses on the food, the characters, and the excitement of events booked at Allure Banquets! The audience will be taken on a journey and have a front row seat into the craziness and all the drama that goes into pulling off the event of a lifetime, while also learning about the different cultures, and how they celebrate these life changing times in their lives!

13 Episode Bible  
Contact: Latin Hollywood Films



## Life Coach \*not in competition

She helps people gain control of their life, but it only took one night, one event, to spin her out of control.

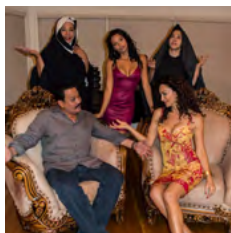
Pilot episode and Pitch deck  
Contact: Latin Hollywood Films



## Locos Y Revueltos \*not in competition

There are so many Spanish language comics and hardly any shows that showcase them! Locos Y Revueltos is a proven brand that had the highest ratings as a series of specials on network TV with today's funniest Spanish language Stand-Up Comics.

Pilot Episode  
Contact: Latin Hollywood Films



## Hail Mary! \*not in competition

(Created by Eva Longoria, Kiki Melendez & Anthony Lopez) ½ hr. comedy is about Mary, a young woman from a strict Catholic family who is a nun. But her biological clock starts to tick at 30, she finds herself at a crossroads: continue serving God for the rest of her life or start a family of her own.

13 Episode Bible  
Contact: Latin Hollywood Films



## My Mother Married a Green-Go \*not in competition

Some people marry for love, some people marry for money, Rosita married a green-go! We follow this cross-cultural family as each kid tries to find their place in society identifying completely differently within their mixed heritage.

13 Episode Bible  
Contact: Latin Hollywood Films

## 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

# Pitch Ticket

### PUCKHEADS



### PUCKHEADS

Puckheads is a comedic-drama based on the actual life experiences of professional hockey players and coaches\*. The series focuses on the life of Paul Brooks, a retired player, who is now an assistant coach on his former team after a devastating knee injury ended his career prematurely. The series examines how players, coaches, and their families survive the brutal power and political struggles within a professional hockey team while enjoying a life very few get to experience.

For inquiries contact: Andy Salmen

Not  
Pictured

### BADGE OF HONOR

Rookie Los Angeles Police Officer Russell Sterling's father always told him to be an honest, hard working cop before he was shot and killed in a department conspiracy in 1939. Now in 1952 he will have to make a decision that will affect him for the rest of his career. With his wife in his corner Officer Russell Sterling will make the decision of a lifetime.

For inquiries contact: Brandon Davis

### JUST LIKE LEMONADE



Pilot for a TV series about the silly games and adventures that married couples will create and endure to spice up their marriage. Each episode has its own story line and new characters, including LGBTQ+ story lines, and ends with facts, sayings and/or figures about the importance of marriage for health and longevity.

For inquiries contact: Nina Gortinski

### MOMMY MAFIA



In latte-fueled lapse of judgment, a neighborhood mommy group steals forty high-end strollers and run away. They awkwardly dump the strollers into the toxic canal when, yards away, they spot real mobsters Angelo and Vinny illicitly dumping something of their own. An awkward, unlikely and mutually beneficial friendship between the real mafia and the new Mommy Mafia begins.

For inquiries contact: LAURA SWEENEY

## 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

# Short Film



### ABANDONMENT

On a stormy night, a needy man picks up a wallet full of money, only to find the owner observing him closely. To his surprise, the brooding owner begs him to keep the purse as he won't be needing it anymore. It is revealed that the latter intends to commit suicide before the dawn. It's up to the poor, yet compassionate man to convince the grieving stranger to change his mind before it's too late.

For inquiries contact: Sagnik Dutta Gupta



### BEAUTIFUL VIOLENCE

A powerful and gripping story about a white terminally ill businessman who uses racism to force an African American man he never met before to kill him in order for his family receive his life insurance money.

For inquiries contact: Joey Media



### BEST DAY EVER

Two best friends run into each other at a bus stop and travel all throughout the city of Denver, enjoying each other's company and all the city has to offer in a spontaneous visual journey driven by two vibrant characters. Ultimately, the day ends with a wedding reception, where they breathe life into the room as the wedding band matches their enthusiasm and all the guests celebrate with the women who have crashed the party.

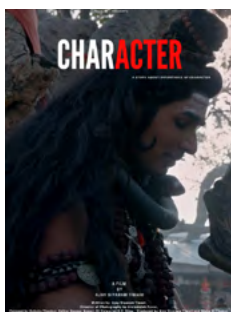
For inquiries contact: Karina Garcia



### BLACK BIRD

A girl faces some abnormal happens in the hospital.

For inquiries contact: First Screen Film Distribution Co.



### CHARACTER

Everyone is playing their character in life whether it is in the form of mother or as father, it can be in the form of brother and also in sister's form. But while playing one character our human society created some more characters for our entertainment which we call art. and whoever plays these characters, we know him as artist, long ago when there was no cinema, people used to entertain us by performing plays and street plays, from where the art was born. And then his art was highly appreciated, but in this modern era, those street plays have been lost in the glare of cinema houses. Today, the condition of the actors playing in the street is such that they are driven away as beggars. Who is now unable to make our culture alive, so through this film, the same

For inquiries contact: Brijesh Gurnani

## Short Film (continued)



### COME CLOSE TO ME

An old abandoned house in Buenos Aires. Four female dancers. Four tangos interpreted by female singers. These elements intertwine in order to narrate through music and dance the evolution of a romantic relationship over time. Each room is a poetic space where different episodes of the lovers' encounters come to life.

For inquiries contact: Pablo Fidanza



### DOROTHY NON DEVE MORIRE

An elderly Dorothy lives with her maid Sally in an old mill. The woman is very ill, her condition serious. Her last wish is to see her travel companions from her OZ days, with whom she has not been in contact for years. But Leone, Spavento, and Latta have changed a lot since the journey. They have become public figures, their newfound notoriety having changed their characters and lifestyles. They quarreled among themselves and broke off all relations and communications. The worsening of Dorothy's condition is an opportunity to meet after many years, to reunite and confront each other.

For inquiries contact: Premiere Film



### GO! CAPITAINE

Laura and her son Max, a mature and lonely teenager, have found it difficult to understand each other since they moved. When Max crosses paths with Jo, a clumsy adventurer in an old-fashioned diving suit, it's a chance for him to escape his daily routine for a brief moment.

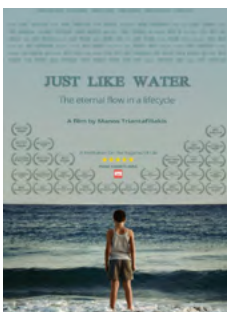
For inquiries contact: Pierre-Loup Docteur



### INCURABLE

In a southern region of Iran, a girl has been lost. Her brother and her sister-in-law are looking for her, but there is a mystery behind this.

For inquiries contact: First Screen Film Distribution Co.



### JUST LIKE WATER

The movie is about the father of the director, Spyros, his life and experiences. He is the protagonist and narrator. The "Just Like Water" speaks about time and the circle of life. The questions asked are, what is time and how do we perceive it? Do we really live the moments in our daily lives and do we give them their due value? So, we follow a magical journey through time, embedded with vivid images of Spyros, grandfather, man, child ... A girl and a woman always there. A patchwork of images, accompanied by original musical composition, sketched in detail: it weaves the puzzle of a whole life nestled in the Island of Crete (Greece).

For inquiries contact: Manos Triantafillakis

## Short Film (continued)



### LOSE TO WIN

A singer, who lost her mind and her voice, must find a way to rediscover both while overcoming the circumstances of her past and present.

For inquiries contact: Robert Davis



### NEW TO THE CITY

A comedy about a young girl raised to serve God, but on her 25th birthday decided she wanted to experience love and life as the romance novels she would read and decided to leave the convent to move to NYC with her cousin. Oblivious and Naive to the City life her adventures in the big city begin.

For inquiries contact: Lulu Lopez



### SMOTHERED

A hysterical and sobering look at a gay, Jewish middle-aged couple trying to salvage their hideous relationship in therapy hell. They can't stand each other but can't afford to get divorced.

For inquiries contact: Jason Stuart



### TERRA BEACH

A college freshman in 2069 returns home and kindles a romance with a Hispanic girl only to realize they have gained the space colony's attention

For inquiries contact: Mike Gallant



### THE VORTEX

The vortex is a short comedy-drama movie about a young man who has stuttering. This issue makes him become a timid person. Harsh criticisms from the manager and his finance have instantly changed his mind to follow his passion.

For inquiries contact: Moataz Badran



**For inquiries contact: Adil Ladha**



For inquiries contact: Jolene Kim

For inquiries contact: Akın GünGör



**For inquiries contact: Denise Khumalo**



For inquiries contact: Yevhenii Konoshchuk

## 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

# SHORT FORM WEB SERIES:



## SCRATCH THIS THE SERIES

Three self-centered sisters make a futile effort to overcome their sibling rivalry resulting in riotous physical comedy. Described as The Three Stooges meets Always Sunny in Philadelphia. Indie TV calls the show, “Laugh out loud funny.” The main theme of the show is “sisterly love gone awry” in which the best efforts of the three main characters to maintain civility quickly devolves as their habitual ways of relating never fail to take over. So far we have traveled to two Web Festivals, New Jersey and Bilbao and were thrilled to win Best Ensemble in both.

For inquiries contact: Laura Dowling Shea



## THE GAZE

The Gaze is a hilarious and raw, heartfelt dramedy tracking the career of Jerome Price, an openly queer black actor, as he fights to rise above the labyrinth of systemic racism and inequality in the entertainment industry in hopes of being able to shine under a gaze that sees him as equal and free. In Season 1: “...No Homo” we are introduced to Jerome as he meets the play and the White American Theatre festival that forever change the trajectory of his career and life in the arts.

For inquiries contact: Angelica Robinson



## NOIR BROTHERS

In a frenetic, chaotic and disordered Catania, Renny and François, the second impeccable and the first decidedly off-putting, are the right men to solve the strangest and most desperate cases imaginable.

For inquiries contact: Daniele Gangemi

## 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

# STUDENT SUBMISSIONS:

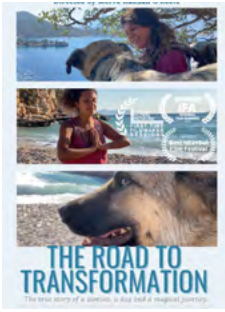


## LOVE LOCKED

Student Project- Unscripted TV (Unaired) Pilot- Love Locked is an escape room dating show where individuals are set up on blind dates in an escape room looking to find their true love. If couples are able to escape, there will only be one question left to ask; Do they ever want to see each other again?

For inquiries contact: Breanne Krause

## STUDENT SUBMISSIONS (continued)



### THE ROAD TO TRANSFORMATION

The inspiring true story of a woman, a dog and a magical journey.

For inquiries contact: Merve O'Keefe



### HISTORY OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The Olympic Games transcend borders and bring together individuals from all over the world who can excel in one of the many sports disciplines as well as observe and perhaps meet some of the greatest and most famous athletes in history. Here then appears the importance of this world event that undoubtedly mobilizes millions of people around the planet.

For inquiries contact: Christian Hernández Sánchez



### FICKLE

In this short psychological thriller, a simple Indian Maid ends up doing something insane, when a very renowned Priest tells her that her rich employer is the cause of her son's sudden illness.

For inquiries contact: Latika Kaushik



### WOMANHOOD

Daily struggle of an Independent working woman.

For inquiries contact: Khalid Bin Rafiq

## 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

# Talk Show



### CULTURAL EXCHANGE

A debate talk show where men and women from across the globe come together discuss their dating experiences.

For inquiries contact: Denise Khumalo



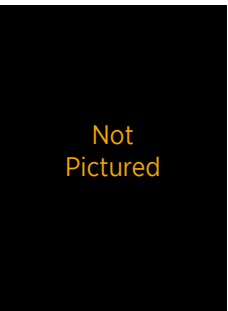
### THE #SAVAGECHATSERIES

Blair and Brandon Dottin-Haley of the #BLAIRISMS sit down with #SAVAGES of the culture to talk about their journeys and how they are using their legacies to make an impact on the world. Veterans of the #SAVAGECHATSERIES include the iconic Vanessa Williams, April Ryan, Kenny Lattimore and Faith Jenkins, along with Erika Alexander, Kim Coles and T.C. Carson, the ladies of En Vogue and so many more. The #SAVAGECHATSERIES is a space for fellowship, laughter, inspiration, reflection, healing and levity, a place where people are celebrated and given their flowers while they have the opportunity to see and smell them.

For inquiries contact: Blair and Brandon Dottin-Haley of The #BLAIRISMS

## 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

# TV MOVIE TRAILERS



### EL DIA DE LA UNION

Bio coming.

For inquiries contact: TBD



### APOCALYPSE LOVE STORY (OFFICIAL TRAILER)

When an 8 year old Caucasian girl and an 8 year old African American boy find themselves all alone in the wake of an apocalyptic event, their struggle to survive and dependence on each other sets them on a journey of self-discovery, friendship, and love.

For inquiries contact: Justin Wilder Neese

# 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

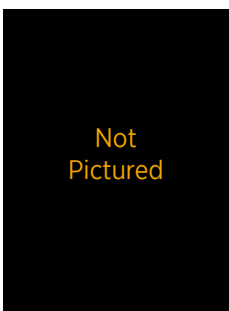
## TV PILOT



### CASE 0013

The Russian Empire, 1870. Under the judicial investigation is a priest who killed the bell ringer in the church utility room. Between the prosecutor and the lawyer a fierce struggle for attention and sympathy of the jury unfolds, while the defendant painfully tries to remember what happened that night and whether he is really guilty.

For inquiries contact: Mikhail Salin



### CRYSTAL CITY

Investigator and the series' protagonist, Sergei Smirnov, must return to the city of his childhood to investigate some high-profile murders. In Crystal city, there is a maniacal pedophile on the loose. Not only does he torture and kill children, he does it in a devious, brutal way. Sergei is the best in his field, so he entrusted with the investigation. Sergei has a complex character; the hero has obviously been through a lot, and his most terrible secrets are buried here, in Crystal city, where Sergei was born and raised.

For inquiries contact: Elisaveta Orlova



### DEAR MAMA

An international travel show based on acquiring emotional street art from some of the most unknown locations on the planet.

For inquiries contact: Devin Luther



### HOME WITH TÍO LOUIE: PRIME LATINO MEDIA

An independent Latino multimedia-maker, actor and musician gather around the dining room table to join host, TíoLouie for an intimate evening of home-cooked dinner and drinks in a supportive arts Salón that comprise 60 minutes of lively conversation and one-on-one interviews that conclude with a musical performance all amid a warm and welcoming living room.

For inquiries contact: Louis E. Perego Moreno



### PSYCHIC SCHOOL

When a chronically indecisive young woman learns she has strong psychic abilities, she must choose between trying to maintain a "normal" life, or taking a leap of faith and joining a secret community of oddball psychics in training.

For inquiries contact: Jordana Lilly

## TV PILOT (continued)



### FORMULA DREAMS

From the day we are born, in the arena chosen by our parents, we fight for our place in this world. At one of the main karting championships in Brazil, the São Paulo Cup in Granja Viana, a group of feisty children between 8 and 12 years old are growing up in the fast lane of competitive karting. Heitor, Antonella, Wagner, Gabriel, and Murilo all share a dream: to be Brazil's next Formula 1 star. For now, their sights are set on being crowned champion of the São Paulo Cup.

For inquiries contact: Nick Story

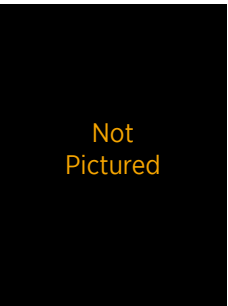


### TRUE NORTH: HONEST STORIES OF FINDING HOME

TRUE NORTH is a documentary short and pilot for a docuseries offering viewers an intimate view into the lives of ordinary people who take uncommon—and often courageous—paths to find their purpose and their place in the world. The pilot segment, Sailing to Salvation, documents a group of distressed war veterans who, feeling alienated from society upon their return from duty, find healing and connection on the Chesapeake Bay.

For inquiries contact: Suzie Galler

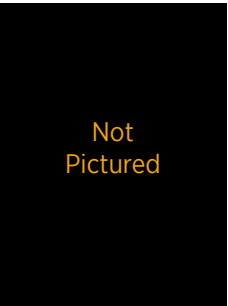
## 2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS TV SIZZLE REELS



### LATINX

Bio coming

For inquiries contact: TBD



### FIX MI CASA (NON-SCRIPTED)

Bio Coming

For inquiries contact: TBD

## TV SIZZLE REELS (continued)



### MRS. WHITTLE'S COTTAGE TRAILER (SCRIPTED & NON-SCRIPTED)

In this edutainment trailer, Mrs. Whittle and her puppet friends , Connor and Tilly, combine a nostalgic and timeless vibe with 21st century relatability and content.

For inquires contact: Patricia White



### PUMP (SCRIPTED & NON-SCRIPTED)

Miles Newacheck was once a well-known name among respected physical therapists in professional sports. After 20 years of working with NBA players, Miles' career ended with one fateful moment during game seven of the NBA Finals. While performing a routine stretch, Miles slips and falls on the Celtics' MVP point guard. In an instant, he ruins the star-player's career, along with Boston's chances of a championship win. The fans respond with outrage as Miles becomes a pariah who's quickly chased out of town.

For inquires contact:



### THE LOVE PITCH (SCRIPTED & NON-SCRIPTED)

OP LIN E- It's a dragon den meets dating show entertainment format, where he/she who makes the best Love Pitch wins.

USP - THE LOVE PITCH USP is in the uniqueness of the Love Pitch format, its ability to introduce a modern day sense of genuine challenge, chivalry, competition and of course huge entertainment value into the process of dating and on winning a ladies or man's heart.

For inquires contact: Johnson Samuyiwa

2022 SCREENING SELECTIONS

# Special Screenings

Virtual Location:

**IMAGITORIUM STAGE #2**

**2:30PM - 3:25PM PT**

**5:30PM - 6:25PM ET**



## WIN<sub>IT</sub> TO LIST<sub>IT</sub> GANAR<sub>PARA</sub> LISTAR

Sizzle Reels of Their latest Real Estate Competition Show for both General & Hispanic Market.

presented by



&

**SPARKHOPE  
PRODUCTIONS**

# 2022 Virtual Panel Sessions

**THU. JUNE 9**

**AN ALL-DAY EVENT 8am - 10pm PT**

*\*\* All Panelists are subject to change.*

This year's panel sessions will be  
**YOUR VIRTUAL** access to top industry  
executives from major network studios  
and production companies!

## **NFT 101: What is It and How Do You Profit?**

**STREAMITORIUM MAIN STAGE #1**

**9:00AM - 9:45AM PST**

The new buzz term is non-fungible tokens - a special kind of crypto-asset that is a unique authentication of ownership of digital assets like artworks, recordings, virtual real estate, pets, etc. Is this a trend that will putter out or is it here to stay? How does this impact creators and their content? Hear from our panel of NFT experts on what this all means and how to navigate this ever-changing landscape. Learn how to jump into the world of NFT.

Presented by



**Alan Solis**  
Experiential  
Marketing & NFT's  
Partnerships



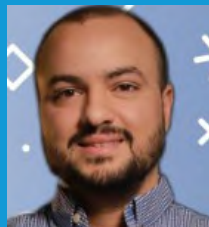
**Crescen Coggins**  
Exec.Producer  
at Official I C  
Entertainment LLC



**Terrence Coles**  
NEW-GEN Team  
Member/Advisor



**Jake Fraser**  
Head of Business  
Development, Mogul



**Gianfranco  
Lopane**  
Head of Business  
Development at  
DatChat

Moderator



# The Format Doctor is In

**STREAMITORIUM MAIN STAGE #1**

**9:50AM – 10:35AM PST**

A TV format is the overall concept, structure and branding of a copyrighted television show, licensed by producers and TV networks in other countries, so they may produce a version of the show tailored to their nationality and audience. Common genres of formats include talent competitions, game shows, dating and reality shows. Justin Scroggie, internationally known as The Format Doctor, will be on hand to diagnose projects, share what distributors are looking for and how to avoid the mistakes content creators make when pitching a potential format.



**Justin Scroggie**  
Chief Creative  
Officer & Partner,  
The Format People

## Pitch Perfect

**STREAMITORIUM MAIN STAGE #1**

**10:40AM – 11:25AM PST**

Successful pitching is knowing the skill set needed to sell the project and yourself. Far too often, content creators are ill-equipped to cover the basics of their projects and blow their opportunities to get to the next level. Hear the pitching do's and don'ts from the experts and prepare to be pitch perfect.



Moderator



**Jenean Atwood Baynes**  
Exec. Producer/  
Writer, OCTVF  
Festival &  
Programming  
Director



**Brian Seth Hurst**  
Founder, Chief  
Storyteller,  
StoryTech®  
Immersive



**Catherine Clinch**  
Writer/Producer at  
Nuclear Family Films



**Mark Simon**  
The Godfather of  
Storyboarding,  
Author, Co-Founder  
of Sell Your TV  
Concept Now



# Dating Your Character

**STREAMITORIUM MAIN STAGE #1**

**11:30AM – 12:15PM PST**

Dating Your Character is a unique approach to creating believable characters – understanding their motivations so that their actions are organic to their personalities. The best writers let their characters fully imprint themselves on the writing process to the point that they take the creative lead. Join co-author Devorah Cutler Rubenstein as she discusses her Dating Your Character process that gives writers the solid footing needed to compete in a crowded, constantly evolving marketplace.

Interviewer



**Heather Hale**  
Film & TV  
Producer, Director,  
Screenwriter,  
Consultant at  
Heather Hale  
Productions



**Devorah Cutler-Rubenstein**  
Writer/Coach  
Owner of "Your  
Write Coach" &  
Producer / Instructor/  
USC/UCLA/Acting  
International

## Between the Sheets: Book to Screen 101

**STREAMITORIUM MAIN STAGE #1**

**12:20PM – 1:05PM PST**

Everyone has their favorite book adaptations. Not only are they trendy-worthy releases, they are a viable way to make a deal in Tinsel Town. Expert writers, agents and consultants are on hand to dissect the book to screen deal.

Sponsored by



Interviewer



**Ana Benitez**  
Founder, President  
of Storyrocket



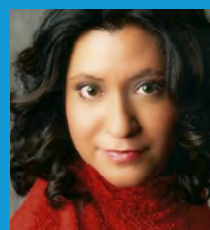
**Marilyn R. Atlas**  
Manager, Producer,  
Writer, Marilyn Atlas  
Management



**Randy Becker**  
Executive Vice  
President at LEVEL  
4 PRESS, INC



**Rob Edwards**  
Screenwriter



**Leticia Gomez**  
CEO & Founder,  
Savvy Literary  
Services



**Justin Steger**  
Producer & Literary  
Manager



**Henning Morales**  
Bestselling Author,  
Keynote Speaker,  
Filmmaker



Sponsored by:



## Make It Sizzle

**STREAMITORIUM MAIN STAGE #1**

**1:10PM – 1:55PM PST**

Your sizzle reel will either seal the deal or implode it. When do you need one? What is the anatomy of the perfect sizzle? How much is too much?

Moderator



**J.R. Stewart**  
Chief, Celebrity  
Acquisitions  
& Branded  
Entertainment,  
Industry Media



**Van Elder**  
Executive Director/  
Producer at Bullz  
Eye Productions



**Nikki Hevesy**  
Director/Producer at  
Through the Glass  
Productions



**Raiko Siems**  
Freelance Editor

## Pitch It!

**LOCATION: ZOOM BREAKOUT ROOMS**

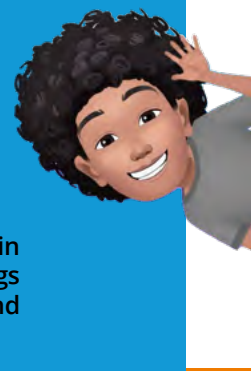
**2:00PM – 3:00PM PST**

For the first time ever, the Omni Cultural TV Fest is featuring Pitch It!, a live, virtual platform in S.T.R.E.A.M. World where participants get to pitch their hearts out in guaranteed pitch meetings with industry representatives from participating TV networks, studios, production companies and streaming services.

Participating Production companies:

A+E Global Content Sales  
Cactus Tree Entertainment  
Canela Media  
The Cartel  
Citizen Skull Productions  
Culture Creative Entertainment  
Industry Media  
Liverpool  
Maverick Entertainment Group

Sponsored by



Scott Sternberg Productions  
Small World IFT  
Shorts TV  
TLC, Discovery Life  
Paramount Global  
(formerly Viacom/CBS)  
Westbrook Studios  
(Will Smith's Co.)  
White Label Productions



# Where are They Now: Omni Success Stories

**STREAMITORIUM MAIN STAGE #1**

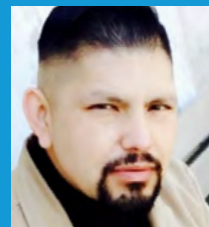
**3:15PM – 4:00PM**

Multicultural content creators are the heartbeat of the industry. The Omni family is proud to present a series of success stories. Join us as we celebrate our rising stars and find out what's on the horizon for them.

Moderator



**Shari Belafonte**  
Award-winning Actor,  
Producer, Director,  
Singer, Writer and  
Cinematographer



**Isaac Fuentes**  
Back-To-Back  
Award-Winning  
Content Producer



**Brandon Davis**  
Sold student film to  
Shorts TV

## NATPE Networking Party

**IMAGITORIUM MAIN STAGE #2**

**4:05PM – 4:45PM**

Sponsored by

**NATPE**  
NAVIGATING CONTENT



## Omni Awards Show

**STREAMITORIUM MAIN STAGE #1**

**5:00PM – 6:00PM**

Omni Cultural TV Fest's Best in Category Awards and honors to industry professionals  
Hosted by Zulay Henao and Gabrielle Walsh.



HOST



**Zulay Henao**  
Actress

HOST



**Gabrielle Walsh**  
Actress



**Roy Ashton**  
VISIONARY



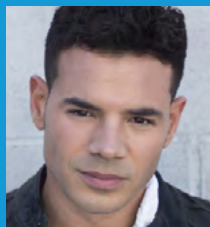
**Kuno Becker**  
INTERNATIONAL  
ICON



**Yvette Nicole  
Brown**  
CIRCLE OF  
EXCELLENCE



**Jimmy Jean-  
Louis**  
HERO



**Rene Rosado**  
PIONEER



**Nadine  
Velazquez**  
SUPERSTAR

**CATEGORY WINNERS: TBD**



# The Power of Television

IMAGITORIUM MAIN STAGE #2

9:30AM – 10:15AM PST

TV affects society while at the same time it reflects society. It can be harnessed to educate and inform or weaponized to mislead and misrepresent. The power of television is the responsibility of content creators and distribution platforms to ensure that everyone has a seat at the storytelling table that welcomes, supports and elevates the multicultural human experience. Hear from industry mavericks and changemakers who speak out about the positive power of television.

Moderator



**Lori Schwartz**  
CEO and Founder  
of StoryTech,  
Former Governor TV  
Academy



**Cheryl Martin**  
CEO and Founder,  
CMA Entertainment



**Jenn Miles**  
Executive Director  
of Brand Marketing,  
Disney & ESPN  
Media Networks  
and President of  
The WICT Network:  
Southern California  
Chapter



**Gary Pearl**  
Aquarius Content -  
CEO/Exec. Producer;  
Exec. Producer -  
"Jane the Virgin"



**Chris Wagner**  
Founder/CEO, White  
Label Productions



**Joe 'Jody' Williams**  
Cinematographer/  
Director of  
Photography

## Virally Speaking: Social Media Sensations

IMAGITORIUM MAIN STAGE #2

10:20AM – 11:05AM PST

Some take time to learn the tricks of the trade, writing and rewriting scripts, trying to develop characters that viewers want to welcome into their homes. Others capture a funny moment or create a persona that readily lends itself to short form content platforms and they go viral. Hear from social media sensations as they share their roads to viral success.



Moderator



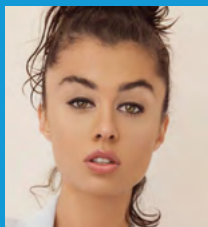
**Tash (CarnivalJedi)**  
Influencer



**B Mo the Prince**  
Actor/Writer/  
Comedian/Content  
Creator



**Eric Zuley**  
Dubbed <sup>TM</sup>The  
Digital Dick Clark,  
Chairman and CEO,  
eWay Network



**Noel Leon**  
Author/Stand-up  
Comedian/Influencer



**Concrete**  
Influencer



Sponsored by:



# What's the Deal: Distribution 101

IMAGITORIUM MAIN STAGE #2

11:10AM – 11:55AM PST

Distribution is the brass ring in the process of content creation. Yet, it is often the most elusive. Which platforms are ideal for particular projects? Is there a “secret sauce” or formula to make your content more distribution-friendly? How do you go about getting a distribution deal? Our distinguished panel of distributors, execs and content creators share invaluable insight into the wonderful world of distribution.

Moderator



**Liz Levenson**  
Int'l Creative  
Production &  
Development  
Exec, Cactus Tree  
Entertainment



**Tim Crescenti**  
Owner, Small World  
IFT and Entertainment  
Consultant



**Bruce David  
Klein**  
President & Executive  
Producer, Atlas Media  
Corp



**Pejman Partiyeli**  
Content Consultant



**Roxanne Pompa**  
Vice-President,  
Paramount Global  
Content Distribution



**Matthew Zamias**  
Producer

## Conversation with “Starmaker” Michael Greene

IMAGITORIUM MAIN STAGE #2

12:00PM – 12:45PM PST

Join us for an in-depth, behind the velvet rope Q&A session with Top Hollywood agent Michael Greene.

Interviewer



**Emily Tosta**  
Actress



**Michael Greene**  
Owner, Greene  
Talent





Sponsored by:



## Women Directors: Calling the Shots

**\*Celebrating Diversity Masterclass\***

**IMAGITORIUM MAIN STAGE #2**

**12:50PM – 1:35PM PST**

Controlling a project's artistic and dramatic aspects, visualizing the script and guiding the crew and actors in the fulfillment of that vision are just a few of the many hats directors wear while they hold the creative vision throughout the whole process, from pre-production through to the final edit. Hear from newcomers and veterans alike as they share the victories and war-stories of being a director in Hollywood.

Moderator



**Melinda Cea**  
Int'l Creative  
Executive Producer  
| Content Creator



**Sujata Day**  
Filmmaker, Atajus  
Productions



**Romell Foster-Owens**  
President, Jowharah  
Films



**Carmen Marrón**  
Writer/Director,  
Sparkhope  
Productions



**Shilpi Roy**  
Director/Writer/  
Producer of Digital/  
TV/Features

## Reading Between the Lines: Multicultural Actors in Hollywood

**\*Celebrating Diversity Masterclass\***

**IMAGITORIUM (MAIN STAGE #2)**

**1:40PM – 2:25PM PST**

The buzzword in Hollywood is diversity. Over the last couple of years, we have seen a change in the projects nominated for awards as well as the new TV shows and films being announced. No longer relegated to marginalized roles in front of or behind the camera, people of color are being offered significant opportunities across the board. Hear from working actors about the roles being offered, how they navigate Hollywood and what they are doing to stay positive and change the narrative.



Interviewer



**Cindy Cowan**  
Producer, Co-  
founder of Omni  
Cultural TV Fest



**Carl Gilliard**  
President & CEO,  
Gilliard Media Group,  
LLC



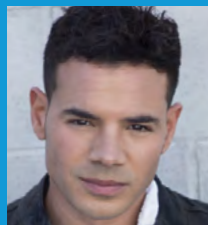
**Rodney Hobbs**  
Actor



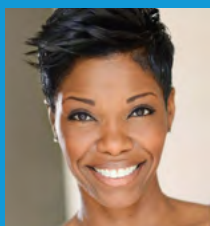
**Jimmy Jean-Louis**  
Actor/Producer



**Zulay Henao**  
Actor/Producer



**Rene Rosado**  
Actor/Producer



**Zondra Wilson**  
Actress/Author



**Sal Velez, Jr.**  
Actor/Producer/  
Writer



**& SPARKHOPE PRODUCTIONS**

presents



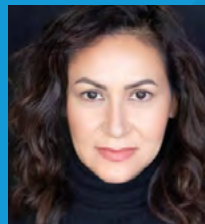
**WIN IT TO LIST IT**  
**GANAR PARA LISTAR**

## Special Screening and Q&A with Producers and Director

**IMAGITORIUM MAIN STAGE #2**

**2:30PM – 3:25PM**

Sizzle Reels of Their latest Real Estate Competition  
Show for both General & Hispanic Market.



**Carmen Marrón**  
Writer/Director,  
Sparkhope  
Productions



**Kim DeVenne**  
HWY 101  
Entertainment

## Kontakto: Star Search

**IMAGITORIUM MAIN STAGE #2**

**3:30PM – 5:30PM PST**

OPEN CASTING CALL!!! Following a panel with Kontakto execs, casting directors and talent, attendees will have the opportunity to interview with founder Isabel Echverry and execs from Kontakto, the leading Latinx talent management and entertainment for a chance to be represented by them.

Sponsored by:



Moderator



**Isabel Echverry**  
Founder,  
Kontakto



**Lupe Valdez**  
Theatrical Agent,  
APA, The Marlene  
Agency

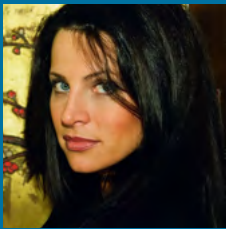


**Kathy  
Boyanovich**  
Head of Talent,  
Kontakto



**Alan Luna**  
Casting Director,  
ABL Casting

## 2022 Blue Ribbon Judges Panel



**TINA ARNING** is a comedic television actress best known as “Lola” on Tacoma FD, “Tanya” on Modern Family, and “Angelina” on Everybody Loves Raymond. A writer and producer who most recently penned and starred in soon-to-be-released web series “40-Something...and Single”, Arning, a native of Greenwich, CT, is a graduate of Boston University and a member of MENSA. Currently she is a Executive Search Consultant for Walt Disney Television.



**SHARI BELAFONTE** is the definitive renaissance woman. She’s an Award winning Actor, Producer, Director, Singer, Writer, Spokesperson, Photographer/Videographer and Film Cinematographer, as well as a Voice Over artist for cartoons, documentaries and commercials. Shari’s face has graced hundreds of magazine covers world wide with five Vogue covers alone. She’s currently recurring on AppleTV’s hit show, THE MORNING SHOW with Jennifer Anniston, Reese Witherspoon and Steve Carrell.



Two time Emmy award-winning **MARY LOU BELLI** has been directing television for over 30 years including NCIS New Orleans, Black Lightning, Bull, Legacies, Station 19, Pitch, Monk, Famous In Love, Devious Maids, The Quad, American Woman, and Hart of Dixie as well as Wizards of Waverly Place, Sister, Sister, Girlfriends, and The Game.



**LYRIQ BENT** is a Jamaican-Canadian actor known for his roles in the Saw films, the television series Rookie Blue, and The Book of Negroes. Bent portrays Jamie Overstreet in the Netflix series by Spike Lee, She’s Gotta Have It, based on the film of the same name. Bent has starred in various lead and supporting roles both in film and television since he began his acting career in the early 2000s.



**PETER ENGEL** is one of the most prolific producers in television with more than 1,000 episodes produced under his banner. He single-handedly created the teen sitcom Saved By The Bell, which he executive produced through all of its many incarnations, and which led to his many other teen series, including California Dreams, Hang Time, City Guys, and USA High. Peter produced the NBC iconic reality series Last Comic Standing, enabling the discovery of an entirely new, fresh generation of comedians. In 2016.

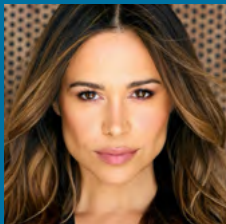


**GRIFFIN GMELICH** has over 22 years of experience in the entertainment industry with a focus on digital and physical distribution, Griffin Gmelich is a seasoned executive who has held multiple positions during his career. Currently he serves as EVP Content Licensing and Programming where he spearheads the efforts for content acquisitions, Whistle’s OTT service, as well new revenue opportunities by managing the entire Team Whistle syndication business.

## 2022 Blue Ribbon Judges Panel



**LORI HALL** has been working in the entertainment industry for over 20 years and is currently the Vice President of International Programming for A+E Networks' portfolio of brands (History, H2, A&E, Lifetime, FYI, Viceland, Crime & Investigation). She is responsible for working with all programming partners, including the global content sales team to monetize multi-platform programming worldwide. In 2022 she is a key strategic driver in launching new FAST channels.



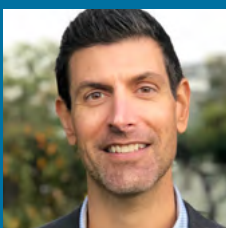
The beautiful and talented Columbian-born actress, **ZULAY HENAO**, has worked extensively in both television and film. She can currently be seen in the intense Sony Crackle Original hit series, *The Oath*, now in its second season, and in OWN's #1 hit drama *If Loving You is Wrong*, now airing in its fifth and final season (directed and produced by Tyler Perry). Ms. Henao also recently starred opposite Nicolas Cage and Kelsey Grammer in the new up-coming thriller, *Grand Isle*. Other credits include *Fighting* (with Channing Tatum and Terrence Howard), *Takers* (with a star-studded cast including Paul Walker, Idris Elba, Hayden Christensen, Chris Brown, Matt Dillon, and Zoe Saldana), *The Single Mom's Club*, and *True Memoirs of an International Assassin*.



**PATRICIA JASIN**, VP Azteca International & TV Azteca Pay TV Network a lawyer and businesswoman, with more than two and a half years in the vice presidency of TV Azteca International has strengthened the distribution of content of the television station abroad. With more than 20 years of experience, Patricia Jasin has achieved the recognition of the international television industry in the management, international sales, acquisitions and development of audiovisual content for multiple platforms.



**STACEY LEVIN** is Senior Vice President of Scripted Television Development for MGM Studios Television since she joined the company in February 2019. In her position, she is responsible for developing, packaging and selling scripted projects. Prior to joining MGM, she served as Senior Vice President of Television at Global Road Entertainment.



**MATT MONTEMAYOR** is Senior Vice President of Sales and Partner at Canela Media for the West and Central Region. He is responsible for sales including streaming TV, digital video/display, branded content and Canela Music. As a sales and marketing leader with 20 years of experience across Digital, TV, Radio, Streaming Audio he has worked for companies including NBC, Telemundo, Univision, Pandora Media and Emmis Broadcasting. With a strong focus on multicultural and the Hispanic market.



**GARY PEARL** is the CEO of Aquarius Content. He is a Golden Globe nominated, AFI Honors and Peabody Award winner and executive producer of *Jane the Virgin*. He also produced the highest rated mini-series in the last 20 years on television 10.5 that re-established the movie and mini-series market as well as the follow up mini-series 10.5: *Apocalypse*. He is also involved in the spin-off of *Jane the Virgin* and many more series in development this season.

## 2022 Blue Ribbon Judges Panel



**ROXANNE POMPA** is the Vice-President, Paramount Global Content Distribution. She has held this position since 2006 and has travelled the world selling and producing formats from the vast VIACOMCBS library that includes stellar scripted series titles from, *The Affair*, *Ray Donovan*, *The Good Wife*, and non-scripted titles from reality juggernaut America's *Next Top Model*, to iconic games like *Wheel of Fortune*, *Hollywood Squares*, and *Jeopardy!*



**NADINE RAJABI** is a comedian, Producer, and Pop Culture Expert. She is as dynamic and versatile behind the camera as she is when she's in front of it. For the past several years she has served as Executive Producer of Bravo's *Below Deck Mediterranean*, *Below Deck*, *There Goes The Motherhood*, was a Co-Executive Producer on Bravo's *Game of Crowns*, *Eat Drink Love*, and *Start-Ups: Silicon Valley*. She also served as Supervising Producer on *Miss Advised*, *Most Eligible: Dallas*, and *The Real Housewives of Miami*.



**CAT RODRIGUEZ** is Vice President, Unscripted Development and Programming, Lifetime. Based in Los Angeles, Rodriguez is responsible for developing and overseeing non-fiction programming for the network. Rodriguez, who joined Lifetime in 2019, currently oversees the groundbreaking, award winning series *Supernanny* which premiered its latest season in January, *Little Women: Atlanta* and *Marrying Millions*.



**CHRIS ROSE** was named VP, Scheduling & Acquisitions at The History Channel in October 2016. With over 400 premiere hours per year at the network, he is integral to leading the content strategy for all original series, specials and live events. Successful launches have included premium series *The Food That Built America*, *Washington*, *Grant and Evel Live*. Rose also negotiates deal terms for acquire



**GEOFF SILVERMAN** a Literary Partner in THE CARTEL, a management firm, representing the Television careers of Showrunners to Staff Writers working in primetime network, premium cable to streaming networks with clients working on shows for Amazon, Netflix, Hulu, Peacock, HBO MAX to Apple. He is co-Executive Producer on AMC's *CREEPSHOW*. Geoff began his career at the William Morris Agency and later as assistant at FOX to Bob Greenblatt (recent HBO MAX prexy). He was hired by Brandon Tartikoff (former head of NBC, ABC, Paramount Pics) as Director, Development at New World TV. In 1999, Geoff was recruited to run a TV unit for director Brett Ratner, where he oversaw their Sony overall deal and later one with WBTV.



**DOUG SCHWAB** is the President and Founder of Maverick Entertainment. With nearly 40 years in the home entertainment industry, Schwab has established himself as a leader in independent film distribution and as a champion for independent filmmakers across the country. Schwab has launched over 800 feature films since Maverick's inception in 1997. He utilized the expertise and contacts he gained as a Blockbuster buyer to launch Maverick and now leads creation, promotion, and distribution efforts for various genres within the independent film category.

## 2022 Blue Ribbon Judges Panel



**Lori H. Schwartz** is a true technology catalyst ('Tech Cat'). As a leading advisor and speaker in marketing and tech innovation, Lori collaborates with top creative and strategic executives of multiple brands, tech and content companies to ensure their understanding of emerging business models while designing unique experiences to create engagement. Los Angeles Based, Lori's objective is to work with forward-thinking companies open to new ideas.



**ROSE MARIE VEGA** has capitalized on her corporate background and track record, Rose Marie decided to embark on her own indie project, creating RMVISTAR in 2011, focusing first on the growing Spanish Speaking markets. From the optioning of the format rights by WBTV of the Argentina crime series La Chica que Limpia, originally produced by Jaque Content to development deal with major Studio and acquisition or co-production projects with US and LatAm platforms RMVISTAR is adapting to the new normal offering "Covid-Friendly" content, productions and formats.



**SAL VELEZ JR.** is one of Hollywood's most versatile actors, who can currently be seen in the Netflix Original Series Black Summer (2019) released in over 90 countries world wide and currently sits among top five shows to watch! In the role of William, alongside Jaime King, Sal Velez Jr was submitted by Netflix to the 2019 Emmy Awards for your Consideration for "Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series".



**PAUL WEITZMAN** has been a literary agent for more than 20 years, representing writers, directors and producers across all literary platforms which include prime time network, cable, streaming services, animation and feature films. He began his career as a paralegal at the entertainment law firm, Christie & Berle. Paul was the Co-Head of the Literary department at Abrams Artists Agency for five years before founding Culture Creative Entertainment in 2019.

## 2022 Festival Team Members



### **SARKIS SEMERJYAN** Co-Founder/Owner of Allure Banquet Hall

Executive Producer of the Kiki Mobile and owner of Allure Banquet Hall in Los Angeles. Allure is the preferred event location in Los Angeles for weddings, charity events, corporate parties and birthday celebrations. The banquet halls can be customized for any event.



### **JULIA CARIAS-LINARES** Executive Producer

The creator of Big Deals In Fancy Heels. She's a producer and television executive whose career trajectory has taken her into TV, motion pictures, short films, commercials and digital content. Carias-Linares' expertise is in sourcing projects, developing talent and securing intellectual properties. She has worked for three of A+E Television Networks' brands - Lifetime, A&E and fyi. She was part of the core team that re-branded the Biography channel into the lifestyle brand, fyi. And, was part of the Development and Programming team that produced some of the top-rated series for fyi network including Married Life (2017 Primetime Emmy Consideration), Married At First Sight (2015 Critics Choice Awards Nominee), Seven Year Switch and many more. In 2017, she executive produced Kiki Mobile, a one-hour, weekly magazine show on-wheels.



### **GARY BUCHSCHACHER** Executive Producer

Bio Coming.



### **JENEAN ATWOOD BAYNES** Festival & Programming Director

Jenean Atwood Baynes has work in multiple facets of the industry's ecosystem from major studios and production companies to talent agencies and non-profit organizations that produce markets and conferences for content buyers, sellers and distributors both domestically and internationally. She is also integral to the process of developing and presenting programming with high-profile speakers and VIPs around trending industry topics. Previously, Jenean served as Exec. Asst. to the president of NATPE and was instrumental in coordinating various NATPE-related events and programs. Her tenure included the very successful NATPE Pitch Pit at PitchCon and PRO Pitch at NATPE Miami where she was responsible for booking 50+ top level agents, broadcast, cable, digital and studio development executives and scheduling over 600+ pitch meetings.

## 2022 Festival Team Members(continued)



### **RAPHAELLO** Creative Director

Raphaello is a director/producer/writer and post-production specialist with over a decade's worth of experience. As a writer, his work has been selected for Writer Fellowships at NBC, Nickelodeon and ABC/Disney. He has accrued 58 film awards and countless nominations for his various projects from all over the globe including Best Director (for Curse of Salem and Rogue Planet Gamma), Best Action Film (for Bloodbath), Best Feature Film (for Stand Up Tall or Fall), The Golden Palm of Mexico and Best Script (for Spicy Mac Project) Best Special Effects, Best Edit and Best Sci-Fi Film (for French Bomber Detective). His work can be seen in advertisements Toyota, Virgin, Gucci, Doritos, China Airlines, Lipton Ice Tea, KLM, Adidas, Oakley, Target, Swatch and many others. His still photography has been featured in the UK including The Times, Evening Standard, TimeOut, The Guardian, and The Independent. He has directed two feature films this year, 'UNCHAINED' and 'The Year of Laughing Dangerously' starring Oscar nominated actors.



### **MEILING MACIAS-TORO** Executive Producer

Executive Producer & Talent Manager who founded MMT Media, Inc. She is experienced producing award winning commercials and content for brands. As Head of Production for Conill/Saatchi, Rapp Collins Worldwide, and The Vidal Partnership, she lead teams in integrated creative production for all media: TV Digital content, social, print, and experiential. Her campaigns have featured celebrities such as Celia Cruz, Edward James Olmos, Mary J. Blige, Paula Patton and Robin Thicke to name a few. Among her accomplishments are winning Best of Shows, Clios, El Sol, FIAP and TELLY awards. Macias-Toro, is also a producer of the TV series Kiki Mobile, a one-hour, weekly magazine show that aired on A+E Netowrk's fyi.



### **MELINDA CEA** Executive Producer

Executive Producer, Show runner and Content Creator with over 50 television credits who has garnered partnerships with Lionsgate, Scripps and production companies in Los Angeles and NYC. Creator of "Wild Food" for Scripps/Discovery Inc and Executive Producer/Show runner of Big Deal In Fancy Heels. Cea is an expert at developing talent and has had the honor of telling stories for His Holiness the Dalai Lama to President Bill Clinton. As an Executive Producer on OWN's Operation Change, she took the concept of "Extreme Home Makeover" to a global scale. Melinda has helped pioneer and launch many popular shows like NBC's Better Late Than Never, ABC's Secret Millionaire, The Bachelor and Bachelorette, Dancing with the Stars, and has produced alongside Mark Burnett at FOX.

## 2022 Festival Team Members



### **XAVIER “JDubs” VILLALOBOS** Content Coordinator

A creative writer and content producer. He has produced segments for television shows on Mun2, LATV, and Telemundo. Currently, he is the Imaging Production Director, and Voiceover Talent at two major Latin radio stations in Los Angeles. He brings over fifteen years of industry experience to help build new exciting content.



### **HANNA EL BAYEH** Festival Coordinator

Hanna El Bayeh is a Lebanese singer and lyricist with experience in Arabic, French, and English. He was a finalist in the Arabic language music competition television show, Star of the Gulf, followed by a period of performing and recording of his first single. He also has experience in Arabic social media and event planning, and working with elite clientele based across the diverse cultural backgrounds of European, Middle Eastern, Gulf, and Northern African nations.



### **ANA PICHARDO** Associate Producer

Ana began her interest in entertainment as a Media and Communications major at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. She started off as an intern in the Sesame Street workshop in the casting department. This led to an interest in working in TV/ film production and creating content. Her background includes producing, directing, and production managing in various indie productions. In addition, Ana brings forth her experience working in various events and the film festival circuit, including the Tribeca Film Festival and the Havana Film Festival.



### **KARLA SILVA** Coordinating Producer

Karla Silva's background is focused in the areas of media, visual communications, public relations, journalism, marketing, and business. Her ability to develop long lasting relationships based on providing value and building trust, has always been one of her strongest qualities. For 20 years, she catered her design, marketing and advertisement expertise to clients in the music and entertainment industry such as: Univision, BMG, Sony Music, Fonovisa, Promoevents, among others. Recently she transitioned into the finance and development industry, where she saw the growing need for housing and financial education. Karla is an Investor Relations consultant for Strategic Legacy Investment Group, a private equity investment firm that focuses on acquisitions and commercial real estate development where she is bringing valuable partners and strategic alliances to the company.

## 2022 Festival Team Members(continued)



**MARTINE MELLOUL** Volunteer Director

Originally from France, Martine Melloul was Executive Vice President of billion-dollar fashion house BCBG MAX AZRIA before pursuing her passion in entertainment and founding her own production company, Kali Pictures. She has co-produced documentaries for Orange Studios and Arte in France, produced two features; Breaking and Exiting and Beyond the Sky, and is currently working on a slate of projects.



**Joe Fox** Graphic Designer

Joe Fox is a Los Angeles comedian/actor, and designer with well rounded experience on and off the stage. Fox started Brain Street Design Co. in 2007 to provide graphic design services to performers and producers in entertainment. BSDC has designed major creative for the American Black Film Festival, The Omni-Cultural TV Fest, La Sentinal's Taste Of Soul, NBCUniversal, Universal Music Group, the Multicultural Media Correspondents Association, and HBO just to name a few.



**Gian Shines** Producer/ Social Media Coordinator

Gian Shines is an editor, producer, and writer who is also skilled at acting, martial arts-stunts, and music. He showed passion for the entertainment industry since he was a kid, and henceforth when a teenager, he created and coordinated school plays and performed at events. Since younger, he was on commercials, prints, and plays; including a play at the National Theater of his country of origin where he played the Steadfast Tin Soldier. Gian Shines regularly performs the jobs of writer/content creator, producer, D.P., actor, and editor; however he has also worn other hats such as production assistant, boom operator, and composer. "Whether it is in front or behind the camera, nothing makes me feel more happy than performing and creating" -Gian Shines



**Anthony Vega aka DJ REN LA'MOUR** Event Coordinator

Ren La'mour is a prominent track producer and mixer sound engineer. For the past 25 years he has been a Freelance DJ and has dedicated myself to making music track mixes for audience out there to enjoy and listen. He emerged on the scene in the 1990's with one goal in mind to share his passion for music and move the crowd to dance anywhere he would play at. Ren La'mour has played in the LA Underground scene from some of the biggest events put together like IMS Festivals, MainFest 2016 and the Special Olympics World Games, To some of the hottest nightclubs, private events, celebrity parties and city charity events throughout the Los Angeles area.



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### **Niamani Knight**

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### **Nikia Richards**

Director, Co-Founder + President

**S.T.R.E.A.M. Global Innovations** is a youth-founded 501(c)3 nonprofit on a mission of connecting the dots between education and career in low-income and underserved communities.

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We have successfully served over **31,000 people** through interactive exhibitions, industry expert exposure, and peer support and look forward to serving **31,000** more.



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