

WIFV NEWS

Members in the News - December 2021

Kate Tsubata, Kristin Reiber Harris, Andrea R Mihailescu, Bob Ahmed, Tonya Fitzpatrick, John Aaron, Stephen Ames, Karina Garcia

DANCING JOY Now Streaming



DANCING JOY Production Team:
Kate Tsubata, Producer
Lan T. Lee, Director
Mie Smith, Editor, Production Designer
Anastasia Shepherd, Colorist

The global dance film, DANCING JOY, undertook some massive hurdles to bring Beethoven's 9th Symphony to the screen through the medium of world dance. Traveling 56,000 miles around the globe, wearing the sensitive cameras through planes and airports, the 4-person crew filmed all 21 different dance groups in 58 days. The final film transports the viewers, through the music and dance, into each of the stunning locations. Breaking barriers at every level, the film embraces and uplifts each person, each culture, and nature itself. A perfect accompaniment to the holidays, DANCING JOY is a glimpse of what "Peace on Earth, Goodwill towards mankind" feels like. **More info at www.dancingjoymovie.com**

Harris Launches Blog

Kristin Reiber Harris of Kristin Harris Design has created a blog to document her process in the research and production of the animated short, OAK LEAF: A Life Story. See how the humble oak leaf, Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu and chemist James Lovelock play a role in the story she is telling. **[Read her blog here.](#)**



CRAVINGS Award Nom



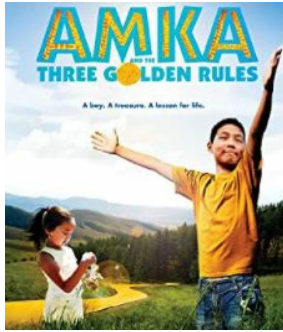
Andrea R Mihailescu directed and co-wrote CRAVINGS, for the 2021 DC 48 Hour Science Fiction Horror Project! It was nominated in two categories: Best Acting Ensemble and Best Original Music

Score. CRAVINGS is about recovering addicts who start to question reality during a rehab retreat. **[You can see the trailer here.](#)**

AMKA on Amazon; TIKKUN

Fitzpatrick Winning and

OLAM Gets Oscar Nom



AMKA and THE THREE GOLDEN RULES is released worldwide on Amazon Prime. [You can rent it here.](#) The film was written/directed by **Bob Ahmed.**

AMKA was reviewed in major press as "Chilling" (Village Voice), "Stunning" (Plain Dealer), "Breathtaking" (Filmthreat), and "Memorable" (WCBE/NPR). And was classified by Emirates Airlines as "one of the four great movies from around the world" in their onboard playlist.

In early December the California State Assembly recognized Bob Ahmed's short film TIKKUN OLAM as "groundbreaking" and awarded him with a certificate of recognition. The film is about a young boy who brings hope and dignity to a homeless veteran. TIKKUN OLAM has also won 8 "Best Short Film" awards this year. TIKKUN OLAM is an official entry for the 2022 Oscars®. [More info here.](#)

Travelling

Tonya Fitzpatrick and her husband Ian have earned the top prestigious Lowell Thomas Award (GOLD) from the Society of American Travel Writers for their podcast series "Escape from India during COVID-19". The three-part podcast series follows the harrowing journey of a travel journalist as she evaded Indian authorities during failed attempts to evacuate to the US as the virus began crossing the Indian borders and foreigners were blamed for bringing COVID into India. [Listen to the series here.](#)



Now that we're traveling again Tonya has been busy sharing travel tips on television. Tonya has recently appeared on CBS 5 in Nashville to discuss a local couple's challenge with a car rental company they contracted with in California. Tonya shared some ways travelers can protect themselves during this current car apocalypse. [Interview available here.](#)

Tonya made a second national appearance on *The List* where she shared 3 ways to protect your air travel plans. [Listen here.](#)

Aaron Takes New Job



WIFV Board member **John Aaron** is joining the tax department of Butler, Lavanceau & Sober, LLC in Columbia, MD. The CPA firm serves individual and business clients in planning, tax return preparation, start-up consulting, bookkeeping and payroll. John is a

screenwriter, script consultant and has lectured on film budgeting.

Ames Has Busy Fall

Stephen Ames (IA487) wrapped out a busy Fall as Video Assist including commercial series for both Under Armour and the Amazon Web Services - NFL collaboration. He also worked on the DC scenes of the Netflix movie RUSTIN. Then he was in Richmond for the Apple TV movie GRAVE DIGGERS starring Maribel Verdu, Ethan Hawke, and Ewan McGregor.

"For 2 weeks in an old graveyard under ever changing skies, the lighting, actions, props, positions and more had to match across setups shot over different days. Worked with Director, Producer, DP and Script Supervisor reviewing previous setups and takes for decisions of which scenes we could film - and ensuring elements matched."

Garcia Opens New Cyc

Studio in Colorado

Latina filmmaker and WIFV Member **Karina Garcia** opened a Cyc Studio in the cowboy town of New Castle, Colorado--Bandits Bend Studio. Bandits offers a professional Studio space, and is located in the Western slope of the Rocky Mountains. It features the only Cyclorama Wall between Denver and Salt Lake City--And yes, it is female owned! So just remember, there's Bandits in New Castle, and they want to work for you! [Check out the studio's website here.](#)



Karina is an award winning short film producer, and credits working at her family's Latino grocery store (in a cowboy town in Colorado) as the start of her film career. Her goal is to permeate the Chicana voice in the film industry. [Read more about her work here.](#)

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News Deadline

The deadline to submit your information for the monthly Members in the News e-publication is the 10th of the month. Send your article (100 words or so) and a jpg-format photograph or link to your video

About WIFV

Women in Film & Video (WIFV) provides educational and networking opportunities for screen-based media makers, celebrates women's creative and technical achievements in media, and advocates for parity both in



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project to director@wifv.org.



front of and behind the camera to ensure that all voices can be heard.