

# WIFV NEWS

## WIFV Members in the News - April 2022

Emma Mankey Hidem, Rachell Shapiro, Leola Calzolari-Stewart, Kiley Kraskouskas, Mark Ricche, Alyscia Cunningham, John Keltonic, Tanya Thielke, Rachel Searcey, Wonder Pictures, John Aaron, Long Story Short Media, BiLan Liao, Cheryle Franceschi, Jacquie Greff, Grace Eggleston, Randi Cohen Coblenz, Renee Eastman



### Game of Love is Back!

WIFV Board Member **Emma Mankey Hidem** was interviewed on **The List** in late March about how making date night game night can make dating less awkward and deepen connection.

Are your dating skills a little rusty? Or are you in a relationship and your date nights are getting predictable? Emma Mankey Hidem, creator and host of The Game Show of Love, tells viewers of The List four reasons you should make date night into game night to prevent awkwardness and create deeper connections.

### Flowstate Films' New Doc on PBS

Flowstate Films features the legacies of three African American ambassadors in a new documentary, **THE AMERICAN DIPLOMAT**. Filmmakers **Rachell Shapiro, Leola Calzolari-Stewart, and Kiley Kraskouskas** (pictured L-R at right) explore the lives of Edward R. Dudley, Terence Todman, and Carl Rowan. The ambassadors broke racial barriers by reaching high-ranking appointments in the Truman, Eisenhower, and Kennedy administrations. Yet, while spreading democracy abroad, they were treated as second-class citizens at home during the height of the civil rights movement. Flowstate Films premiered **THE AMERICAN DIPLOMAT** recently on **AMERICAN EXPERIENCE | PBS** and the doc will stream indefinitely on **AMERICAN EXPERIENCE at PBS.org**. **AN AMERICAN DIPLOMAT** is supported in part by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and WGBH.



### Cryptic's Women-centric Podcast

Cryptic

### Pan African FF for I AM MORE THAN MY HAIR

I AM MORE THAN MY

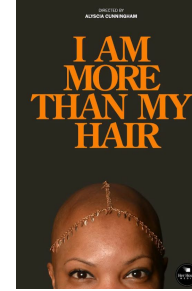
Pictures is proud of its continued commitment to supporting women



throughout the film industry. To wrap up Women's History month, we thought it fitting to go back to where it all began, with the release of our first episode of **CryptiCast Series 2: Women In Film**, in which we explore the film industry's first female filmmaker and studio head, Alice Guy-Blaché. Presented by podcaster **Mark Ricche**, with special guest **Alison McMahan**, author of *Alice Guy-Blaché: Visionary of the Cinema*.

Our latest hire for the **WALLA GROUP BLOG** is online correspondent Jennifer Katherine Birch. See her most recent article *The Instruments Behind The Music Of Horror* at [CrypticPictures.com](http://CrypticPictures.com).

HAIR is slated to debut at another leading film festival highlighting talented Black filmmakers. **Alyscia Cunningham's** doc will screen at the 30th annual Pan African Film Festival in Los Angeles, California April 19-May 1.



The in-person showtimes for Cunningham's documentary at PAFF are April 26th and 30th in Short Doc Series 2 screening to take place at Cinemark Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza 15 in LA.

For more information about Cunningham visit [www.Alyscia.com](http://www.Alyscia.com)

## Keltonic Web Scores!

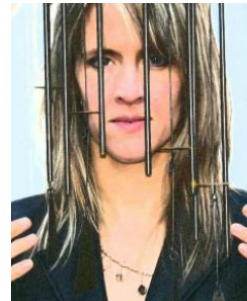
From **John Keltonic** - A lot of my work over the years has been creating music for film and television. For some reason, I've never been wild about putting the video samples on my website. I guess I preferred that people listen to the music that I've created, instead of watching the video that I created the music for. But in the past few months, I must have gotten at least a dozen requests asking to see the video for which I'd composed the music.

So, I am now officially giving in. ;-) I've put up a new section on my website with video links to commercials, trailers, and more than 50 complete films for which I've created the music. **You can click here to go directly to the page listing the projects (click on any project to see the video).**

## JULIE Goes to NYC

**Wonder Pictures** production of **John Aaron's** screenplay JULIE LEAVES THE NEST was just named as a Finalist in the Gold Standard Film Festival in New York City and will screen at the end of April.

## Thielke Composes for Searcey's Short



Composer **Tanya Thielke** has been hired by Director **Rachel Searcey** to create an original score for her short film **STAND STILL** exploring the theme of COVID isolation and re-emergence.

It's a perfect match for this particular composer's artistic style and methods, which are developed from her own field recordings; "neXt", sponsored by Sound Scene Global 2021, featured Tanya's own COVID isolation soundscapes. Rachel and Tanya met at a WIFT-US national networking event in 2021.

Tanya (a.k.a. Tantroniq and pictured above) has also launched a continuous audio installation in the form of an online radio station. Exclusively featuring her own content, the "station" operates 24/7 without commercial content and will serve as the hub for a number of projects. New material is added regularly, and the station is meant to be tuned into at any time. Currently, Tantroniq Radio is the home of "Search for Extra Terrestrial Audiences" or S.E.T.A. To learn more, visit [www.tantroniq.com](http://www.tantroniq.com)

## Long Story Short Seeks Your Vote

We're proud to announce that **Long Story Short Media** and **Leslie Grisanti Creative** have been nominated for two awards in this year's Webbys! You can help us win by voting for our nominees.

Our LSS Original documentary **HOME FREE** is a Nominee in Video - Documentary: Shortform: <https://bit.ly/37t0g7i>

And, our video for **Bind Benefits** is a Nominee in Advertising, Media & PR - Social Video: <https://bit.ly/3r93YcW>

Plus, our latest season of **Conspiracyland**, produced with **Yahoo News**, has been listed as an Honoree. This is the third time **Conspiracyland** has been recognized at the Webbys! <https://bit.ly/3NS3MZk>



## Liao Film Screens in Georgia Fest May 1

AN ARTIST'S JOURNEY FROM CHINA TO AMERICA will be shown at the **Georgia Shorts Film Festival on May 1**.

A true story of an immigrant artist, **BiLan Liao**, and her family, living through the dark and terrifying days in communist China to overcome separation, discrimination, starvation, forced marriage and death. Decades later, as memories still haunt her, she paints away her deepest feelings and nightmares onto canvas. Follow this extraordinary journey of a mother's love for her daughter, and her courageous pursuit of truth and freedom, which is so masterfully depicted through her artwork, historical footage and candid interviews.

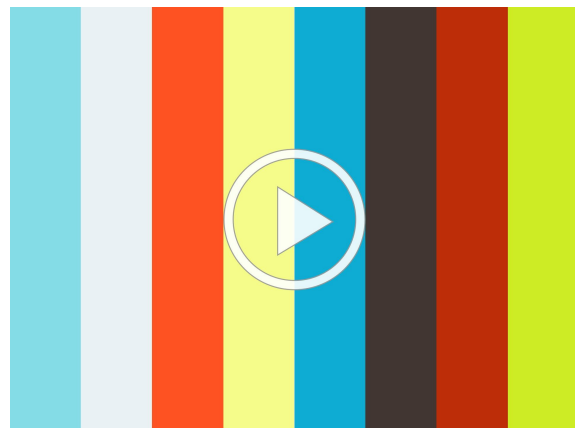


## FOREST HER in Post-Production

Por Eco Productions' **Cheryle Franceschi** is in post-production of her third independent documentary **FOREST HER: The Next Wave of Conservation.**

The stories of shared stewardship are brought into focus to help make connections to forest conservation. WIFV member **Jacque Greff** is editing film. Release is slated for Fall 2022.

Celebrate trees in your neck of the woods while watching the official trailer of **FOREST HER** below.



# THE ERIE SITUATION Premieres at Cleveland Int'l FF



Directed by CEF alum David Ruck and edited by CEF graduate student **Grace Eggleston**, THE ERIE SITUATION premiered at Cleveland International Film Festival as part of the Global Health Film Competition! About the film: "Is the lake supposed to be...green? THE ERIE SITUATION wades through the troubled waters of Lake Erie, whose highly toxic algae blooms are keeping boaters, fishermen, and water lovers at bay... Up against a strong farming lobby, scientists and citizens are desperately fighting for their own safety and the rights to protect their beloved water." [Click here to check out the website](#). CIFF will stream the film on demand from April 10 through April 17.

## Doc Roundtable News

By Randi Cohen Coblenz  
*Doc Rdtble Coordinator since 2018*

Doc Roundtable educates, informs and provides networking opportunities while addressing topics vital to documentarians.



Our focus this year has been on Preservation. In January we addressed preserving the integrity of the subject matter and explored the role of the producer to secure to tell a compelling story whilst keeping the dignity of the subject and not exploiting vulnerable individuals. In March we covered preservation from an archivists' viewpoint and why it is important to preserve one's work and the resources which exist to help in that effort. For May we turn our attention to the Preservation of Cultures. Our panelists will speak about their experiences in cultural filmmaking - whether existing cultures or past ones.

Held the second Monday of the month, the Roundtables begin at 6:30 and run until 8:00; this includes a Q&A from our Zoom audience.

Photo from March Film Preservation Roundtable: L-R Randi Cohen Coblenz, Anthony Labatte (Eastman Museum Film Preservation), Heather Linville (Library of Congress), Sandra Schulberg (IndieCollect), Caroline Yaeger, (Eastman Museum Film Preservation)



## STELLA Screens at Dakota FF

STELLA screened at the Dakota Film Festival, where **Renee Eastman** and her husband, Greg Berger (pictured at left), participated in a filmmakers panel before a live audience at the Belle Mehus Auditorium in downtown Bismarck, North Dakota. Written by Renee Eastman and directed by Greg Berger, the two produced the film and are partners in BergerFilms. STELLA, a short narrative film, won The Audience Choice Award at The Fifteen Minute Film Festival, Best Sound Editing at the South Dakota Film Festival, and was a finalist at the Mindfield Film Festival Albuquerque. [With STELLA wrapping up its run on the festival circuit, the full film \(8.46 min\) can now be viewed here.](#)

# Thanks to the WIFV Sponsors



## 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 project to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org).



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

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