



WIFV NEWS

WIFV People in the News - Sept 2023

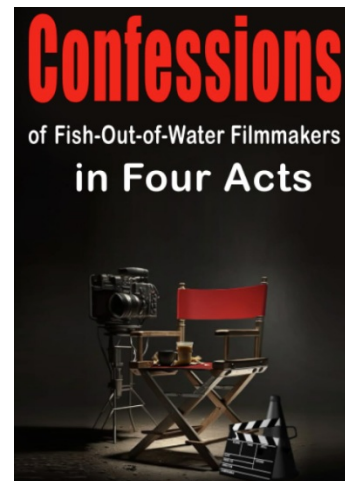
Natasha Klauss Soleiman, Marilyn Weiner, Ott House Audio, Cortina Productions, Mike Sobola, Wonder Pictures, Jean Rosolino, Matt Neufield, sheri ratick stroud, Alyscia Cunningham, Leslie Champaine, Three Seas, Renee Eastman, Greg Berger, Berger Films, Jennifer Koiter, Zahra Shahhatami

Past Presidents Scholarship Awarded

Natasha Klauss Soleiman has received the 2023 Past Presidents Scholarship for Mid-Career Mediamakers! This scholarship enables WIFV members, at least 10 years beyond their last degree and with a desire for additional study, to continue their professional development with coursework at The Workshops in Rockport, Maine. [More info on the scholarship here.](#)

Weiners Reveal All - Almost!

Marilyn and Hal Weiner announce the release of their "how-to" memoir, *Confessions of Fish-Out-of-Water Filmmakers in Four Acts*. Published on Amazon, it is available in both paperback and kindle formats. From the tenements of Brooklyn to Hollywood, the Weiners have seen it all on their way to becoming one of the most influential environmental filmmaking teams in the country. *Confessions* takes readers on a roller-coaster adventure that starts with their wedding from hell and features a blockbuster collaboration with Matt Damon, the ghost of John Belushi, slapstick with Milton Berle, a pioneering cooking series, and dangerous adventures on six continents, and three feature films. And now, after more than 50 years of marriage, Marilyn and Hal are ready to tell another enthralling story - their own! [Order yours here](#)



Ott House Congrats to Clients

Recent projects mixed at **Ott House Audio** yield the following congratulations: A shout-out to Nate Dappen, Neil Losin & the team at Day's Edge Productions for *HUMAN FOOTPRINT*, a new six-part science documentary, airing on PBS, is a part-science, part-travel series that takes viewers from high-tech labs to sweltering street markets, from farms to restaurants, and from primeval forests to the back alleys of New York to explore the ways humans are transforming the planet. [Watch it here.](#)

A shout-out to the Wondery team for *ALASKA BEAR ATTACK* in season 24 of the podcast *Against The Odds* about regular, everyday people who found themselves fighting for their lives against unthinkable odds. [Listen here.](#)

A shout-out to the **Cortina Productions** team for the International African American Museum (IAAM) in Charleston, South Carolina on the site of Gadsden's Wharf, where more than 40% of all American slaves disembarked after their forced journey from Africa to America. In close coordination with IAAM curatorial, scholar and advisory teams, Cortina Productions designed and produced 37 media exhibits that share a global perspective of the African and African American journey. [Learn about IAAM here.](#)

Sobola Publishes Drone Guide

From independent films to high-end movie sets, to construction sites and real estate; drones make it a fun and exciting way to work. But, how do you sift through all the information out there to buy your aircraft, find your customers and get paid flying drones? That's what this book is all about.

Mike Sobola will show you:

- How to start your drone business in the shortest and most cost-effective way possible
- Short cuts to start earning money right away – even while you're learning
- How to get real experience fast, and build your flying hours quickly-even if you've never flown a drone
- Pitfalls and areas to avoid-from a drone pilot who's experienced them
- How to find drone work, including who to contact and what they're looking for
- A list of 12 specific areas where drone opportunities are the greatest, including how to find the work, what skills and equipment you need to start, what the clients expect, and what you can charge for your missions.

Transform your hobby into a fun and profitable business with this comprehensive drone guide. [Order yours here.](#)



STAR TIME at Fests

STAR TIME, **Wonder Pictures'** latest film is starting to make the rounds of the festivals. It has been selected to screen at the **4th Dimension Independent Film Festival** in Bali, Indonesia and **Crown Point International Film Festival** in Chicago. STAR TIME is about Esther

Hayes, on the road fleeing an abusive marriage, stops for the night at the eccentric StarTime motel. She's told a room will only cost \$1 a night if she agrees to livestream her visit on the motel's YouTube channel. Awkward and self-conscious at first, Esther ends up pouring her heart out to her unseen audience, not knowing it will change her life forever. Actors include **Jean Rosolino, Matt Neufeld, sheri ratick stroud.**

But wait...there's more! Wonder Pictures has three films in the Catskills International Film Festival: STAR TIME; IMAGINARY FRIENDS and ENCORE LEARNING, 20 YEARS AND GROWING. The festival is October 20-27. [Get tickets here.](#)

Cunningham in WOCF Fest

Alyscia Cunningham's new film, NEGRO MOUNTAIN, screens at Women of Color Filmmakers Film Festival on September 16 as part of the 201 Director's Program. The film festival is a virtual 2-day event, taking place September 15-16. The screening on September 15 is films from WOCF Film Lab. [Purchase 1 or 2-day passes here.](#) [For more info about NEGRO MOUNTAIN visit Alyscia's website.](#)



CALL ME DANCER Premiere

Producer/Director **Leslie Champagne** and Director Pip Gilmour are pleased to announce upcoming screenings at JxJ of CALL ME DANCER. A Mumbai hip-hop dancer longs to become professional against his family's wishes. When he meets a curmudgeonly Israeli ballet master, Manish understands he must push himself beyond his physical limits if he is to succeed. [More info on film here](#). Watch trailer below.

October 15 @ 7:00PM | October 17, 18, 19 @ 7:30PM
J x J Theater| 1529 Sixteenth Street, NW
[Buy tickets HERE](#).



Winner of the Audience Award – Berkshire International Film Festival 2023
Excellence in Documentary Directing Award - NY Women in Film & Television @ NY Indian Film Festival 2023
Winner of the Audience Award - Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival 2023
Best Director Award - Indian Film Festival of Cincinnati 2023
Art of Storytelling Award – Doc Edge Film Festival, New Zealand 2023

Clean Cuts & NBA2K

Clean Cuts Interactive, a [Three Seas Company](#), is THRILLED to have wrapped another year of NBA2K with our friends at Visual Concepts! This year for 2K24, we helped work on an all new beachside city, crafting immersive ambiences and layers of detailed audio to bring the world to life. Everything from recording walla, to creating SFX for the vehicles MP drives around the city. There was always something new and fun to design! So, as you explore this year's awesome new features, keep your ears open for all the details we've added to create an immersive experience!



TN Premiere for BergerFilms

SUMMER SCHOOL, a comedy short written, directed, and produced by WIFV members **Renee Eastman** and **Greg Berger**, screened at the Tennessee International Indie Film Festival in Franklin, Tennessee in August. SUMMER SCHOOL, a production of **BergerFilms**,



was predominantly filmed in Tennessee and has been an official selection of five national and international film festivals so far.

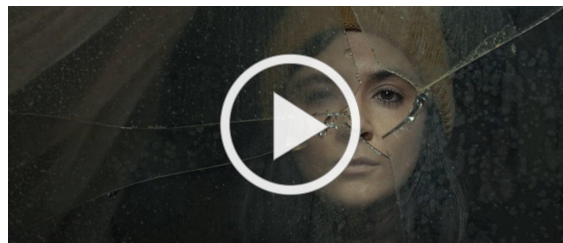
Koiter Film Screens in September

BIRDS OF THE AIR, a short film written and produced by **Jennifer Koiter**, will premiere at the North Beach American Film Festival in North Beach, MD, on September 16. The film will also be screened a bit closer to home at the Utopia Film Festival in Greenbelt, MD, October 20-22. BIRDS OF THE AIR is a subversively wholesome transgender coming out story, directed by and starring Black trans women. Give it a watch if you can!



Cinequest FF Premiere for THERE IS NO RAIN IN HELL

The festival premiere of THERE IS NO RAIN IN HELL, the feature debut film of WIFV member and Iranian independent filmmaker, **Zahra Shahhatami**, was held at the Cinequest Film Festival in Mountain View, California in late August. The film received the Global Landscapes - Global Vision Award (Feature Film) The movie is dedicated to the people of Ukraine and for peace & freedom for Iran.



War is the most sorrowful reality in the world. We all understand an injustice and should not remain silent when others are in pain. This film gives the audience the possibility to live the life of innocent civilians during war. The aim as an artist is to create compassion.
Zahra Shahhatami.

The film is distributed by Rolling Pictures. [More info is available 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.



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.

