Blue Bear Films



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Profile

A seasoned professional filmmaker, story development consultant, media designer, and communications strategist who has in-depth experience in traditional and new media production, and exceptional creative and team leadership. She shares this experience in the classroom as an Assistant Professor of Film and Media Arts at American University, Washington D.C.

Professional Experience

President, Blue Bear Films, 2005-Current

This dynamic media arts company provides story and project development, executive producing, producing, directing, and writing for television, film, and exhibitions. Recent projects include:

- National Geographic Education Foundation's Geographic Literacy campaign
- PSAs, Winner of the Aurora and CINE Golden Eagle Awards;
- "Tutankamun and the Golden Age of Pharaohs", an international blockbuster that has drawn more visitors than any other traveling exhibition in history.
- "Tutankhamun: The Golden King and The Great Pharaohs", a second international-traveling mega exhibition. The introductory video and audio tour are narrated by Harrison Ford.
- "Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the Whydah, from Slave Ship to Pirate Ship", currently traveling in the U.S.
- films won both the CINE Golden Eagle and Special Jury Awards.
- "Hidden Treasures of Afghanistan", started its tour at the National Gallery of Arts in Washington D.C., and continues to San Francisco, Houston, the Metropolitan Museum in New York, and overseas. A longer film, narrated by Khaled Housseini, is currently airing on PBS.

Senior Producer, National Geographic TV & Film, 2000-2004

Managed story development, programming and production for award-winning EXPLORER and ULTIMATE EXPLORER, National Geographic's premiere weekly nonfiction shows. Topics spanned extreme adventure, science, culture, environment, natural history, social/political issues, and war coverage in Afghanistan, Iraq and Liberia. Winner of multiple Emmys, Golden Eagles, Peabody, Dupont awards under my leadership.

Supervising Producer, Producer/Writer, National Geographic TV & Film, 1996-2000

Supervised story development and production of an innovative, first-person series, EXPLORER JOURNAL, featuring journeys with adventurous scientists and extreme explorers.

Producer, Director, Writer, National Geographic TV & Film, 1996-2004

Produced, directed and wrote programs for EXPLORER, including "Mystery Tomb of Abusir", "Profile: Dick Francis", "Flying Off Rooftops", "Surviving the Sahara", "Racing the High Sierra", "Passion for Pythons" and many others.

President, 100 Monkey Media Inc., 1992-1996

Launched a cutting-edge digital media company that developed and produced interactive multi-media. Created award-winning story-telling techniques in an interactive environment. Clients included Microsoft, Continuum, Apple Computer, and Humanities Software.

Executive Producer, Senior Communications Mgr., Apple Computer, 1989-1991

EP'd multiple series of field and live studio programs using Apple's state-of-the-art digital television studio. Developed communication strategies for U.S. and European divisions.

Freelancer Filmmaker, 1983-1989 Worked on a broad range of PBS, cable, network, and features. Produced, wrote and directed several independent short docs.

Teaching Experience

- American University, Assistant Professor, Film and Media Arts, Associate Director, Center for Environmental Filmmaking, Executive Producer, Center for Social Media
- Portland State University, adjunct professor, New Media Production, 1993-1995

Education

- Stanford University, MA, Communication, Documentary Film
- University of Grenoble, Foreign Studies Degree
- San Francisco State University, BA, French Literature/Film Theory

Additional Awards, Publications, Memberships

- Nicholls' Screenwriting Fellow
- Author, "My Kind of Town" (nonfiction, published by Chronicle Books,)
- Voting member of Academy of TV Arts and Sciences
- Board member of CINE
- Former executive board member of International Interactive Communications Society