



FILM STUDIES BULLETIN Spring 2017

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STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to our January graduates: **Raquel Perdomo** and **Alex Petrarca** (*cum laude*)!

Congratulations to our Spring 2017 Talent Award winners: **Tom Sack, Mitch DeAngelis, Liz Spencer, Sara Massa, Rebecca Norman, Cameron Evans, and Kyle Brouillard**. Their screenplay, film, and/or animatic submissions earned them a total of \$4,450 in scholarships this semester! Be on the lookout for another call in early summer for Fall 2017 awards.

Last December, we held our first ever Experimental Film Gallery Night. Students in Bonnie MacDonald and Vincent Bohlinger's course on Experimental Filmmaking (FILM 376) each selected one of their works to install in the Bannister Gallery for friends, family, and the greater campus community to experience in a museum setting. The event was a smashing success with over 100 visitors that evening! Congratulations to **Julian Borges, Ryan Gill, Adam Haley, Leah Kelley ('15), Alex Petrarca, Robbie Rhodes, Tom Sack, Spencer Serra, and Bobby Thibodeau** for their first public art exhibition – first of many, no doubt!

Students who completed Film Studies internships last semester include **Ryan Gill** and **Peter Howard**, who worked with local documentary filmmaking Christian de Rezendes, and **Andrew Roderick**, who worked for Hasbro.

Last semester **Alex Petrarca** made a short film documenting a masquerade ball fundraiser for the Sojourner House, a local non-profit center that helps victims of domestic violence. She is the third RIC film student to work with this vital organization: last year **Tom Palleschi ('16)** and **Monay McNeil ('16)** made a film commemorating the Sojourner House's 40th anniversary.

Spencer Serra and **David Posman** just completed a film about the North Providence Health Equity Zone (HEZ), an initiative to improve the nutrition and wellness of students and families in the Marieville Elementary School and Birchwood Middle School neighborhoods in North Providence. **Mitch DeAngelis** assisted them in filming on location.

Last semester, the filmmaking team of **Julian Borges, Enrique Castaneda-Pineda, and Alec Ematrudo** represented RIC in the New England Sports Network's second season of its reality competition *NESN's Next Producer*. NESN sent a crew to campus to interview and film the trio in action. Episodes are currently airing, and you can screen their film *Let Me Be Great* on NESN's [website](https://www.nesn.com/)!





Jonathan Wright, a visiting student at RIC last spring, had a paper on *Star Wars* that he first wrote in Kalinak's "Methods of Film Analysis" course (FILM 219) accepted for publication in the undergraduate film journal *Film Matters*. He joins the good company of **Joe Sherry** ('16) and **Erica Tortolani** ('13) in being the third student of ours to publish work in this journal! Jonathan has also had a paper that he wrote in Kalinak's "Ecocinema" course (ENGL 337) get accepted to the "Living Landscapes" graduate conference at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro – and this same essay has been accepted for publication in the interdisciplinary journal *Trans-Humanities*!

Our students don't just write fantastic scholarly papers; many also write for *The Anchor*, the campus newspaper, too! **Patrick Connolly**, **Tom Sack**, **Sara Massa**, and **Robert Gagnon** are all on staff and regularly contribute film and video game reviews, articles on popular culture, and other essays. **Julian Borges** is the Sports Editor and **Enrique Castaneda-Pineda** serves as the Assistant Sports Editor.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The **Ocean State Film Society** has a slew of events scheduled for this semester. Be on the lookout for announcements about the super-fun screenings and workshops they have planned for each month!

The Ocean State Film Society is hosting the stop-motion animator **Johanna Dery** at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, 24 February, in the Cerilli Screening Room (Horace Mann 193). We are delighted to welcome Professor Dery back to RIC to present and discuss her work. This special event is being held in conjunction with this semester's studies course on Animation (FILM 352) and production course on Stop-Motion Animation (FILM 377).

The students in Vincent Bohlinger's FILM 352 will be curating an **Animation Film Festival** at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 14 March, in the Cerilli Screening Room (HM 193). Students are each selecting a short animated film they love and writing a program note. These essays will be compiled into a festival catalog that will be distributed before and during the festival. Students in the course will also be exhibiting the flip books they created!

At 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 5 April, in HM 193, Ghanaian-Italian filmmaker **Fred Kudjo Kuwornu** will be presenting his film *Blaxploitalian* (2016), which examines blackness both in front of and behind the camera in 100 years of Italian cinema. Film Studies is cosponsoring this event with Modern Languages and Africana Studies with financial support from the Committee on College Lectures.

We are thrilled that **Christian de Rezendes** ('00) will be returning to RIC on Tuesday, 11 April for two special events held in the Cerilli Screening Room (HM 193). At 4:00 p.m., he will talk about the role of film festivals in the career of an independent filmmaker to students in Rosalind Sibielski's Film History II course (FILM 221). At 6:00 p.m., he will be screening and discussing his award-winning film *Raising Matty Christian* (2014). These events are being supported by the Committee on College Lectures and the Ocean State Film Society.



At 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, 13 April, in Sapinsley Hall, **Jane Wells** of the non-profit film distributor 3 Generations will be presenting the film *Night Will Fall* (André Singer, 2014). The film is about the *German Concentration Camps Factual Survey*, a 1945 British film project that documented the Nazi Concentration Camps (Alfred Hitchcock was one of the supervising directors!). This footage sat in archives until it started being restored in 2010. The Ocean State Film Society is one of the sponsors of this event organized by RIC's International Nongovernmental Organizations Studies (INGOS) Program.

The **Ocean State Film Festival** – now in its 10th year! – will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, 28 April, in the Cerilli Screening Room (HM 193).

ALUMNI NEWS

Mark Matook ('14) is a contractor in the field of digital media production working as a creative director and producer in advertising and entertainment. He's worked as a digital cinema advisor for LensProToGo. He's been responsible for the concept design of online video campaigns for *Men's Fitness* magazine. He's been a cinematographer, field director, and colorist for Shark Week and SharkFest features. And he's been a campaign designer for several hockey leagues and a field director for live broadcasts on the United States Premier Hockey League (USPHL) and the New England Sports Network (NESN).

Rob Himebaugh ('09) earned his MFA in in Film Production with an emphasis in Directing from Chapman University. He made the multiple award-winning *Eaglewalk* (2012) – about a Bigfoot-like creature attacking a children's summer camp (shot on 35mm!) – as well as *Silk* (2014), about killer spiders (and featuring real tarantulas!). He also works full-time at West Hollywood Elementary teaching technology and innovation, including filmmaking, animation, robotics, coding, architecture, and engineering. He is currently doing post-production for his latest film, *City of Ticks*, which was filmed on location in Guatemala (logline: rival archaeologists are driven mad by greed and superstition while excavating newly-discovered Mayan ruins deep in the rainforest!).

Tim Labonte ('07) screened his documentary *Who Did It? The Story behind the Clue VCR Mystery Game* at RIComicCon. The film won first place in the Historical Documentary division of the Northeast Alliance for Community Media. He's also working for the company that recorded and live-streamed the inauguration of RIC's new President on 17 February.

Timothy Geraghty ('03) is an experimental filmmaker living in New York City. His recent work explores the creative and artistic potential of 3-D filmmaking through anaglyph technology (which you probably better know through those old-fashioned red and blue 3-D glasses). Last winter, these films were screened at the prestigious Anthology Film Archives in an evening devoted to his work. He also edited the experimental '5-D' psychedelia and surrealism-inspired film *Imponderable* (Tony Oursler, 2015-16 [starring Kim Gordon, among others!]), which screened at the Museum of Modern Art last spring.



Nate DiMeo ('97) produces the acclaimed history podcast "The Memory Palace" and is currently this year's Artist in Residence at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. He was even the subject of an [article](#) in the *New York Times*!

FACULTY NEWS

We are excited to welcome **Mark Espinola** ('08) back to his alma mater! We are very fortunate to have him teaching a section of Introduction to Film (FILM 116) for us this semester. He recently earned his Master in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Lesley University with a focus on Writing for the Stage and Screen. His research and creative interests center around cinematic anti-heroes and spectator identification.

Derek Dubois won the Vortex Horror/Sci-Fi First Prize for his script for *Miss Diagnosis* at the 2016 Screenplay Competition for the Rhode Island International Film Festival. He has also recently had his essay "Imposition to Sight: *Sign's* Visual Technique" published in the new open-access Canadian academic journal *Mise-en-scène: The Journal of Film & Visual Narration*.

Vincent Bohlinger recently published a review on the amazing film *A Touch of Wind* (Olga Veremeeva & Elena Demidova, 2016) in *KinoKultura*. The film is mostly set in Buryatia, an eastern Siberian republic in Russia, and cleverly blends fiction and documentary.

The Film Studies faculty will be traveling en masse to Chicago this March for the annual conference of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS). **Vincent Bohlinger**, **Rosalind Sibielski**, and **Kathryn Kalinak** are all scheduled to be in attendance, with Dr. Bohlinger giving a talk, "Discussions on Innovations in Sound and Color in Soviet Cinema of the 1930s," and Dr. Kalinak participating in a workshop, "Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Film Music (But Were Afraid to Teach)."

As you can see from the above, there is so very much going on these days. Please contact Vincent Bohlinger, Director of Film Studies (vbohlinger@ric.edu), if you have any information for our next bulletin!



Special thanks to **Amanda Bussman** ('16) and **Tom Palleschi** ('16) for documenting our Experimental Film Night and providing the pictures you see throughout this bulletin!