

FILM STUDIES BULLETIN

Fall 2014

Welcome – or welcome back – to RIC Film Studies! With this bulletin, we are inaugurating a new tradition of summarizing some of the noteworthy achievements of students, faculty, and alumni from the past year while also pointing to some of the goings-on for this upcoming semester.

STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to our 2013-2014 Film Studies graduates: **Steven Barthelemy** (*magna cum laude*), **Chris Beauregard**, **Audra Geary** (*cum laude*), **Ayla Hackley**, **Shayna Johnson-Simmons**, **Kassie Lima** (*cum laude*), **Dan Mahar**, **Mark Matook** (*cum laude*), **Shakira Murphy**, **John Pannozzi**, and **Matt Seifert** (*cum laude*). Congratulations are further extended to **Steven Barthelemy**, who graduated with General Education Honors and was also the recipient of the Mark W. Estrin Film Studies Award for a graduating senior of exceptional merit.

We are happy to report that the following students completed internships over the past year: **Kassie Lima** at Breaking Branches Pictures under alum **Christian de Rezendes** ('00), **Aran Lyster** under filmmaker/composer/faculty member **Soren Sorensen**, **Matt Seifert** at Rhode Island PBS, and **Alex Watrous** at Water-Fire under alum **Tim Labonte** ('07).

Congratulations to our Talent Award winners for the 2013-2014 academic year! **Dayle Decker**, **Leah Kelley**, **Aran Lyster**, **Holly Mello**, and **Tom Palleschi** received a combined total of \$3000 in scholarships. This year, we have been approved to distribute \$4000 in awards, so be on the lookout for our call for submissions in December and May!

Congratulations to **Joe Sherry**, who was the 2014 recipient of the Tess Hoffmann Film Studies Scholarship, worth more than \$3000. As only a sophomore, Joe last April presented his paper "Shaping Spectacle for the Screen: Busby Berkeley and the 1930s Musical" at the University of Oklahoma in Norman at the annual Undergraduate Conference for the Society of Cinema and Media Studies, for which the acceptance rate to give a paper was only 29%. Last spring, Joe also served as the Collegiate Fellow in Dr. Kalinak's FYS on Film Music, and this fall he serves as a Collegiate Fellow in Dr. Bohlinger's FYS on Comedy.

The **Ocean State Film Society's** officers for the upcoming semester are **Joe Sherry** (President), **Dayle Decker** (Vice President), **Leah Kelley** (Treasurer), and **Aran Lyster** (Secretary). The Film Society is planning a number of exciting events for this year, so be on the lookout for announcements via e-mail, the Film Studies website, and Twitter.

ALUMNI NEWS

Matt Tente ('07) and **Derek Dubois** ('08) each had films featured at this August's Rhode Island International Film Festival. Matt screened his short film *Welcome to the Building*, while Derek screened his short film *Sinners*, for which **Soren Sorensen** composed the score.

Justine Mainville ('10) has begun the MAT Program in Elementary Education at Brown University.

Caitlin Massey ('11) has begun the MSED in Higher Education Administration at Baruch College.

Bridget McConaghy ('13) was recently promoted to Production Coordinator at 321 Launch in New York City, where she

works on 2D and 3D animated test commercials called 'previsualizations.'

FACULTY NEWS

We are delighted to welcome **Rosalind Sibielski** ('97) back to her alma mater! Dr. Sibielski completed her Ph.D. at Bowling Green State University in Ohio and works on girl culture – particularly the representation and discourse of 'girl power' – in contemporary film and media. Among her publications include articles on female werewolves, internet girl culture, the TV show *Veronica Mars*, and the movie *Memento*.

We are also very excited to welcome **Jennifer Dlugos**, a film producer and an award-winning screenwriter specializing in both television and film writing. Much more information can be found on her website: www.thescriptscribe.com.

With mixed emotions, we congratulate **Derek Dubois** ('08) on his acceptance to the MBA Program at Bryant University. We wish Derek the very best, but he will be greatly missed by us all!

Last semester, **Bonnie MacDonald** was named the Director of RIC's Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning.

In May the film faculty served on the closing plenary session at RIC's annual faculty conference 'Engaging Conversations,' which this year examined the topic of privacy. In exploring questions of audio-visual surveillance and voyeurism in films, **Vincent Bohlinger** discussed *Aelita* and *One-Sixth the World*, **Joan Dagle** discussed *Rear Window*, and **Kathryn Kalinak** discussed *The Conversation*.

Over the summer, **Kathryn Kalinak** traveled to the United Kingdom to serve as the keynote speaker at a conference on

"Hollywood's Musical Contemporaries and Competitors in the Early Sound Film Era" at the University of Surrey, where **Vincent Bohlinger** also presented a paper. This September, Dr. Kalinak will be the keynote speaker at another conference abroad: "Music & Movies: National and Transnational Approaches" in Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Faculty publications in 2014 include **Kathryn Kalinak's** essay "Global Practices of Film Music in the Silent Era" in *The Oxford Handbook of Music in Film and Visual Media* and **Vincent Bohlinger's** essays "'The East is a delicate matter': *White Sun of the Desert* and Soviet Westerns" in *International Westerns: (Re)Locating the Frontier* and "Self-Reflexivity and Historical Revision in *A Moment of Innocence* and *The Apple*" in *Cine-Ethics: Ethical Dimensions of Film Theory, Practice, and Spectatorship*.

IN MEMORIUM

We are greatly saddened to report the passing of **Kyle Cerilli** ('08) last April. Kyle had a wicked sense of humor and a deep passion for horror films. After graduation he founded a website dedicated to horror reviews and more, www.morbidlyamusing.com, which is being continued by **Andrew Cate** ('09), **Ross Tweedy** ('08), and other friends.

We are also sad to report the passing of **Ron Tippe** in August. Ron had worked for companies such as Warner Bros. (*Space Jam*) and Dreamworks (*Shrek*) before teaching screenwriting here at RIC several years ago.

All of the above was just a smidgeon of what we accomplished last year. Please contact Vince Bohlinger, Director of Film Studies (vbohlinger@ric.edu), if you have any information for our next bulletin!