

**FILM STUDIES BULLETIN**  
**Fall 2016**

**STUDENT NEWS**

Congratulations to our May and August 2016 Film Studies graduates: **Amanda Bussman, Joan De Santis** (*cum laude*), **Dayle Decker** (*cum laude*), **Chelsea Forrestal, Mackenzie Langlais** (*cum laude*), **Anastasia Lillpopp, Jason Marzini** (*summa cum laude*), **Andrew O'Neil, Tom Palleschi** (*magna cum laude*), **Joe Sherry** (*summa cum laude*), and **Monay Threats-McNeil** (*cum laude*)!

Congratulations are further extended to **Joe Sherry**, who won the Mark W. Estrin Film Studies Award for our graduating senior with highest distinction. Last fall, Joe successfully defended his honors thesis, titled "Mutual Aesthetics: Visual Style in the Films of F. W. Murnau and John Ford." This past summer, Joe was selected for a paid internship in film at the Museum of the Moving Image in New York City. Currently, you can visit Joe in Austria, where he is working in two schools in Kärnten (Carinthia) from September to May as the winner of a prestigious Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship. This fellowship is coordinated through the Fulbright Program in Austria and sponsored by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education and Women's Affairs.

**Jason Marzini** also completed an honors thesis, titled "Manifestations of Masculinity in Crisis: The Noir Films of Humphrey Bogart." Jason's project offered in-depth analyses of three Bogart films: *The Maltese Falcon* (John Huston, 1941), *The Big Sleep* (Howard Hawks, 1945), and *In a Lonely Place* (Nicolas Ray, 1950). If you think you might be interested in completing an honors thesis, definitely be in touch with a Film Studies faculty member for more information!

**David Posman** and **Kathryn Bowen** were awarded the Tess Hoffmann Film Studies Scholarship for 2016. This is a scholarship worth well over \$3,000!

Congratulations to our Film Studies Talent Award winners for Fall 2016: **Ryan Gill, Alex Petrarca, Jonathan Simskie, Julian Borges, Donald Cadman, and Enrique Castaneda-Pineda**. They received awards that added up to over \$2,500! We'll send out a call in December for Spring 2017 submissions.

Congratulations to **Julian Borges, Benjamin Loftus, Rebecca Norman, and Alyson Picard** for being inducted last semester into the 3.5 Society, an on-campus organization that recognizes especially high-achieving freshmen. They are in good company, as recent inductees include **Peter Howard, Maria Zapasnik, and Joe Sherry**.

Last semester, **Monay McNeil** and **Tom Palleschi** made a short film in honor of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sojourner House, a nonprofit advocacy and resource center for victims of domestic violence.

Over the summer, **Nicole Morra** did an internship on *The Discovery* and got to meet Robert Redford! She was then able to work a paid position on *The Polka King*, for which **Bobby Thibodeau** interned – and he got to chat up Jack Black!

**Ryan Gill** worked again last semester as an intern for award-winning documentary filmmaker Christian de Rezendes ('00) on his latest project on the history of the village of Slatersville.

**Kyle Brouillard** is working this semester with **Tom Palleschi** on the slideshow and videography that will accompany the RIC Theatre Program's production of *Frankenstein*. Be sure to check it out!

*Spring Break Zombie Massacre* premiered at the Columbus Theatre over the summer, and it opens in NYC this month. You may better know this film as the local 'Sam and Mattie Make a Zombie Movie' project. **Rebecca Norman** served as a production assistant (and managed craft services), and **David Posman** acted in six different roles: guy in crowd, court bailiff, swat team member, crying jail guard, red devil zombie, and demon zombie who bites party-goer on neck. Golly!

The **Ocean State Film Society's** officers for this semester are **Elizabeth Spencer** (President), **Julian Borges** (Vice President), **Enrique Castaneda-Pineda** (Treasurer), and **Alec Ematrudo** (Secretary). We will be posting announcements about upcoming Film Society events via e-mail, the Film Studies website, Facebook, and Twitter.

Our Film Studies students are active across campus! **Maria Zapasnik** is Vice President of Student Community Government and also serves as Chair of its Elections Commission and the Public Relations Committee. **Julian Borges** served on the Academic Integrity Board over the summer and is on the Student Conduct Board this academic year. **Robbie Rhodes** is serving on the By-Laws/Adjudication Commission of Student Community Government. **David Posman** is currently serving for the second year on the Committee on College Lectures, and he works as a tutor at the Writing Center (in case any of you ever would like his help with your papers!).

## RECENT & UPCOMING EVENTS

If you've recently ventured to our beloved Horace Mann 193, you've no doubt noticed the new plaque outside the room. Last April, we held a dedication ceremony in honor of **Kyle Cerilli** ('08), who passed away in April 2014. In attendance were



many of Kyle's friends and family – plus alumni, current students, faculty, and friends of Film Studies – including **Mark Espinola** ('08), **Tim Labonte** ('07), and **Ross Tweedy** ('08). The plaque was installed over the summer, and now the room is officially named the "Kyle C. Cerilli Film Studies Screening Room."

To commemorate the death of the great Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarostami, we are screening his famed 'Koker Trilogy' on Thursdays at 4:00 in the Cerilli Screening Room (Horace Mann 193) throughout September. We started on 8 September with *Where Is the Friend's Home?* (1987), will continue on 15 September with *Life and Nothing More* (1992), and will end on 21 September with *Through the Olive Trees* (1994). We hope you can join us for these absolute masterpieces!

Be on the lookout for an upcoming commemorative screening for Gene Wilder!

The Ocean State Film Society is sponsoring a visit by **Rebekah Burchfield**, Event Coordinator for O Comic Con (in Omaha, Nebraska). She will give a talk titled "Producer/Fan Convergence: Fan Culture and the Role of Fan Conventions in Film Marketing and Exhibition," which will be held during Dr. Sibielski's "Convergence Cultures" course on Tuesday, 11 October, at 4:00 in the Cerilli Screening Room. All are welcome!

At 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, 20 October, in the Cerilli Screening Room, **Thomas Doherty** will be giving a talk titled “Hollywood’s Censor: Joseph I. Breen and the Production Code Administration.” Dr. Doherty is Professor of American Studies at Brandeis University. His talk is open to all and is part of Dr. Kalinak’s “Hollywood Studio System” course this semester. We are grateful to the Committee on College Lectures for sponsoring this talk.

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Tom Palleschi** ('16) is screening his film, *The Sneaker*, at the 401 Film Fest this October – and excerpts of the film have already aired on the Channel 12 news!

**Holly Mello** ('15) was accepted into M.F.A. Programs in film at Chapman University, San Francisco State University, the Savannah College of Art and Design (with a scholarship!), and Temple University (with a scholarship!). Emerson College is the lucky school Holly has chosen to attend. Joining Holly at Emerson will be **Steven Barthelemy** ('14), who was also accepted into the M.F.A. Program in Media Art at Emerson College and given a scholarship!

**Amanda Shae Modrak** ('13) was accepted to Columbia University’s Master of Science in Nursing Program.

**Caitlin Massey** ('11) just earned her Master of Science in Higher Education Administration from Baruch College’s School of Public Affairs. She continues to live it up in New York City and is now working at Baruch as an Academic Advisor at the Macauley Honors College.

**Anthony Giambusso** ('09) lives in Los Angeles (near Seth Rogan!) and has published his first novel: *Letters, Emails & Texts I Sent to Francesca (On Account of I Love You, I Miss You, I Hate You)*.

## FACULTY NEWS

We are thrilled to welcome back **Derek Dubois** ('08), who returns to us after a two-year hiatus during which time he became a father and earned an M.B.A., with the distinction of winning the Bryant Graduate School of Business Award for Outstanding Student Achievement! Both he and **Vincent Bohlinger** have essays on the New Zealand short *The Beach* (Dorthe Scheffmann, 1995) forthcoming in the next issue of *Short Film Studies*.

Last semester, **Rosalind Sibielski** served on the Jury of the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Muddy Film Festival in Carbondale, Illinois and spoke on the panel “Cultivating the Wasteland: The Art of Narrative TV” at Drexel University in Philadelphia.

Last February, **Kathryn Kalinak** gave a talk titled “Transgressive Film Music in the Silent and Sound Eras” for the Distinguished Lecture in Musicology at the University of Tennessee. Over the summer, her essay “Scoring the West: Dimitri Tiomkin and Howard Hawks” was published in the exciting new collection *Howard Hawks: New Perspectives*, edited by Ian Brookes.

**Vincent Bohlinger** has an essay on the fabulous Soviet action-adventure trilogy *Miss Mend* (Fedor Otsep & Boris Barnet, 1926) forthcoming in *Silent Features: Essays on Silent Feature-Length Films, 1914-1934*, edited by Steve Neale. In October, he makes his annual pilgrimage to Pordenone, Italy for Le Giornate del Cinema Muto, a glorious weeklong festival dedicated to silent cinema. In November, he will travel to the Slavic Studies conference in Washington, D.C. to serve as the respondent on the panel “Stardom and Celebrity: The Actress in Soviet and Russian Soviet Film.” This panel is in conjunction with a book he is co-editing on Soviet movie stars.