Cleveland State University’s School of Communication Presents: The 2016 CSU/CIFF Filmmaker Panels
April 9, 2016

A series of interactive panel discussions with visiting filmmakers from the 40th Cleveland International Film Festival

Cleveland State University’s School of Communication, in conjunction with the Cleveland International Film Festival, is proud to host a day-long event featuring visiting filmmakers whose works are being shown in the CIFF. Members of the Cleveland State University faculty will participate as they moderate discussions on the art, craft, and business of moving image production for both narrative and documentary forms. Each panel will include an audience Q&A component.

Saturday, April 9

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Panel 1: Pre-Production and Funding Essentials

Which concepts make the transition from idea to production? What are the steps along the way? The range of activities necessary to take a film from conception to production will be explored in this panel, including the initial development of the project, the writing process for fictional works and documentaries, the logistics of casting, crew, locations, and scheduling, and the many additional planning steps necessary before shooting begins. Funding options will be considered, including crowdfunding, deferrals, product placement, pre-sales, tax incentives, various investor models, grants, and the traditional studio route.

11:45 AM – 1:15 PM

Panel 2: Independent Film Production

What are the critical procedures in the production of an independent film, be it narrative or documentary? This panel is dedicated to the complex process of production, including the variety of techniques used for the direction of actors/subjects, camera and lighting, production design and art direction, and other production choices. The roles of the director, producer, director of photography, production sound crew, and other key production personnel will be discussed, including aspects of the relationship of the production crew to the post-production team.
1:45 PM – 3:15 PM
Panel 3: The Documentary--Present and Future
How has the documentary form emerged as one of the most vital and exciting branches of filmmaking today? Advances in technologies for acquisition, editing, and innovative distribution have changed the face of documentary filmmaking. This panel will explore the expanding repertoire of production formats available to the documentarist. The growing popularity of true-crime documentaries (e.g., “Making a Murderer”) will be discussed, as will the introduction of hybrid narrative/documentary forms to film and television. The panel will consider future trends in documentary topics, production styles, and distribution mechanisms in this fast-changing marketplace of ideas.

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Panel 4: Post-Production—Editing and More
What happens to a film after production has wrapped? Post-production includes the manipulation and collation of image and sound to create an integrated whole. While editing is the backbone of the post-production process in filmmaking, other vital post-production aspects will be considered as well. These include music scoring and music rights, post-production sound (e.g., ADR, Foley), animation, and both digital visual effects and optical/practical special effects (which seem to be making a bit of a comeback). Technological developments have brought about changes in post-production workflow options, tools, and platforms that have made the highly collaborative process of post-production even more complicated and dynamic.

For further information about the panels and additional free educational programming at Cleveland State University during the 2016 Cleveland International Film Festival, see the School of Communication web site at http://www.csuohio.edu/class/com/. For panel updates, also check www.clevelandfilm.org/filmmakerpanels.

The April 9 panels, which are free and open to the public, will be held at:
Cleveland State University’s School of Communication
MU 107 Auditorium, Music and Communication Building
2001 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115
Parking is available on the streets around the Music and Communication Building and in lot “CG” behind the building, at E. 19th Street and Chester Avenue.