



PRESS RELEASE

March 17, 2006
CONTACT: John Philbin
Phone: 616-456-5926

WMFVA WELCOMES FILMMAKERS FOR UPCOMING DISTRIBUTION SEMINAR

The West Michigan Film Video Alliance is pleased to present three award-winning filmmakers for our upcoming seminar *Film Distribution – Off the Shelf and Onto the Screen* slated for Saturday, April 8, 2006, from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Grand Valley State University-Pew Campus, DeVos Center, Room 107 D, at 401 W. Fulton, Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

WMFVA and MCAI members receive a seminar discount price of \$35. Non-member price is \$50; full-time student price is \$20. Luncheon and beverages from event sponsors **Picture This** and **Café Solace** are included in the registration. Register on-line at www.wmfva.org.

Your Film is Finally Done...Now What?

David O'Malley, Los Angeles (*Screenplay-Fatal Instinct, Producer/Director- Kalamazoo?*)

David O'Malley, a Michigan native, has been involved in every aspect of the filmmaking process. Most recently, he produced and directed the comedy/drama feature film entitled *Kalamazoo?* for Londinium Productions and Two Islands Entertainment. *Kalamazoo?* premieres April 6 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. As a producer, director and screenwriter he has created numerous independent motion pictures. His involvement in the advertising, marketing, and distribution of feature films will give you great insight into what it takes to create a truly successful motion picture in today's highly competitive market.

Guerilla Marketing and Self-Distribution

Kelley Baker, Portland (*Sound Designer - My Own Private Idaho, Good Will Hunting, Finding Forrester*)

At a time when "independent" films have to have a star and at least a couple million-dollar budget, how do you get your films seen? Forget Sundance, Miramax, and PBS. These places get hundreds of submissions a year. From wooden nickels to websites, to press kits and reviews Kelley Baker walks you through different ways to get an audience to turn out for your screenings. He challenges you to assess the real market for your film and provides examples of other filmmakers getting their work out, after their films were turned down by traditional distributors.

The Wide World of Shorts

Harper Philbin, Grand Rapids (*Flickering Blue, The Freezer Jesus*)

A Chicago native, John Harper Philbin has made a dozen shorts that have played in film festivals across North America. He has done extensive research into all the various markets for short films and recently gave his presentation, "The Wide World of Shorts: Lessons from the Film Festival Circuit" at Columbia College Chicago and the Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities. His related article will be published in the upcoming Grand Valley Review. Philbin is an Associate Professor of Film & Video Production at Grand Valley State University.

- Presenter Bios Next Page -

West Michigan Film Video Alliance

Mission: To promote a thriving film and video production community in West Michigan.

Presenter Bios - Additional

David O'Malley, Los Angeles

Following graduation from Michigan State University in film studies, he immediately began working in the entertainment industry, with brief detours as a journalist, radio news director and disc jockey, and a mercifully short attempt at stand-up comedy. As VP of Production for HMS Productions, he helped guide their first feature motion picture, *Deadly Fathoms*, to a Silver Medal at the Atlanta International Film Festival. After a brief period writing for network television, O'Malley launched a career writing and directing several independent feature-length motion pictures. In the 1980s, he co-founded Wind River Productions and then went on to create his own film development company, Serendipity Productions.

O'Malley teamed with Michael Spence to form the Guerrilla Film Unit and write the screenplay *Edge of Honor*, an action drama that he produced and Mr. Spence directed. After his comedy screenplay was directed by Carl Reiner for MGM and released as *Fatal Instinct*, O'Malley went on to write screenplays for Tri-Star Pictures, David Permut Presentations, Hollywood Pictures, Walt Disney Productions, Richard Zanuck and MGM. In 1997, he teamed again with Mr. Spence, forming Two Islands Entertainment to produce high-quality motion pictures on realistic and reasonable budgets. After his work on *Kalamazoo?*, he produced the supernatural thriller, *The Dread*, for the newly formed Safe Harbor Entertainment. He is currently at work on the suspense thriller, *Dark Honeymoon*.

Kelley Baker, Portland, Oregon

Kelley Baker is well known for working with other people. He was the sound designer on six of Gus Van Sant's feature films including, *My Own Private Idaho*, *Good Will Hunting*, and *Finding Forrester*. He designed the sound on Todd Haynes feature film, *Far From Heaven*, with Dennis Quaid and Julianne Moore. Baker has also written and directed three full-length features.

Baker attended the University of Southern California. He received a BA (1980) and an MFA (1982) in Film Production, and did some post graduate work at the American Film Institute (1989). He has spent the last three years touring the US teaching his subversive brand of filmmaking at workshops and showing his films to audiences at Art House Theaters, Colleges, Universities, and Media Art Centers. Kelley has appeared in over 60 cities and 80 venues. (For more information check out www.angryfilmmaker.com)