



Presenter Biographies – ScriptDC 24

Marilyn R. Atlas is a talent and literary manager and award-winning producer. Her clients have appeared in shows such as STAR TREK, FRINGE, PRETTY LITTLE LIARS, HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER, 90210, REVENGE, HART OF DIXIE, NCIS:LA, TRUE BLOOD, DEXTER, CHUCK, CASTLE, and CRIMINAL MINDS. She was film producer on REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES for HBO, which won the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival; A CERTAIN DESIRE, starring Sam Waterston; and ECHOES, which won the Gold Award at the Texas International Film Festival.

In addition to producing a variety of programming for the cable/pay TV market. In live theater, Marilyn co-produced the West Coast premiere of the musical *God Bless You Mr. Rosewater* by Ashman and Menken (the writers of ENCHANTED and TANGLED). She also co-produced the award-winning play *To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday*.

Marilyn herself has been in development on pilots for Showtime and ABC Family. In addition to Marilyn's film/TV credits, she has sold (first time) novels *Chasing the Jaguar* to HarperCollins to Hachette Book Ave Maria Bed & Breakfast to Grand Central Publishing, and the Hungry Woman in Paris, Group, and the Last Ride of Caleb O'Toole to Sourcebooks Her Lifetime movie THE CHOKING GAME based on the YA book by Diana Lopez aired in summer 2014. She is also featured in the book *Write Now!* from Penguin/Tarcher. She is the co-author of a relationship-based, screenwriting guide called *Dating Your Character*, about an organic approach to character creation for Stairway Press.

Kevin Hill is an engineer, producer, songwriter and sound artist who, for 25 years, has worked his way through live theatre, the music industry, A/V installation and composing, ultimately transitioning into post-production sound. In 2001, realizing his passion for film and cinema, Kevin founded Studio Unknown. By 2008, Kevin fully committed to offering filmmakers in the mid-Atlantic area a proper platform for cinematic sound and built the region's first ever Dolby® Approved dub stage. Working on larger and larger productions introduced Studio Unknown to producers and filmmakers across the country, including Los Angeles, thus driving the company to expand its services to the west coast. After many years of hard work, dedication, persistence and his amazing partners, this studio model naturally led to the connections and relationships that helped form - Sound Department.

Kevin is primarily a Re-recording Mixer, dialogue editor and supervising sound editor. His sound work has been heard at film festivals across the world including SXSW, Toronto, Tribeca, Berlin, Cannes, and more. Broadcast credits include sound design and mix for programs for ABC, Lifetime, Discovery, Noggin and National Geographic. With over 250 film titles to his name, many currently on Netflix, Hulu, Amazon and iTunes, Kevin has been a part of projects that have taken or been nominated for awards nationwide including the Emmy's, Telly's, Addy's, CINE and MPSE. He is an active member of the Cinema Audio Society and has served as an adjunct professor at Anne Arundel Community College teaching Audio Production.

Jaime Horigan has a penchant for relationship building and communication, along with his somewhat obsessive attention to detail, are largely why he is a managing partner for Sound Department. First a bassist, then a live sound engineer, Jaime has always been involved with music and audio. He was introduced to post-production in the early 2000s when he started collaborating with Studio Unknown partner Kevin Hill. It was then that he fell in love with sound as a medium to support visual arts. In 2005, he joined Studio Unknown to help with sales and marketing, soon becoming the company's managing partner and expanded the company's client base to Los Angeles. 2017 found Jaime bonding with Juan Campos over cocktails and common work ethics. After two years of regular collaboration, it became clear that joining forces was a win-win for all, thus forming the bond that would soon become known as Sound Department.

As managing partner, Jaime's responsibilities include all areas of business, with a focus on client and team relations, and keeping the proverbial ducks in a row. Jaime serves as a Board member with the MD Film Industry Coalition, an advocacy group for film and television production in Maryland. Jaime also co-manages and performs in the regional band Sweet Leda with wife and vocalist, Julie Cymek.

Robert Lodge is a highly skilled and versatile Cinematographer, renowned for his exceptional talent in visual storytelling. With a keen eye for detail, Robert has mastered the art of using lighting and camera movement to evoke powerful emotions that resonate with audiences. Born with a passion for the visual arts, Robert's journey began as he delved into the world of cinematography and lighting, capturing moments that transcend the screen. His work reflects a deep understanding of the nuances of filmmaking, allowing viewers to connect with the narrative on a profound level.

Beyond his expertise behind the camera, Robert is a true multimedia virtuoso. As a professional video editor, he seamlessly weaves together scenes, enhancing the overall impact of his visual narratives. His editing prowess transforms raw footage into cinematic masterpieces, showcasing his dedication to the craft. Robert is also a proficient visual effects artist, graphic designer, web designer, and e-commerce expert.

Known as a jack of all trades and a master of many, Robert continues to push boundaries in the world of visual storytelling and multimedia. His ability to seamlessly integrate cinematography, editing, visual effects, and graphic design reflects a rare combination of skills that sets him apart in the industry. As technology evolves, so does Robert's commitment to innovation, ensuring that his work continues to captivate and inspire audiences worldwide.

Matthew McDonell is a freelance filmmaker and aspiring cinematographer based in the DMV. With a background that includes four years of service in the United States Marine Corps Infantry, Matthew transitioned to studying Electronic Media & Film at Towson University, where he graduated in May 2023. His experience in the camera and lighting departments has sharpened his skills in visual storytelling. During his studies, Matthew discovered a deep passion for color correction and grading, a skillset that has significantly enhanced his cinematography. After excelling in this area, he went on to serve as a teaching assistant for the color correction course for two semesters, further solidifying his expertise. Matthew is committed to capturing beautiful images that evoke strong emotions and tell compelling stories that engage audiences.

Mike Rose is a lighting designer and photographer who has collaborated with brands like National Geographic, Bravo, and PBS. His expertise spans corporate, government, and reality TV productions, where he is recognized for his creative and technical approach. When he's not working on a video production, he's focused on photographing DC's lively music scene.

Nina Gilden Seavey is an Emmy Award-winning documentarian with a 35-year career in the non-fiction world. Her projects can be seen in theaters, on television and digital media, in museum installations, heard in podcasts, and read in print and on-line publications across the globe.

Seavey is the Founding Director of The Documentary Center at the George Washington University which she led for 30 years. She currently holds the academic rank of Research Professor Emerita of History and of Media and Public Affairs at GWU. She is also the Founding Director of SILVERDOCS, the documentary festival hosted by the American Film Institute (AFI). Under her decade-long leadership, the festival became the largest showcase for documentaries in the US.

Information about Seavey's long stewardship and activities in the documentary film world can be seen at [Seavey Media](#)

Connie St. John has been an industry executive for more than 30 years. She began her entertainment career in publicity at Columbia TriStar Television in Los Angeles. She then joined Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. in Atlanta, first in their TNT Originals division, then heading the PR department for Turner Program Services, the syndication division. Connie then joined Harpo Productions, managing PR for Oprah Winfrey. While there, she successfully pitched the idea for what would become Oprah's Angel Network. She also oversaw the PR campaign for *Oprah Runnin' Wild with Tina*, traveling on tour with Oprah and Tina Turner. Later, Connie joined the Public Responsibility department at Sara Lee Corporation, where she and her team addressed issues of concern for women and minorities on a local, national, and global scale.

In 1999, Connie returned to LA and founded her production company No Weapon Productions, which produces family friendly entertainment for the screen and stage. Her award-winning first short film, THE MESSAGE, screened in festivals around the country, as well as at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival. Her second short film, ASUNDER, was also screened at Cannes. In addition to writing shorts, television spec scripts, and full-length features, Connie has written and produced more than 100 stage plays and skits.

After 20 years in California, Connie returned to Washington, DC in 2019. She re-launched No Weapon Productions, and established a consulting company, the St. John Consulting Group, through which she works with cultural influencers. She also serves on the executive board of the number one arts school in the country, L.A. County High School for the Arts.