



OMDC

INTEGRATION NEWSLETTER

August 2003

The OMDC plays an important role in Ontario's book publishing, music, interactive digital media, film, magazine publishing and television industries.

Al Waxman Calling Card Short Films: Two to Shoot, One to Screen at TIFF...

The OMDC is pleased to announce the following successful candidates to the New Voices, New Visions Al Waxman Calling Card Drama Program: *Safe*, produced by Bryce Mitchell and directed by Kris Booth, and *Elliot Smelliot*, produced by Jonathan Orson and directed by Anita Doron.

Safe is the story of Bobby Grey, a boy who has been told what to do since the day he was born. His parents won't let him grow up or follow his true dream; Bobby finds himself attending business school just as his father did. On his first night in his new apartment, Bobby notices that there is a safe in the corner of the room. Not knowing where it came from, he decides that he needs to know what is inside. He discovers that the key to unlocking the safe is the same as the one he needs to unlock his dreams.

Elliot Smelliot is a simple romantic story of 12-year-old Elliot Graf who is widely known to be a genius and is always expected to act like a grown-up. He may be able to mask it well, but Elliot is truly out of his element. Elliot tutors 20-year-old Kate May in chemistry, but academically speaking, she too is out of her element. It's through this tutoring that Elliot develops a crush on Kate and becomes desperate for her to succeed in chemistry. One night after studying, Kate takes Elliot out for dinner and he decides to open his heart to her, only to have it returned broken.

One of the successes of the OMDC Calling Card program is the attention and recognition that new filmmakers achieve, including this year's selection of *Pop Song* from the Calling Card filmmaking team of David "Huey" Hayman (Producer) and Charles Officer (Director) in the Perspective Canada Program at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). Charles Officer is a very stylistic up-and-coming director whose last short film *Short Hymn Silent War* showcased this rising new talent.

"The OMDC Calling Card program was a wonderful experience, not only because of the great short film that we were able to produce, but also because the process solidified our wonderful creative and productive director/producer relationship," says Hayman. "Charles and I found that we work quite well together and there is no doubt we will be doing this again in the near future. We have a couple of exciting projects in early development right now, one which, once again, relies heavily on music and harmony. It is only a matter of time before a Hayman/Officer feature film is playing at TIFF. We will both continue to work hard to get there and we know we will."

Interested in screening past Calling Card films? Compilations are now available at Cinematheque's Film Reference Library, at 2 Carlton Street in Toronto. There are six Drama compilations and one Documentary compilation available for borrowing. Please call 416-967-1517 for more information.

E-mail your news and events by the third Thursday of the month to newsletter@omdc.on.ca

To add or remove yourself from this newsletter list, e-mail Hodan Waberi at hwaberi@omdc.on.ca

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The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the OMDC

Congratulations!

The OMDC is pleased to announce the following successful applicants for the second round of BookMark: Annick Press, Between the Lines, Coach House Books, ECW Press, Guernica Editions, Natural Heritage Publications, Pedlar Press, Pembroke Publishers, The Porcupine's Quill, and Thompson Educational Publishing. These publishers will each receive \$10,000 in funding for the marketing of new titles by new Canadian authors. In addition, they attended a workshop with internet marketing expert Steve

O'Keefe of Patron Saint Productions in New Orleans and had one-on-one meetings with Steve who gave them advice on how to best implement their marketing plans.

The fifth annual Urban Music Awards (UMA) Gala, held on July 31 at Toronto's St. Lawrence Centre, honoured some of the most vibrant talent in our country, including Best New Artist Shawn Desmond. For details see www.umac.ca.

OMDC Program Deadlines and Events

Aug. 11 | Deadline for applications to the **Toronto International Film Festival Match Club Market Access Program**. The OMDC will assist up to 10 feature film producers in attending this initiative through the Market Access Program. For further information and a complete set of guidelines, please contact Cynthia Lynch at 416-642-6654.

Aug. 13 | Next deadline for the **OMDC's Sector Organization Support (SOS) Program**, which offers financial support to incorporated not-for-profit industry organizations undertaking professional development initiatives. These initiatives must advance the professional development needs of the participants and provide networking opportunities with other professionals. SOS will also encourage applications from organizations undertaking initiatives with multi-sector and convergence focused content. For the complete guideline and application package, please visit the OMDC Web site at www.omdc.on.ca.

Aug. 25 | Submissions due for the **Al Waxman Calling Card Program for Documentary**. The program gives producers the opportunity to hone their skills, demonstrate their abilities, and prove their readiness to make commercial-length, market supported projects. Completed films are promoted through an industry screening and a premiere broadcast on TVOntario. See www.omdc.on.ca.

Aug. 28 | Information session will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. for applicants interested in the second round of the **Pioneering Content** program. The program provides cash grants of up to \$70,000 for the creation of a prototype or proof-of-concept for commercialization. Eligible projects will involve at least two collaborating organizations from different cultural media industries. Potential applicants are encouraged to attend this session, for which registration is mandatory. You may register online on our Web site at www.omdc.on.ca.

Aug.29 | Deadline for applications to the **OMDC's Market Access Program to the Frankfurt Book Fair**. Up to four Ontario publishers will receive financial and strategic assistance to attend the Fair through this program. Visit www.omdc.on.ca for guidelines and an application package.

Sept. 22 | Deadline at 5 p.m. for **Volume One: A Magazine Start-Up Program**. This initiative will provide up to \$75,000 each to three teams launching a new magazine in Ontario. In addition to the funding, winning teams will receive consulting time with industry experts in key areas of the magazine publishing business, including editorial, ad sales, art direction, marketing and circulation management. The winners will also be part of a launch event for all of the new titles, hosted by the OMDC. For guidelines and an application package see www.omdc.on.ca.

OMDC Supported Events and Program Deadlines

Aug. 29-30 | **Toronto Urban Music Festival** at Toronto's Canadian National Exhibition (CNE). Presented by *WORD Magazine*, this festival showcases the best in urban music and lifestyle. It includes performances in Hip Hop, R&B, gospel, spoken word, dance and poetry, as well as a conference on topics that are of interest to the urban music community. Visit the Web site at www.tumf.net.

Sept. 10 | **Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television Speaker Series**. These panel discussions cover topics ranging from the future of the National Film Board to expectations of digital television to updates on the status of convergence. They provide resources and information and invaluable networking opportunities.

- Sept. 10 | **Interactive Television** with Nicole Hamilton (*Degrassi The Next Generation*), Alissa Vernon (*The Sex Files*, *The Daily Planet*), Teresa Wells (*Time Trackers*) and Denny Silverthorne (*Odd Job Jack*). See www.academy.ca.

Oct. 16-19 | **Ottawa International Animation Festival**. North America's largest and most important animation festival and the second largest in the world. In addition to the screenings, there were be three workshops at the festival: Introduction to Producing for Animation, Organizing Your Project, and The Legalities of Producing Animation. See the Web site at www.awn.com/ottawa/.

Oct. 20 | Deadline for applications to **WIFT-T's "The Financing Incubator Program,"** open to emerging Canadian producers working in the feature film industry. Six emerging feature film producers will have the chance to work with a panel of industry experts in an intensive two-day packaging workshop. Go to www.wift.com for details. Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee composed of industry representatives; final decisions will be announced by Oct. 27, 2003.

Upcoming Awards, Markets and Festivals

Aug. 7-10 | **Filmi South Asian Film Festival Kicks Off Year Four** in Toronto. www.Filmi.org

Aug. 13 | **NEXT Festival**, Toronto's International Music Video Festival screenings at Bloor Cinema. www.nextfestival.com

Aug. 26-29 | **Game Developers' Conference Europe** in London, UK. www.ects.com

Aug. 27-Sept. 7 | **Montreal World Film Festival**. www.ffm-montreal.org

Aug. 29-30 | **Toronto Urban Music Conference**. www.tumf.net

Sept. 4-13 | **Toronto International Film Festival**. www.bell.ca/filmfest

Sept. 12-16 | **In the City: The UK's International Music Convention** in Manchester, UK. www.inthecity.co.uk.

Sept. 12-20 | **Atlantic Film Festival** in Halifax, N.S. www.atlanticfilm.com/aff.html

Sept. 15-17 | **3rd Annual Toronto Online Film Festival**. www.torontoonlinefilmfestival.com

Sept. 15-21 | **Sudbury Film Festival**. www.cinefest.com

Sept. 25-Oct. 10 | **Vancouver International Film Festival**. www.viff.org

Sept. 28 | **Word On the Street** in various Canadian cities, including Toronto. www.thewordonthestreet.ca

Sept. 29-Oct.1 | **2003 Digital Hollywood** in Los Angeles. www.digitalhollywood.com

Oct. 2-5 | **Salon du livre** in Toronto. www.salondulivredetoronto.ca

Oct. 7-11 | **MIPCOM** in Cannes, France

Oct. 8-13 | **Frankfurt Book Fair**. www.frankfurt-book-fair.com/en/portal.html

Oct.16-19 | **Ottawa International Animation Festival**. www.awn.com/ottawa/

Oct. 17-19 | **Ontario Council of Folk Festivals Conference** in Sudbury, Ont. www.ocff.ca/conf.htm

Oct. 20-18 | **Annual Gemini Awards Broadcast Gala**. www.academy.ca

Oct. 22-Nov.1 | **2003 International Festival of Authors** at Harbourfront Centre. www.harbourfront.on.ca

Nov. 18 | **WIF-T Annual Crystal Awards**. www.wift.com.

Nov. 26-30 | **7th Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival**. www.reelasian.com

Nov. 20-30 | **16th International Documentary Film Festival**, Amsterdam. www.idfa.nl/iprog_home.asp

Upcoming Events and Industry Deadlines

Aug. 8-13 | The Canadian Consulate General in Sydney invites Canadian new media / digital media / multimedia companies to participate in the **8th Interact Asia Pacific Multimedia Festival** in Melbourne, Australia. The Interact Festival is the largest information and communications technology development event of its kind in the Asia Pacific region and the place to do business in Australia. The Consulate is offering a tailor-made program for participating Canadian companies. Key decision makers, partners and buyers, both in government and the private sector, will be invited to meet with Canadian companies at partnering forums as well as attend a networking reception hosted by the Consulate. Creative content / new media companies may be eligible for financial assistance under the Trade Routes program. For information please visit www.canadianheritage.gc.ca/routes/.

Aug. 12 | **Goodmans Breakfast Club Series: Reel Careers Real Stories.** The inside story on working in film, television and digital media straight from the top. Interactive Gaming with Warren Currell, Co-Founder and President, Sherpa Games. Visit www.wift.com/midcareer_goodmans_break.html.

Aug. 15 | ReelWorld Foundation will provide one emerging Canadian producer with the **Tony Stoltz Completion Fund** to further the vision of great Canadian cinema. The recipient will receive a cash prize of \$2,500. Contact Kirk Cooper at info@reelworld.ca or call 416-598-7933.

Aug. 18 | Deadline for applications to the **Mannheim Coproduction Meetings**, taking place from Nov. 21-25, 2003. This program is open to producers interested in international film production, financing and distribution and with projects suitable for international coproduction or those looking for projects from international sources. For more information or to obtain a brochure, contact Elizabeth Yake, Canadian Consultant at eyake@truewestfilms.com, or 250-537-9133.

Aug. 22 | Deadline for nominations for **WIFT-T's Crystal Awards** for those making an important contribution to Canada's film, television or new media industries. See www.wift.com.

Aug. 22 | Deadline for registration for **Telefilm Canada's Immersion Europe: 2003**, specifically designed to develop strategic alliances between the Canadian and European industries and promote feature film financing. Immersion Europe 2003 will emphasize a practical, operational approach to international funding mechanisms. See www.vision-in-motion.com.

Ongoing to Aug. 27, weekly | **WIFT-T in Production Industry Workshop Series.** Industry experts from film and television teach key skills and practical knowledge from the inside track. Fees: \$25-\$45. For a list of sessions, venues, fees, times, and detailed information about industry guests, please visit www.wift.com/midcareer_in_prod_wkshp.html.

Aug. 28 | Deadline for the eighth round of the **Radio Starmaker Fund**, created in fall 2000 to "make a substantial and discernible difference to the careers of Canadian artists" by providing a substantial, incremental investment where the artist has established a track record and his or her label is making a significant investment in their career. For eligibility requirements and funding rules, please visit www.radiostarmakerfund.com.

Aug. 29 | Deadline for the **National Screen Institute's Totally Television Program** takes place at 4:30 p.m. central time. This program is an intensive and individualized development program designed to mentor aspiring television writer-producer teams through the development of their proposals for a Canadian television series, culminating in a pitching session at the Banff Television Festival. Applications and program criteria are available for at www.nsi-canada.ca/totallytelevision.

Irish Media Intern Placements needed. The Irish Canadian Development Institute (ICDI) invites Toronto media to participate in our Wider Horizons Professional Development Programs. In September and October, two groups of 20 young adults (18-25) from Ireland and Northern Ireland will travel to Toronto for two-month placements in all aspects of media, e.g., Audio/Video Production, Post Production, Photography, Studio & Stage Facilities & Equipment, Creative Music & Visual Effects, New Media, Desktop Publishing, etc. Participants are fully sponsored by the International Fund for Ireland. Wages, accommodation, transportation, insurance etc. are covered by the sponsors. Contact Richard Creighton at 416-766-0707 X224 or rcreighton@wja-icdi.com or visit www.wja-icdi.com.

Sept. 23 | Deadline for **Telefilm Canada's Canadian New Media Fund Product Assistance and Distribution Assistance** programs. The Fund provides \$9 million per year in support of the pre-development, development, production, marketing and distribution of Canadian new media products, as well as support for sectoral development. See "Guidelines" and "Frequently Asked Questions" at www.telefilm.gc.ca/03/311.asp?lang=en&fond_id=3.