

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOP SCREENWRITERS CONFIRMED TO SPEAK AT INDUSTRY RENOWNED EVENT, THE GREAT AMERICAN PITCHFEST AND SCREENWRITING CONFERENCE, FOR ITS 10th ANNIVERSARY

May 5, 2013

(Burbank, Calif.) — Industry screenwriting veterans will gather to speak at a series of **free** all-day seminars at the 10th Annual Great American PitchFest and Screenwriting Conference, taking place May 31, June 1 and June 2, 2013 at the Marriott Burbank Hotel & Convention Center (2500 N Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA 91505). Across the three days, aspiring writers have a chance to pitch their projects to working professionals in an organized series of master classes and face-to-face pitch sessions. This unprecedented opportunity draws writers from around the globe.

Confirmed screenwriters to appear on Saturday June 1 from 9am to 6pm include Shane Black (IRON MAN 3, LETHAL WEAPON), Ed Neumeier (ROBOCOP, STARSHIP TROOPERS), Mick Garris (THE STAND, THE SHINING), Tom Holland (FRIGHT NIGHT, CHILD'S PLAY), Mark Verheiden (TIMECOP, BATTLESTAR GALACTICA), Peter Filardi (FLATLINERS, THE CRAFT), Adam Rifkin (THE DARK BACKWARD, MOUSEHUNT), Pen Densham (ROBIN HOOD: PRINCE OF THIEVES, MOLL FLANDERS), Dave Reynolds (FINDING NEMO, THE EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE), Stephen Verona (THE LORDS OF FLATBUSH), Phil Frank Messina (BRAINSTORM), Todd Tucker (MONSTER MUTT), Dyan Cannon (actor-writer-director, THE END OF INNOCENCE), Paul Salamoff (POPULATION: ME, THE LAST BREATH...) with more confirmations expected to follow. Specific times for the seminars will be locked and announced upcoming.

The brainchild of screenwriters and filmmakers Signe Olynyk and Bob Schultz, The Great American PitchFest & Screenwriting Conference was born out of a perceived need for such an event when other seminars failed to provide proper avenues for writers to present their ideas to cinema and television producers, executives, and creative talent. Now celebrating their tenth year anniversary, "PitchFest" is the premier event of its kind in the industry.

Of their decade-long success in this arena, founding member Olynyk said, "Writers come from around the world to participate in our event, and this year we are pulling out all the stops. We want the community to know how much we appreciate their support." Schultz added, "Plus, we'll have cake! Joking aside," Schultz says, "writers trust us because we work hard to earn the trust of the screenwriting community. Our attendance doubles every year as a result, while other events either flounder or make cynical attempts to mimic our success."

Detail:

MASTER CLASSES: Executive Luke Ryan (HOT TUB TIME MACHINE, the HAROLD & KUMAR series) will be teaching a powerful WORLD BUILDING class on becoming a professional, global screenwriter. On The Page's Pilar Alessandra will be helping writers whip their screenplays and

pitches into shape in the popular PITCHFEST PREP CLASS, and Career Consultant, Lee Jessup will offer an intensive screenwriting master class on WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN LAUNCHING YOUR CAREER, concerning everything from how to get an agent, to how to launch one's spec script and create a professional career.

"YOUR CAREER IN A DAY" POWER CLASSES: Attendees immerse themselves in 15 30-minute power classes and learn everything from 'Crafting Great Dialogue', 'Creating Great Characters', and 'Mastering Theme & Character Arcs' to how to 'Structure Your Screenplay', 'Get An Agent', and 'Pitch Like A Pro'. \$120 gets a patron all the tools he or she need in one day. Includes lunch.

PITCHING: Attendees pitch their ideas to approximately 120 Agents, Managers, and Production Companies. Tickets are sold to only 500 writers. Event sells out each year.

EXECUTIVE LUNCHEONS & PARTIES: Attendees can join the PitchFest creators for our tenth anniversary for additional networking opportunities.

FREE CLASSES: More than 20 free panels, workshops, and sessions with screenwriters discussing their craft, with advice and support from some of the most respected producers, agents, and studio executives in the business. These classes are absolutely free to anyone who wishes to attend, no catch. **Just email info@pitchfest.com to RSVP.**

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

THE 10TH ANNUAL GREAT AMERICAN PITCHFEST & SCREENWRITING CONFERENCE takes place May 31 to June 2, and will include numerous experienced and awe-inspiring guest speakers, panels and prestigious participating companies.

To name a few, we will be joined by Atlas Entertainment, CBS, Disruption Entertainment, Handcranked Pictures, Kopelson Entertainment, Mutual Film Company, Outlier Company, Suntaur Entertainment, Longitude Entertainment and FilmEngine.

Atlas Entertainment – With Christopher Nolan and Zack Snyder's *Man Of Steel* due this summer, the prodco behind *Get Smart* and *The International* continues to create artistic and financial successes in theaters around the world.

CBS - We are enthusiastic to announce this prominent network of ALMA award-winning and worshiped *How I Met Your Mother* will be participating at this year's PitchFest.

Disruption Entertainment – The producers behind Teen Choice Award-nominated *Hot Tub Time Machine*, the *Harold & Kumar* series, and the upcoming epic, Darren Aronofsky's *Noah* (2014), Disruption has a first-look deal with Paramount Pictures, one of the largest and most respected motion picture studios in the history of the industry.

Handcranked Pictures - This company has a co-production contract with American Biograph Films and a first look arrangement with Hyperion Worldwide Marketing. They are known for their 2007 film, *Mama's Boy*, starring Jon Heder and Diane Keaton.

Kopelson Entertainment - Kopelson Entertainment is a production company created by Arnold Kopelson, who was named Producer of the Year by The National Association of Theatre Owners. The company produced Oscar nominated film, *Se7en*, and Saturn award-winning *The Devil's Advocate*.

Mutual Film Company - The winner of five Oscar awards including *Saving Private Ryan* is our attendee Mutual Film Company. They are also recognized for the 2012 Tom Cruise film *Jack Reacher*.

Outlier Company - Mark Morgan and E. Thompson are the producers behind this successful company. In 2008, Morgan produced *Twilight* and then later went on to produce *The Twilight Saga* sequels *New Moon*, *Eclipse*, *Breaking Dawn- Part 1* and *Breaking Dawn Part 2*.

Suntaur Entertainment - In 2000, Suntaur Entertainment's *In Too Deep* won two awards: Special Jury Prize and Special Prize of the Police. They were also involved in the 2012 film *One Step Closer*.

Longitude Entertainment - Longitude Entertainment is a professional, assertive and creative production company. A few of their films are *Struck by Lightning*, *Youth in Revolt*, and *Charlie Bartlett*.

FilmEngine - Since 2001, FilmEngine has produced diverse feature films, all of which have been dispersed by major U.S. distributors. The production company has been credited for *Snow White and the Huntsman*, *"O,"* *The Butterfly Effect* and *The Rum Diary*.

We are pleased to include all these participants and more for the 2013 10th Annual Great American PitchFest and Screenwriting Conference. For regular updates on more companies, follow The Great American PitchFest & Screenwriting Conference on Twitter at @ThePitchFest.

Important Note:

Although most events are offered free of charge, tickets to the PitchFest, the executive luncheon, and all master classes generally sell out early.

For More Information:

Visit www.pitchfest.com for details. **BE YOUR OWN PROTAGONIST** – at the only screenwriting conference created BY writers FOR writers. Join the #1 Rated PitchFest (Script Magazine) and make this your year for screenwriting success!



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