



**Adnaan Wasey**  
*Producer & Writer*

Adnaan Wasey is an Emmy Award-winning producer and writer with a history of championing the work of a diverse group of storytellers for mainstream and emerging platforms. He's produced media for some of the world's most admired film, news and information organizations, including PBS, The New York Times, and Snapchat and he is a frequent speaker about the future of media, interactive media, and social media storytelling at venues such as SXSW, TVOT, The Tribeca Film Festival, and The New York Film Festival. Adnaan is the executive producer of Launchpad at WGBH, a media incubator that supports diverse talent and produces fiction entertainment linked to complex issues, he's a member of the Producers Guild of America and a member of the board of trustees of The Flaherty, and is the recipient of the first Rita Allen Fellowship for Science Communication, in which he is analyzing how popular media engages diverse audiences.



**Andrew Gurney**  
*Supervising Editor*

Andrew is a 4-time CSA nominated picture editor and Queen's alumni. Specializing in the Reality Competition genre, he has worked on some of Canada's top-rated shows including: The Amazing Race Canada, Top Chef Canada and the Netflix hit, Blown Away.

Currently, Andrew is Supervising Editor on the 8th season of Big Brother Canada.



**Angie Power**

*Publicist – Route 504 PR*

Angie Power is a seasoned publicity and promotions professional with over 20 years of experience in the film industry. Her storied career has led her to be one of the leading names in Canadian film publicity. Power began her career with Lions Gate Films, which was renamed Maple Pictures in Canada and subsequently acquired by Alliance Films in 2011. It was at this time that Ms. Power channeled her passion for film by forming her own communications company which she has operated between positions at Allied Integrated Marketing as Director, and at D Films Corp. as Vice President, Publicity & Promotions. In 2019, she joined forces with publicist Ally La Mere by becoming a Partner in Route 504 PR.



## **Audrey Cummings**

*Director*

Audrey just finished directing her third feature film *She Never Died*, an immortal action thriller. The film is currently a huge hit on the film festival circuit and is garnering considerable critical acclaim as well as 4 major awards. Last year she directed an 11- episode digital series; the prelude to her award winning second feature film *Darken*, a sci-fi/fantasy thriller produced by Shaftesbury Films, which won her four awards internationally including Best Science Fiction Feature Film and a Best Director Award. *Darken* also had a 21-city theatrical release in Cineplex and Landmark Theatres across Canada.

Audrey has directed, written and produced several award-winning films including the feature film *Berkshire County* that had the national festival circuit buzzing. Audrey has also made several award-winning short films including *A Stolen Moment*, *Les jeux d'enfants* and *Burgeon and Fade*, which screened at major festivals including the TIFF and won her many awards including the Jackson- Triggs Award for Best Emerging Canadian Filmmaker at the WorldWide Short Film Festival.



**Chris Fassbender**

*Editor, Actor & Sound Designer*

Chris Fassbender is a video editor, sound designer and actor who has been working professionally in theatre and film for more than twenty-five years. After attending the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City, Chris returned home to Canadian stages where he became known for playing intense, powerful characters. Past favourites include, *The Blue Orphan* (Catalyst Theatre), *The Bone House* (Original & Edinburgh productions) and the Canadian premiere of Joe Calarco's adaptation, Shakespeare's *R&J*. (KYTT). Chris was the recipient of three Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Awards for acting. When Chris isn't hiding out listening to records, he's hiding out editing something for someone. Chris is co-founder of Yellow House Studio in Fraser Valley, BC. He records music and edits films for his community and beyond.



**Claire Peace-McConnell**

*Head of Publicity & Promotions - VVS Films*

Claire has worked in film for over 15 years. Her career started on the festival side, with roles at both TIFF and the Kingston Canadian Film Festival. She shifted into Distribution when she accepted a Publicity and Promotions role at Alliance Films (eventually eOne). She held the role of Director, Publicity and Promotions at eOne until 2015. She is currently the Head of Publicity and Promotions at VVS Films, developing strategy for theatrical and home entertainment campaigns. Recently, she led the Canadian publicity campaigns for Robert Eggers' *The Lighthouse*, Lulu Wang's *The Farewell* and Guy Ritchie's *The Gentlemen*. Upcoming 2020 projects include *Bill and Ted Face the Music*, *The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard* and A24's *ZOLA*. Career highlight campaigns include LAIKA's *Coraline*, *Django Unchained* and *The Hunger Games* franchise.



**Greg Jeffs**

*Client Services Coordinator, Emerging Filmmakers/Digital Content Creators -William F. White International Inc.*

Greg Jeffs has spent the past decade producing award-winning short and web content, for which he has been awarded multiple filmmaking grants from organizations including Telefilm, Telus Optik, Telus Storyhive and Bravofact. His productions have also received several nominations from the Alberta Motion Picture Industry Association (AMPIA). In 2016, he was asked to join the TIFF stage as part of the 2016 Telefilm PITCH THIS! program. Greg's current work with William F. White Int'l combines his vast knowledge of Canadian independent filmmaking with the world of professional filmmaking equipment and support. He actively develops long-lasting relationships with emerging and established content creators at all stages of their production to guarantee they obtain maximum value by providing mentorship and advisement on all possible funding opportunities. In working closely with and nurturing filmmakers, Greg ensures their finished product is the best as it can be.



**James Luscombe**

*Content Analyst - Telefilm Canada*

James Luscombe is a Content Analyst in the Feature Film department at Telefilm Canada. Previously he worked as a freelance story editor, and as a development executive for Lumanity Pictures and Shaftesbury Films.



**Jason Gilmore**

*Editor - Urgency Media*

Jason Gilmore is the founder of Urgency Company, an independent post-production, design & multimedia boutique based in Toronto. Founded in 2003, Urgency specializes in the comprehensive branding and marketing of feature films through the creation of original trailers, custom key art, social media assets, and sales materials. Urgency offers a more personalized, one-on-one alternative to the agency experience. Over the course of his career, Jason has cut original trailers and/or 30s spots for films by the Coen Brothers, Richard Linklater, Sarah Polley, Deepa Mehta, and many others. Working with distributors and producers alike, Jason's roster of clients include Mongrel Media, Lionsgate, Sony, A24, Neon, and Magnolia Pictures. As a filmmaker, illustrator, designer and photographer, Jason has also worked on a wide array of side projects, including documentaries, graphic novels, music videos, and t-shirt designs.



**John Rakich**

*DGC Ontario Location Caucus Representative Member of the Board of Location Managers Guild International*

John Rakich DGCO / LMGI has been working in Ontario as an Assistant Location Manager, Location Scout and now as a Location Manager for over 19 years with production experience on long and short format features and numerous television series. In addition to being the current DGC Ontario Location Caucus Representative he also sits on the board of the Location Managers Guild International. A frequent speaker at college campuses, industry symposiums and a contributor of articles about filming in Ontario and Canada, he's also been a guest panelist at San Diego Comic Con speaking about locations and location scouting.



**Reid Blakley**

*Storyboard Artist & Animation*

Reid Blakley has been cartooning since he first learned to hold a crayon instead of eating it. He graduated from Emily Carr University of Art & Design in Vancouver in 2016 and his credits include the self-directed cartoon short *The Commute!*, feature films *Window Horses: The Persian Epiphany of Rosie Ming* and *Who Farted?*, and the upcoming Means TV animated series *Management*. He's also a musician as a member of indie rock bands *The Plodes* and *The This*. He's currently based in Victoria, BC.



**Ryan Noth**

*Director/Producer/Editor*

Ryan J Noth is a multi-platform filmmaker, editor, and producer. His recent short film collaboration with partner Tess Girard, *The Road To Webequie*, premiered at TIFF and was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for best short documentary. *Beyond The Horizon* premiered at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival, and *A Tomb With A View* also premiered at the Toronto and Vancouver International Film Festivals. His filmmaking career includes premieres at SXSW (*Jandek*, 2006) and Rotterdam (*Gros Morne*, 2009), and the improvised feature fiction film *No Heart Feelings* (2010, Buenos Aires premiere). *NHF* was also released theatrically in Canada through KinoSmith, and acquired by Super Channel and SpaFax. Rick Groen of the *Globe and Mail* called the talky portrait of small-town-downtown Toronto a 'quiet triumph.'



**Taisa Dekker**

*Industry Relations, ACTRA Toronto*

Taisa Dekker began her career in the industry as a production assistant in her hometown of Calgary, Alberta. After graduating from SAIT Polytechnic's Cinema Television Stage and Radio program, she joined the staff at ACTRA Alberta as the Commercial Business Representative in 2006. During her time at the Alberta branch, she also worked with ACTRA Saskatchewan and ACTRA Manitoba. In 2011, Taisa relocated to Toronto to work with ACTRA Performers' Rights Society. She then became an Associate Business Representative in the Film, Television & Digital Media department at ACTRA Toronto before being promoted to Industry Relations in 2014. She holds a certificate in Strategic Public Relations from the University of Toronto, as well as the Osgoode Certificate in Entertainment Law from York University. On behalf of the ACTRA Toronto membership, Ms. Dekker reaches out to producers of film, television, web series, commercials, video games and audiobooks to cultivate work opportunities for union performers.



**Thom Ernst**

*Critic/Broadcaster*

Thom is a film writer and broadcaster. His reviews can be seen every Friday Night on CTV National News. You can also read and watch Thom's reviews on [ReelThomErnst.com](http://ReelThomErnst.com). Thom has written for the Toronto Star, Playback Magazine, Toromagazine.com and The National Post. He is also a frequent voice on CBC Radio Fresh Air, CBC Radio Syndication, Metro Morning and CFRB The Pay Chen Show. Thom also hosts live film talks at various venues, events and film festivals throughout Ontario. Prior to his work as a freelancer Thom was host and producer of TVO's Saturday Night at the Movies.