FILMCONNECTION FILM INSTITUE

INTRODUCTORY COURSE ON WRITING & PRODUCING

CHAPTER ONE ASSIGNMENT

1. Guys, to be honest, my expectations in this program are pretty high. Let me give you some of my background so you can understand why. Today, I am an active 29-year-old freelance assistant director who was settled in Bogota, Colombia until last week, but that has changed. I decided to leave behind my working life back in Bogota and move to New York City just to you start your program. As I told Isen, my new mentor, I already have experience working on field, specifically on set. In fact, I’ve been an AD since 2006; I started at a friend’s short film when I was a student. But in that case, you may ask, why start in a completely new place if I am already building a career someplace else? To pursue a dream, that’s the main reason. Back when I was in high school, I developed a dream thanks to a class that only showed films and film history. That dream was to work as a filmmaker around the world shooting non-stop in the most fantastic places alongside with the best crewmembers. That’s why I studied different directing, producing and editing techniques in a local university for 4 years. During that time, I found out what an assistant director does on and off set, the responsibilities that the position has and what anybody needs to become one. To tell you the truth, when I learned about all this, I fell in love immediately and my dream got way bigger. I was captivated by the power that an AD has and his importance for each and everyone near him. The AD is also one of the most necessary members of a film crew, as you know he determines what needs to be shot, when, and how. As a student, I worked on several short films from other students and with each and every experience I realized that I wanted more, I wanted to be on bigger sets, with more complex scenes, and of course share a set with amazing directors, cinematographers, production designers and much more. It became almost addictive, it still is.

Since then, I’ve felt that I can be this fantastic leader, commanding every single shoot I can be involved in, being full of energy, passion and love for the art of filmmaking. For me, it is wonderful to see how thanks to what you are doing as an AD you are creating art, creating life and creating an alternative universe in which the story takes place. The adrenaline that I feel while I’m on set can’t be compared with any other life experience, at least for me. I compare being on set with going to church, its where I want to be, it’s a place and time I don’t want to miss and it is where I will be until my heart, body, mind and soul can support it. It is my church and that’s what I’ve been working on for the last 8 or 9 years.

Most of my work has been for TV commercials, several short films, some music videos and a couple of feature films. During this time, I´ve gained a lot experience, which is, for me, the best and most authentic way of becoming better in this business. I’m living proof of this, on each set I’ve stepped on, I’ve learned from everyone and I mean everyone, from the van drivers to the executive producers. That’s why I believe my dream can become truer than ever, because with your program and my experience I know I can get further in the industry. I know I will be able to make real films with great production companies and directors and of course, eventually, become a better AD, actually not just better, but one of the greatest. Please have no doubt that I also want to become a true filmmaker, I have ideas of my own for feature films and documentary films that I want to share with audiences worldwide. I will be glad to dedicate time to those ideas but to be honest my passion, as you can see is become the best possible AD I can be. I know this might take some time but let me tell you; I am a fast learner and dependable professional. I am willing to learn and spend whatever time is necessary in order to achieve this dream. I want to make films until the end of my time and not because I want to be famous or want to meet famous people. I want to do this for the rest of my life because I love it and because I want to leave my mark in filmmaking history.

So guys, in conclusion, what I really want from this program is for you to put me in the correct path in order for me to live and conquer my dream as a filmmaker and AD. I also want you to guide me in my path as an independent director, I want to be able to pitch, work and shoot my own personal ideas. I already know the basics on how to write a script but what I really to know is how the industry works and how the market moves in order for my idea or my film to become a reality. Hope you can help me with what I like to call my own personal race and my ultimate goal, being able to live and work from filmmaking in a successful and satisfactory way for many years to come as an AD and as a director.

1. *WORLD* *CHAMPIONS*

*Documentary*

A breathtaking and immersive look inside Colombia’s sporting society through the eyes of athletes such as Nairo Quintana (cyclist), Orlando Duque (diver), David Gonzalez (skater), Mariana Pajon (BMX rider), Katherine Ibargüen (athlete) and the recently deceased Jonathan Florez (skydiver) who took the sporting world by storm except on their own country, where ironically they only expect and cheer for the National Football team to win a major competition instead of seeing and celebrating the exceptional achievements that these contemporary legends have accomplished.

*MOTOR MEMORIES*

*Feature Film*

An abandoned car recalls its most iconic life moments unveiling its different owners behaviors, lifestyles and situations that eventually led it to the vast graveyard in which it now sits. A unique reflection of human conduct at its most raw, sensitive and yet decadent way.

*NIGHT OUT*

*Feature Film*

A regular night on the town turns into a revealing exhibition of human society and its “collectively accepted” conducts. All through the eyes of young writer Philip Marlowe as he sees himself and others change with each poured drink.

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