

GET A
CAMERA...

GET SOME
STOCK...

GO SHOOT A
DOC...

THE DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKERS HANDBOOK INTRODUCTION TO 2ND EDITION

It's hard to believe nearly six years have passed since the first edition of this book. But what a six years it has been! In 2006, shooting HD was considered a luxury, no one had ever heard of Facebook or Twitter and streaming was something you did by a small river. Alternative distribution was the exception instead of the rule. Crowd funding was in its infancy. Things have truly changed dramatically for the documentary filmmaker – for the better! No longer is one tied to old models of distribution. No longer does one have to wait months for their film to be released. No longer does one have to worry if they will see any royalties from selling their film. Technology has made it possible for the documentary filmmaker to have more control over their work, more opportunities to monetize it and the ability to have it seen across the world instantaneously.

Given all of this, we've had to adapt with the times as well. While we still have our classic Q & A format with industry experts and working filmmakers (by the way – don't expect formal, grammatically correct interviews – they are conversational and colloquial and always have been since 1995), we've slanted our questioning towards dealing with social media, digital technology and new distribution models. And since filmmaking has gotten leaner and meaner with smaller HD cameras, DSLRs, compact flash audio recorders and editing systems on laptops, we've trimmed down too with a streamlined format that's more "user friendly" to the mobile APP wielding filmmaker.

So it is with great pleasure that we introduce the *The Documentary Filmmakers Handbook, 2nd edition*. We hope it will enlighten, educate and inspire a whole new generation of filmmakers – who will blog and tweet their hearts out about it!

Genevieve Jolliffe and Andrew Zinnes

3:26am, November 14, 2011

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JOIN THE WEBSITES

www.guerillafilm.com
www.film-maker-junction.com

The web component of this book is where you can go to:

- Watch videos of the filmmakers interviewed in this book.
- Listen to podcasts of filmmakers and experts.
- Download contracts and forms for use in your projects.
- Find links to cool filmmaking sites to help you make better films.

We plan for both sites to be so much more as they evolve with you, the filmmakers. So stop on by and get involved. Also check out our blogs at www.guerillagal.com and www.chrisjonesblog.com. Join our Facebook group **Guerilla Film Maker**.

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM OUR FRIENDS



"Documentary - its a journey that can change you forever - what makes the journey possible is the collaboration you have with other directors, camera people, editors, sound people and the subjects of your film."

BARBARA KOPPLE, Director

"One third of your work comes from your own emotion; one third comes from your energy; and one third comes from pure work!"

LUC JACQUET,
Director, *March of the Penguins*



"Stay within yourself and embrace the unknowing."

STACY PERALTA
Director, *Dogtown & Z-Boys*, *Riding Giants*



"Be tenacious, persistant and just keep with it."

ROSS KAUFFMAN,
Director, *Born Into Brothels*



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"Find a subject that you are passionate about because it can take many years to make a film and you want to be able to stick to it."

Jessica Sanders
Director, *After Innocence*



"Surround yourself with as good a team as you can. You don't have to have everything figured out - the documentary process is one of a discovery as you go along. Collaboration is the key."

MARILYN AGRELO,
Director, *Mad Hot Ballroom*

"To make real insightful documentaries you have to give your life, family, bank balance, sanity and day to day existence as an ordinary human being."

SEAN MCALLISTER,
Director, *The Liberace of Baghdad*



"Don't compromise your own personal integrity and your own personal ethic when you're making a film."

CATHY HENKEL,
Director, *The Man Who Stole My Mother's Face*

"To make a film you need an army and in order to be a good filmmaker you have to work with all the members of that army."

STEVE SABOL,
NFL Films



"Documentary is a new wave of social activism. No longer do you have to speak about the atrocities that exist in the community. You can tell these stories visually and that hits people more. That's a lot of power."

KEITH BEAUCHAMP,
Director, "The Untold Story of Emmitt
Louis Till"

"The best films I've seen weren't necessarily made by professional filmmakers, but were films where people really got involved."

ANAND PATWARDHAN,
Director, "War and Peace"



"My tip to any filmmaker is never give up. That's the key to your success."

ELLEN PERRY,
Director, "The Fall of Fujimori"

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"To make a great film, you need life experience, so travel and engage in life. Working in a coal mine is better than learning the Avid at age 18. Life experience is huge in becoming a great filmmaker."

NINA SEAVY

The Documentary Center

"Pick up a camera and go out and shoot it. It's accessible and affordable. Just make sure you have a good story. Story is king."

KERRY DAVID,

Producer, "My Date with Drew"



"Don't be afraid to take a point of view. It's an illusion to think that you can know how to shape a story if you don't commit to your point of view."

ROSE ROSENBLATT,

Co-director, "The Education of Shelby Knox"

"This is your film. Trust your gut. Make your voice heard. Even after you sell the film, never be afraid to speak out on decisions that are being made - you know your film better than anyone."

SHEENA JOYCE,

Producer, "Rock School"

