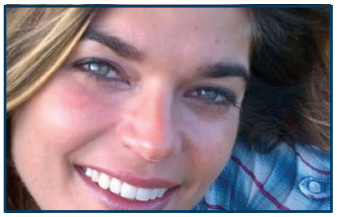
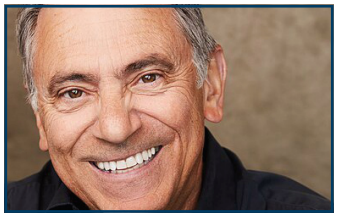
EMPOWERING FILMMAKER LECTURE AND PANEL SERIES

Lab 1 – Catapulting Careers: The Three Cs of SucCcess

Friday, April 12, 10:15 AM
Location: Women's Club of Vero Beach, 1534 21st St – Screening Room

You've got traction... now what? It's one thing to get one or two films made, but how do you take that smoldering ember of a career and get it to a fire-hot blaze? Hear how working professionals connect the dots of their diverse successes and share three cutting-edge truths of how to win in the entertainment industry.


Moderated by Zev Suissa: Executive Producer, Producer, Writer (Confessions of A Superhero, Ultradome, The Tastemaker)

Speakers
Robyn Bennett: Producer, Line Producer, Producers Guild of America p.g.a. (Cleveland, Already Gone, West Wing, Wired)

Joe Cipriano: Producer, Director, Narrator/Announcer, Society Voice Arts and Sciences (Americas Got Talent, Elvis All-Star Tribute, Deal No Deal)

Brett Winn: Producer, Writer, Editor, The Refinery (My Date With Drew, Mercy Streets, Before Christmas)

Lab 2 – What's Your Story? Selling Your Art Through The Power of YOU

Friday, April 12, 12:45 PM
Location: Women's Club of Vero Beach, 1534 21st St– Screening Room

Speaker– Brett Winn



Discover the simple key strategies for selling you and your film by Brett Winn, co-director of My Date With Drew and co-founder of The Refinery, an entertainment marketing agency based in Los Angeles, CA. Brett has worked closely with Tom Cruise, Steven Spielberg, David O. Russell, and numerous others. Explore a step-by-step guide from getting yourself in the room, hustling to keep things moving, powering through setbacks, and finding the "Yes" in a world of no. Join Brett as he shares both his experiences finishing and selling one of the most successful bootstrapped documentaries ever produced, as well as his three decades of working with every major studio to promote and distribute both indies and blockbusters.

Visit the VBFF merch shop for a wide variety of apparel, accessories and much more.

Items shipped directly to you in 5 to 7 days

Lab 3 - Made From Florida Orange Juice: Conversations in All Media with Florida Film Professionals

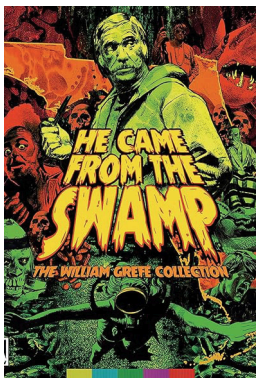
Friday, April 12, 3:45 PM
Location: Women's Club of Vero Beach - Screening Room

With the landscape of entertainment in Film, Television, Reality, and Streaming evolving at light speed, Walker Fitzgibbon TV Film presents award-winning professionals providing insight on how to forge a path in the field of production, make a living, and realize full potential as a filmmaker. Listen in with experts from popular films, series, and documentaries, such as Waterworld, Miami Rhapsody, Dexter, and Burn Notice, to name a few, and who've worked alongside actors, Kevin Costner, Annette Benning, William Shatner, Demi Moore, Sam Neill, Gloria Estefan and many more. Learn how they broke through and how they impacted the production community's credibility value and economic growth.

We will be recognizing William "Bill" Grefé an American Director Known for his films in Horror, Crime and Drama from the 1960's through the 90's with our Legendary Director Award. He is known for Classics like Cease Fire, Live and Let Die, Mako: The Jaws of Death, The Naked Zoo, The Wild Rebels, The Devils Sisters, and Death Curse of Tartu and many more. Bill is a Florida native and has built his career through his innovative and legendary exploitation in technology in filmmaking during the early days of horror films in cinema.







Moderated by Mo Fitzgibbon: Writer, Producer, Director,Walker Fitzgibbon TVFIilm (HBO, NBC, FOX, Lifetime TV, Sony Ent., MTV-VH1-CMT)

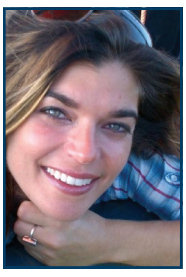
Speakers
Melanie Grefé: Asst Director, Director, MMG Productions LLC - Directors Guild of America D.G.A. (Manhunt, Apples Never Fall, Blue Beetle, Old Dads)

Egon Stefan Jr.: Director/Director of Photography, Cinevideotech Inc - (Dexter, Burn Notice, Miami Heat, Striptease)

Kevin Layne: Producer/Director/Cinemaphotographer, Xlerator Media Group (The Captains- William Shatner, Wendy Williams - What A Mess)

Lab 4 - Films on Fire: Problem-Solving from Pitch to Production to Post to Premiere

Saturday, April 13, 10:00 AM
Location: Women's Club of Vero Beach - Screening Room



Speaker - Robyn Bennett

Fail, and fail fast. At every level of the game problem-solving is the most creative skill you need. Robyn Bennett, Producer and Line Producer, Producers Guild Of America - p.g.a, has earned hard knocks knowledge from dozens of credits in acclaimed shows like The Wire, West Wing, The District and K-Street and feature films working alongside, Steven Soderbergh, George Clooney, Nick Nolte, and distributors like Lionsgate, Sony Classic, Netflix and more. Hear Robyn's go-to tactics on how to *not* reinvent the wheel, find great talent to delegate tasks, and succeed with the art of authenticity...a key strategy. Develop a keen eye for non-monetary compensation and how to leverage it to solve the problems at hand.

