



## University of Colorado, Boulder

*Education Road Tour*

*Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

### **MODERATOR:**

***Mariel Rodriguez-McGill***

*Deputy Film Commissioner*

***Mariel Rodriguez-McGill*** is an Emmy Award-Winning creative producer, director and editor focused on documentary filmmaking with a passion for telling inspirational and compelling stories. While at Rocky Mountain PBS in Denver, Colorado, Mariel helped develop the web-series "GREAT INGREDIENTS", and the historical documentary series "COLORADO EXPERIENCE". Currently at the Office of Economic Development and International Trade, Mariel serves as the Deputy Film Commissioner for the Colorado Office of Film, Television & Media. Mariel received a BA from Boston College and holds a Masters Degree from University of Denver in Media, Film & Journalism Studies.

### **PANELISTS:**

***Brook Aitken*** is a Boulder Colorado native Cinematographer working on commercials, TV shows, and documentaries. He graduated from the University of Colorado in 97' with a BFA in Film Production, and studied under professors Jerry Aronson and Stan Brakhage. Most notable was the Director of Photography for the Academy Award Winning Documentary *THE COVE* garnering an Oscar in 2009. Other documentaries he has worked on, *Racing Extinction*, *HBO Real Sports*, *Meru*, *The Human Element*, *National Geographic*, "Inside-Cocaine Subs", *A&E "Lost for Life"*. Commercials clients such as *Nike: Jordan Brand* has him shooting with names; *Michael Jordan*, *Kevin Hart*, *Dwayne Wade* and *Chris Paul*. He has filmed commercials with *Samuel L. Jackson*, *Macklemore*, *Peyton Manning*, *Joe Mantegna*, and dozens of professional athletes. Regular clients include *NBC Sports*, *Fox Sports*, *National Geographic*, *Discovery*, *NFL*, and *UC Health*. He is currently shooting *Season 4 of Hollywood Weapons*, premiering on *Netflix*, *Amazon*, and *The Outdoor Channel*. Whether it's hanging out of a *Blackhawk*, over cocaine fields in Colombia getting shot at, or filming on a large commercial set, *Brook* enjoys the action, diversity, and simply the telling a story through his images.

***Davis Coombe*** is an award winning editor, writer, and producer. He shot, edited and produced *THE LAST CAMPAIGN OF GOVERNOR BOOTH GARDNER* which was nominated for an Academy Award in 2009 and broadcast on *HBO*. In 2011 *Coombe* produced and edited *SAVING FACE*, which won the Oscar for Best Short Documentary in 2012. He also edited *CHASING ICE*, which premiered at *Sundance* in 2012 and was shortlisted for an Academy award. In 2013 he won two national Emmys for Editing and Best Documentary at the News and Documentary Emmys. Since then he co-wrote and edited both *KEEP ON KEEPIN' ON* (shortlisted for an Academy Award) and *BEYOND THE BRICK: A LEGO BRICKUMENTARY* which both premiered at the 2014 *Tribeca Film Festival*. He co-produced, co-wrote and edited *BEING EVEL* which premiered in competition at *Sundance* in 2015. In 2016 he edited *CASTING JONBENET* and *CHASING CORAL*, both premiering in the *US Documentary* competition at *Sundance 2017*. *CHASING CORAL* won the Audience Award and both films were purchased by *Netflix*. He recently premiered *LIYANA* (produced and edited), a documentary/animation hybrid which has won the audience or jury prize at 22 festivals this year, and premiered *THE RESCUE LIST* (produced/edited) at *SFFILM* and *Full Frame* in 2018.

**Julie Crane** is the Senior Director of Locals Administration for SAG-AFTRA (the largest performers union in the world). In this role she serves as the regional staff liaison for New Mexico and Colorado and is responsible for promoting the interests of the union and its members through organizing, education and outreach, working closely with filmmakers, casting directors, film schools and industry organizations. Julie comes to the Colorado film community with a strong background in the entertainment industry, having worked for almost 20 years in feature film development and production. More than a decade was spent with the talented writing-producing-directing team of Nancy Meyers and Charles Shyer. During that period she served as a creative executive and associate producer on a number of feature films, including PARENT TRAP, FATHER OF THE BRIDE I and II and I LOVE TROUBLE. She also was involved in the development of WHAT WOMEN WANT and AFFAIR OF THE NECKLACE. Julie is currently on the advisory boards for the Colorado Film School and CINEMA (Colorado Innovators of New Entertainment Media & Arts).

**Larissa Rhodes** is a filmmaker and the Director of Creative Development at Exposure Labs, where she develops projects motivated by social impact. Most recently, she produced the SUNDANCE, PEABODY, and Emmy award-winning film, CHASING CORAL, a feature film following a team of adventurers working to reveal how the oceans are changing. Rhodes previously worked on the Emmy Award-winning documentary, CHASING ICE. She holds an MFA in Film from Columbia University and a BFA & BA from the University of Colorado in Film Studies and International Spanish for the Professions.