



Special Presentations at RIFF 2009

Friday, September 11, 3:00 p.m., Heritage Hall

Oscar Micheaux and the Music of Stace England and The Salt Kings

Join musician Stace England and The Salt Kings as RIFF presents discussion on the motion pictures of early African American filmmaker and film pioneer Oscar Micheaux. These talented Midwestern musicians will present original music to the film work of Micheaux during Friday evening's Micheaux presentation at the historic DeSoto Theatre.

Micheaux (1884-1951) was an American author and filmmaker, and his masterpiece, "Within our Gates" was lost for almost sixty years until a single copy was discovered in Spain in 1990. Mr. England and his group have composed music specifically for eight of Micheaux's films, and they will discuss the almost forgotten filmmaker and their musical interpretations of this early American filmmaker.

Saturday, September 12, 11:00 a.m., Heritage Hall

From Art to Commerce: Write Commercially Without Compromising Your Story

Ryan Saul, Professional Literary Agent, Hollywood, California

Ryan Saul is currently an agent at APA, and has been in the business for close to a decade representing writers and directors. His clients include the writers of such projects as BROTHER BEAR, OPEN SEASON, CHICKEN LITTLE, TROY, and the upcoming Warners' release CATS & DOGS, as well as indy's like Robert Altman's last film before death A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION, and Nia Vardalos' I HATE VALENTINE'S DAY. In television he has worked with the creators of such shows as FRASIER, WINGS, BECKER, EUREKA, MENTAL and WOLF LAKE.

Prior to becoming an agent, Ryan worked for both Universal and the Walt Disney Company in development. He has an MFA in film production from Florida State University, which he put to good use by signing many of his friends from the program. In addition, Saul teaches Screenwriting and Film Business classes for Bradley University, Florida State, and Cal State-Los Angeles.

Saturday, September 12, 3:00 p.m., Heritage Hall

Film Financing for Independent Film Makers with Noel Paynter

Have a great idea and filmmaking talent? Want to find the money to realize a film vision?

Noel Paynter of the company Film Production Capital will present a workshop on film financing for independent filmmakers. Film Production Capital is the largest purchaser/financier of entertainment tax credits in the country that specializes in independent production. Film Production Capital's byline is "turning tax credits into films".

Paynter, based in Georgia, seeks to assist filmmakers in taking advantage of the new Georgia Entertainment Industry Investment Act recently signed into law by Governor Sonny Perdue. As a result of the new production tax credits stemming from the Act, film production in Georgia has been significantly enhanced and has been increasing during 2009.

Noel Paynter is Chief Operations Officer of Film Production Capital, L.L.C. and President of both Georgia Production Capital, L.L.C. and Arizona Production Capital, L.L.C. He is the President of the Arizona Film and Media Coalition, and a Board Member of the Arizona Production Association. He is a licensed attorney and Certified Public Accountant in Arizona and earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas, and his law degree from the University of Missouri - Kansas City.

A Gala Evening with RIFF

Sponsored by State Mutual Insurance

Poundcake

Saturday, September 12

7:00 p.m.

Heritage Hall

Join the festival for our featured film, "Poundcake". Director Rafael Monserrate's comedy about a dysfunctional family stars Academy Award nominee Kathleean Quinlan and Jay O. Sanders. This brilliant adult comedy focuses on a couple who announce their upcoming divorce to three grown children the night before Thanksgiving in the late 1980's. The exciting script is written by actor/producers Troy Hall and Kevin Logie, who appear in the film. Poundcake features adult situations, language, and content.

Opening our Gala Evening will be the animated short, "El Salon Mexico". Aaron Copland's symphonic masterpiece receives a stunning animated realization in which a simple Mexican boy attends his first fiesta.

2009 RIFF Awards Ceremony

The Gala feature film and animated short will be followed by the 2009 RIFF awards ceremony. RIFF awards in all categories will be awarded to outstanding filmmakers. Each winner will receive a bronze statuette, dubbed "The Sylvia". The beautiful statuette was designed and executed by RIFF Board member Julia Knight.

Gala Party

The Gala Evening ends with a wonderful party in historic Heritage Hall. Join filmmakers and film lovers to celebrate our 2009 festival with food, drink and music! Your ticket to "Poundcake" entitles you to entrance to the Awards Ceremony and Gala Party.