

Northwestern University

Department of Radio/Television/Film

Spring 2020

Please send all upcoming news items to rtvfnewsletter@northwestern.edu.

Alumni News



RTVF MFA in Writing graduate **Alex Phillips**'s short *Pushing Mongo* and RTVF grad **Brandon Daley**'s *Technology Lake: Meditations on Death and Sex* were showcased in the 2nd Annual Chicago Shorts Night.



RTVF grad **Rachel Wolther**'s *Cinema Rules Everything Around Me*, a profile on cinephile Caroline Golum in which she talks about her love of going to the movies in NYC, premiered at the [15th Annual Focus on Female Directors](#)



RTVF alumnus **Roger Mason** received the 2020 Chuck Rowland Pioneer Award to recognize his contributions to LGBTQ playwriting. In addition, his play *Lavender Men* will be premiering this spring at the [SkyLight Theater in LA](#) and his film *SOFTER* premiered on the West Coast in February at [PAFF](#).



RTVF alumnus **Eric Bodge** showed his film *Herman* at the Nightmares Film Festival. This film included the work of other RTVF alumni, who are credited [here](#).



RTVF MFA Writing alum **Onicia Muller Torres** will have her short story *Three Three Little Latchkeys* published in the inaugural issue of The Black Woman's Latitude Zine. This short story was previously published in Distinguished Diva, a digital lifestyle magazine for black women. Additionally, American Greetings will debut 8 cards written by her that honor the rich heritage of black culture.



MFA alumnus **Terrance Brown** has been hired as tenure track Assistant Professor of Screenwriting at the University of Notre Dame.

Hannah Spaulding received an Assistant Professor position at the University of Lincoln in England.

Joe Giovannetti's play *The Promotion* showed in March at New Jersey Rep. He was interviewed by BroadwayWorld about it.

Kim Hasara (MA in Sound Arts and Industries '19) produces podcasts for Bleav Podcast Network.



Naeema Torres' (MFA Doc Media '19) newest project *The House on the Hill* has been selected as a finalist for Tribeca Film Institute and Cleveland International Film Festival's Short Doc Pitch Competition. Torres will be co-directing the film with Amber Love and collaborating with Doc Media alumni Camila Guarda ('19) who will be the film's cinematographer. Guarda's *The Woman and the Seas* is a Semi-Finalist for the European Cinematography Awards

Natasha Nair's (MFA Doc Media '19) thesis film *In the Wake* received the Best Short Award at Big Muddy Film Festival.

Jessica Scott's (MFA Doc Media '19) *The Color of Skin* screened at the L.A. Black Film Fest and San Diego Black Film Festival in February.

Hasan Demirtas' (MFA Doc Media '17) powerful new documentary *You Name It* screened at this year's Treasure Coast International Film Festival in St. Lucie, Florida. The film also

screened at the 22nd Thessaloniki Film Festival.

Jennifer Boles (MFA Doc Media '19) was interviewed by Miniflix talking about her most recent documentary work.



Michael Kastelein, MFA Writing grad, was recently hired to be the co-producer for Marvel's upcoming series *Moon Knight* which will premiere in late 2021. Prior to this, he was hired to work as the story editor for Marvel's *The Falcon and the Winter Soldier*, which will be released in November 2020 and worked on Apple TV+'s series *Truth Be Told*, which released in December.

Faculty News



Lecturer **Calum Walter's** (above, at far left) film *Meridian* premiered at this year's Sundance Film Festival in Utah.



American Factory, a feature documentary edited by adjunct instructor Lindsay Utz and associate edited by Timothy Fryett (MFA Doc Media '17), took home the Oscar for Best Documentary on Oscar night. *American Factory* is available to stream on Netflix.



David Tolchinsky's film, *Cassandra*, has been acquired by Alter (watchalter.com), an online VOD platform, associated with production company Gunpowder & Sky, and Tolchinsky has entered into a development/first look deal with Alter to develop the feature version of the film. At Women in Horror Film Festival, *Cassandra* was named Best Thriller Short and Best Editing (festival-wide).

Additionally, his film *Creature Companion*, which was produced with Dan Silverstein and directed by former RTVF faculty **Melika Bass**, premiered in Alabama at the Lindsay Film Festival in March.



Professor **Kyle Henry** received the the Provost Faculty Grants for Research in Humanities, Social Sciences and the Arts for his experimental essay film, *Trace of Time*, which examines the relationship of personal family archives to the scourge of Alzheimers and dementia.

Current Student News

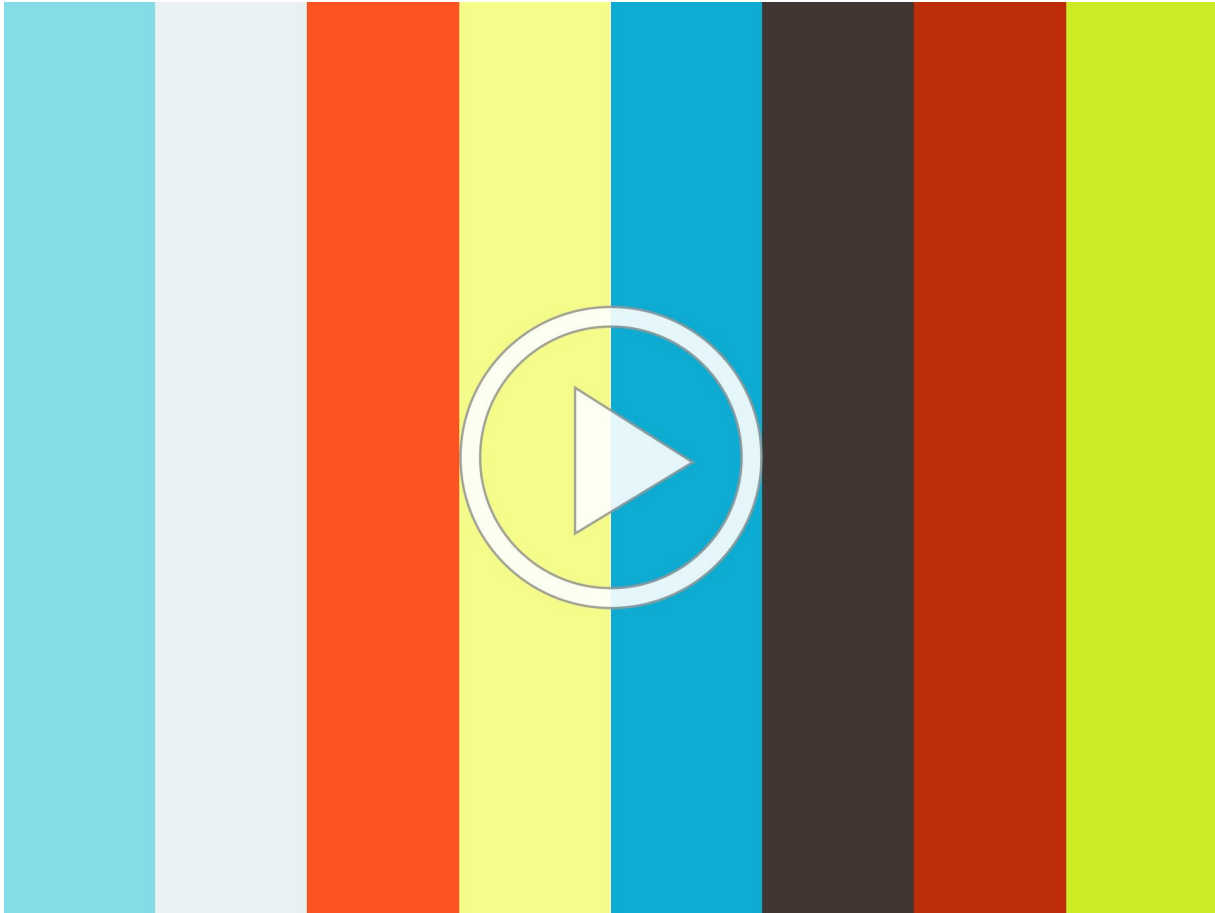
Undergraduates



RTVF Senior **Genevieve Kane** works for Macaulay Culkin’s satirical lifestyle website “Bunny Ears.” This winter a video Genevieve made dropped on YouTube and has officially reached over 50k views. The video is a “My Strange Addiction” satire, and features a guest appearance by Macaulay Culkin.

RTVF Senior **Rachel Fimbianti** attended the National Collegiate Research Conference at Harvard University with her research on decoding how well the films *Captain Marvel* and *Wonder Woman* were received outside of the normal measures of success within the film industry.

Screen Cultures



PhD student **Evelyn Kreutzer** published a video essay “The Mighty Maestro on Screen” in [NECSUS](#).



Screen Cultures PhD candidate **Whitney Pow** has accepted a tenure track teaching position at NYU’s Department of Media, Culture, and Communication as Assistant Professor of Queer and Transgender Media Studies.

Writing for the Screen & Stage

MFA **Gahee Lee** was selected as an award winner with his short script **"Copycats"** at White Unicorn International Film Festival, Outstanding Achievement Award at Druk International Film Festival, Finalist at Top Shorts Film Festival, Festigious Film festival, Officially Selected at Los Angeles Film Awards. In addition, another script of his, **"A Creep"** was officially selected for FINDECOIN Independent International Short Film Festival, Officially Selected at Austin Comedy Short Film Festival, Rhino Comedy Shorts Film Festival, FINDECOIN Independent International Short & Feature Film Festival, Festigious International Film Festival, White Unicorn International Film Festival, Druk International Film Festival, Los Angeles Film Awards and Wimbledon Library Film Club, Finalist at Top shorts Film Festival and Festigious Film Festival. And his script **"Time Museum Evanston"**, was nominated as Semi-Finalist(Top25) at Table Read My Screenplay Park City contest, won Best Short Screenplay at Festigious Film Festival, Honorable Mention at California International Shorts Festival, Honorable Mention at Los Angeles Film Awards, Best Short Script at Druk International Film Festival, Semi-Finalist at London Independent Story Prize, Finalist at Top Shorts Film Festival, and Officially Selected at White Unicorn International Film Festival and Wimbledon Library Film Club

MFA **Josefina Valenzuela Cerda** launched her narrative experience for Virtual Reality "The Circle" in the Oculus Go Store with a premiere at Redline VR in Chicago.

Sound Arts & Industries

In a joint event between the MA in Sound Arts and Industries and MFA in Documentary Media programs, sound artist **Ernst Karel** presented a screening of the film Electro-Pythgoras at Block Cinema on February 13.



Documentary Media

At the Gene Siskel Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago Milton Guillen's (Class of 2020) PRESENCE OF THE PAST screened as part of the Panorama Latinx Short Film Showcase. Guillen's feature The Maribor Uprisings also screened at Northwestern, a screening sponsored by The United World Colleges (UWC) Club. Guillén was also named a 2020 Bay Area Video Coalition (BAVC) MediaMaker Fellow and as he has been named a Tribeca Film Institute All Access Grantee for his film ON THE MOVE. The film follows three visual artists in exile from Syria, Sudan and Nicaragua as they strive to remain emotionally connected to their turbulent home countries.

Chris Churchill (Class of 2021) released a book, *Twenty Years Without a Weekend*, that tells the story of his 20 years as a Chicago tour guide. The book is available on Amazon.

Department of Radio/Television/Film

Annie May Swift Hall

1920 Campus Drive, 2nd Floor

Evanston, IL 60208

Phone: 847-491-7315

Fax: 847-467-2389

Please send all news items for the next issue by [block in], to
rtvfnewsletter@northwestern.edu



Received this email from a friend? [Follow this link to sign up for this email here](#). Prefer to unsubscribe? See link below.