

DERRICK D. PETE

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Derrick received his Master of Fine Arts from University of California Los Angeles's Film & TV Screenwriting graduate program. As an optioned, freelance screenwriter, Derrick has written over ten scripts within the sci-fi/fantasy, drama, and thriller genres. Derrick is also a recent screenwriting fellow of Project Involve, Film Independent's premiere program for filmmakers. Recently, Derrick expanded his creative territory, adding film producing and directing to his credits.

Derrick wrote and produced, *Marriage of Inconvenience*, selected by the Project Involve shorts program and presented during the Los Angeles Film Festival. Project Involve is Film Independent's signature diversity program that fosters the talents of emerging filmmakers.

Derrick wrote, directed and produced, *Waste Paper*, a fantasy/adventure short film developed in partnership with the Oscar-award winning visual effects team at Digital Sandbox as well as Scarecrow VFX, a company formed by key VFX professionals previously at Rhythm and Hues. *Waste Paper* garnered official selections from over 20 film festivals worldwide, most notably, SITGES International Fantastic Film Festival, the oldest and the world's most prestigious festival for fantasy films, selected one of only 36 international entries. Derrick was also honored to be one of five artists to present their work at UCLA's Emerging African American Filmmakers Showcase.

Derrick obtained his undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from the University of Florida at Gainesville. He worked for Exxon Chemicals for four years in their research and development division. Derrick holds two patents related to the purification of highly reactive olefins in mixed hydrocarbons.