

SEAN FRANCIS ELLIS

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

With over 25 years of experience, Sean has excelled in the world of film production. Sean has written and directed short films, music videos, commercials, and documentaries, and has also worked as a Production Assistant, Assistant Director, and Production Runner. Since 1996, Sean has penned numerous feature screenplays, some of which are currently under option. Sean's passion and dedication, combined with an extensive background in film production, make him a valuable asset to any project.

SKILLS

- Verbal and written communication
- Scriptwriting
- Script Analysis & Coverage
- Genre Expertise
- Teamwork and Collaboration
- Proficient in Final Draft, Final Cut Pro, Premiere Pro, and Leonardo.AI.
- People Management
- Film history knowledge
- Script Development
- Film directing
- Visual Storytelling

CURRENT POSITION

Screenwriting Trainer & Assessor, New York Film Academy, 03/01/23 - Present

WORK HISTORY

SCREENWRITING TRAINER/ASSESSOR 03/2023 to Current

New York Film Academy Australia

- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- Skilled at working independently and collaboratively in a team environment.
- Self-motivated, with strong sense of personal responsibility.
- Facilitated virtual, in-person and blended learning sessions via Zoom.
- Organized and detail-oriented with strong work ethic.
- Delivered dynamic presentations to diverse audiences of different ages & skill levels.
- Taught fundamentals of screenwriting, networking, contracts and pitching.

SMALL BUSINESS OWNER 08/2016 to 06/2023

Cinebrand

- Established a Video Production Business
- Promoted business via social media to generate leads and maximize brand identity.
- Tracked trends and implemented enhancements to refine product offerings.
- Interacted with customers to build connections and nurture relationships.

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, EDITOR: DOCUMENTARY 06/2017 to 09/2021**Cinebrand**, Hong Kong

"Island School: Celebrating 50 Years" is a 5-Part Documentary about a British international school in Hong Kong. The film examines the dramatic cultural and societal changes the school has witnessed since it opened in 1967, through interviews with staff and students, archival images and video.

- Arranged and recorded interviews with over 30 subjects during the 10 day shoot.
- Recorded over 15 hours of A & B roll video (Ultra HD) on location in Hong Kong.
- Researched and sourced hundreds of images and archival video.
- Raised funds for equipment rental and travel via crowdfunding (Indiegogo).
- Distributed via Blu-ray, DVD, and digital download.

PRODUCER'S ASSISTANT 11/2006 to 03/2007**Larger Than Life Productions**, Los Angeles, CA

The Tale of Despereaux (Animated Feature)

- Personal Assistant to Allison Thomas, Producer.
- Rolled calls, arranged travel and meeting schedules.
- Greeted guests and ran urgent errands.
- Liaised with producers and other creative staff to successfully complete projects.
- Facilitated communication between departments to synchronize work.
- Wrote screenplay coverage and conducted research for multiple projects in development.

PRODUCTION RUNNER, MAIN UNIT "SON OF THE MASK" 09/2003 to 05/2004**New Line Cinema**, Sydney, NSW

Son of the Mask (Feature) Erica Huggins, Producer

- Organized workspaces for optimal productivity, maintaining a clean and clutter-free environment conducive to efficient operations.
- Delivered call sheets and schedules to each department, synchronizing efforts for efficiency.
- Transported equipment between sets or locations for seamless workflow continuity.
- Transported rushes to film lab for processing at end of each shoot day.

EDUCATION

Victorian College of The Arts (VCA) - School of Film & Television, Melbourne, VIC, Australia
Bachelor of Arts, Film & Television Production, 06/1994

SCREENPLAYS

- The Legend of Yakatutch, Horror/Action, Feature, 2023
- Resist, Action/Thriller, Feature (Outline), 2022
- Shadow Men, Co-Writer, Kent Hill, Sci-Fi/Thriller, Feature, 2018
- Angel Dust, Crime/Thriller, Short, 2015
- The China Club, Comedy/Crime/Thriller, Feature, 2014
- Claws, Short based on Feature Screenplay, 2011
- The Assistant, Suspense/Thriller, Feature (Outline), 2009
- Claws, Action/Horror, Feature, 2005
- Illustrated Hero, Adventure/Romance, Feature, 2001

CONTESTS

- Semi-Finalist, ISA Emerging Screenwriters Action Adventure Screenplay Comp 2023
- Quarter-Finalist, ISA Emerging Screenwriters Suspense Screenplay Competition 2023
- ISA Fast Track Fellowship - Second Round 2022
- Semi-Finalist, ISA Emerging Screenwriters Suspense Screenplay Competition 2021
- Semi-Finalist, ISA Horror & Thriller + Genre Busting Screenplay Competition 2021
- Quarter-Finalist, ScreenCraft Screenwriting Fellowship 2017
- Best Scene Screenplay Reading - Toronto Festival for Horror 2017
- Official Selection, Beverly Hills Film Festival Screenplay Competition 2017
- Finalist, Horror Film & Screenplay Festival, Toronto 2016
- Best Project & Pitch - INTERNATIONAL 3D STEREO MEDIA SUMMIT, BELGIUM 2014
- Finalist, Beverly Hills Film Festival Screenplay Competition 2011

INTERNSHIPS

- **Larger Than Life Productions**, Universal Studios (Gary Ross) July - Sep, 2006
Screenplay coverage, research
- **Angry Films**, Henson Studios, Hollywood (Don Murphy) July - Sep, 2006
Screenplay coverage, research
- **Barbara Lieberman Productions**, Culver City June - July, 2006
Screenplay coverage, research

REFERENCES

- **Michael Burkenbine**, Producer, Becket Film Fund - burkenbine.michael@gmail.com - <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6096059/>
- **Paul Barry**, Director - Dream For A Living, Santa Monica - paul@dreamingforaliving.com
- **Adrian Moses**, Academic Chair, New York Film Academy, Gold Coast - adrian.moses@nyfa.edu
- **Germano Saracco**, Cinematographer, "CLAWS" (2011) - gsaracco@mac.com - www.germanosaracco.com/
- **Jimmy Gadd**, Director, Producer, Editor - gaddfilms@gmail.com - <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0300508/>

PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE

- **Island School: Celebrating 50 Years**, Director, Editor, Producer, 2021
- **Don't Wake Me Up**, Director, Camera, Editor, Music Video, 2013
- **CLAWS**, Director, Producer, Screenwriter, Short Film, Los Angeles, 2011
- **Sydney Dogs and Cats Home**, Director, Writer, Commercial, 2009
- **I Wish I Were Stephanie V**, Assistant Editor, Feature, Courage Films, 2009
- **AFI Film Festival, Film Professionals Desk**, Volunteer, Los Angeles, 2007
- **Los Angeles Film Festival**, Volunteer, Los Angeles 2006
- **Son of the Mask**, Production Runner, Feature, New Line Cinema, Producer Erica Huggins 2005
- **Still Life**, Second Assistant Director, Student Short Film, 2005
- **The Cause**, Director, Writer, Editor, Music Video - Matt Ellis, 2004
- **On Your Way**, Director, Camera, Editor, Music Video - Matt Ellis, 2002
- **A Wreck, A Tangle**, Production Runner, Feature, Producer Nicki Roller, 2000
- **Crossing**, Production Runner, Festival Trailer, 2000
- **Desy**, First Assistant Director, Short, Winner, TropFest Film Festival 2001
- **Our Lips Are Sealed**, Producer's Assistant, Feature, Courage Films, 2000

- **Farscape, Production Assistant**, TV series, Jim Henson Productions/Sci-Fi Channel, 1999
- **Muggers, Camera Department Attachment**, Feature, Producers Nigel Odell & David Redman, 1998
- **Scrapbook, Production Assistant**, Feature, Director Kurt Kuenne, Los Angeles, 1997
- **Mighty Morphin' Power Rangers: The Movie, Production Runner**, Feature, 20th Century Fox, Producer Suzanne Todd, 1995

WEBSITES, PORTFOLIOS, PROFILES

- <https://blcklst.com/profile/sean-ellis>
- [imdb.com/name/nm1753093/](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1753093/)
- <https://www.networkisa.org/profile/sean-ellis>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/in/seanelliswriterdirector/>

CERTIFICATIONS

TAE40116 Certificate IV in Training & Assessment (2023)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In 2011, Sean directed a proof-of-concept short based on his screenplay *CLAWS*, which premiered at the 69th World Science Fiction Convention in Reno, Nevada. In 2014, the retitled screenplay, *The Legend of Yakatutch*, was awarded Best Project & Pitch by a panel of international judges at the 3-D Stereo Media Summit in Liege, Belgium. In 2015, the project was selected as a Producer Spotlight Project for the International Financing Forum (Toronto) and Trans-Atlantic Partners. A graphic novel based on the screenplay is being developed by artist Joe Sutor. The screenplay is currently under option by US producer Michael Burkenbine - <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6096059/>