# StepIn 2015-

# Speakers, Moderators, International Distributors

# JON BARRENECHEA - PICTUREHOUSE CINEMAS, United Kingdom



Jon Barrenchea is Project Development Manager at Picturehouse Cinemas in the UK, primarily working on opening new cinemas across the UK. Jon also sits on the Management Board of the Film Hub South East, part of the BFI Film Audience Network, the board for the Cinecity Film Festival, and is a frequent speaker on audience development across the world.

#### **COMPANY DESCRIPTION**

Picturehouse Cinemas is the UK's largest arthouse cinema operator, with 23 cinemas across the country and growing. It was created in 1989 to offer an alternative to the multiplex and now also contains Picturehouse Entertainment, a distributor of box office hits THE IMPOSTER and THE CAVE OF FORGOTTEN DREAMS as well as a global leader in event cinema such as MONTY PYTHON and ROGER WATERS' THE WALL.

For more info: <a href="https://www.picturehouses.com/">https://www.picturehouses.com/</a>

## <u>SARAH CALDERON – THE FILM AGENCY, Spain</u>



The Film Agency is a marketing consultancy service specialized in the film industry. The agency director is Sarah Calderón who holds a major in advertising at the PUJ of Bogotá and a Master degree in Multicultural Communication at the CELSA Sorbonne IV in Paris. She has more than ten years of work experience in the audiovisual sector in different positions including: Head of International Sales at Coproduction Office – Paris, and distributor coordinator at Karma Films – Madrid. In parallel to The Film Agency she works as marketing tutor and consultant for EAVE, Europa Distribution and several Media Desks.

#### COMPANY DESCRTIPTION

The Film Agency is a marketing solution created for producers, sales agents and distributors across the world. We provide integral and creative services adapted to each stage of the film marketing process. Our clients include: Arts Alliance, Autlook, Avalon, Backup Films, Biennale di Venezia, EAVE, Entre Chien et Loup, Films Distribution, Karma Films, Locarno Film Festival, Marché du Film, Neueroad Movies, Pretty Pictures, RSA, The Match Factory. Our key partners in innovation projects like Walk This Way and The TIDE Experiment include: Cineuropa, Europa Distribution, Europa International, Headway, IPEDA and Under the Milky Way.

http://thefilmagency.eu/

#### CHRISTINE ELOY- EUROPA DISTRIBUTION, Belgium



Christine Eloy is General Manager for Europa Distribution, association of independent film distributors, active in 28 countries in Europe and beyond. After graduating in Anthropology at the ULB (Universite Libre de Bruxelles) Christine started to work for an event organization company, then for a pool of European televisual cultural programs. In 2000 she joined Cineart, one of the leading independent distributors in Benelux, where she worked at the sales department for twelve years, releasing about 600 films amongst which AMOUR, PERSEPOLIS, LORD OF THE RINGS or STILL LIFE. Since September 2013, Christine is Europa Distribution's general manager.

#### COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Europa Distribution is a network of independent film distributors, created in 2006. With more than 140 leading independent distributors representing 28 countries in Europe and beyond, it serves as the voice of the sector and acts as a network and a think tank. Since its creation, the association has accompanied and reinforced the integration and collaboration process between its members through brainstorming and training sessions, and information. The network's aim is to strengthen the existing ties to improve the curation, promotion and distribution of independent films.

Since October 2014, Ursula Meier (Silver Bear 2012 for *Sister*) is the President of Honor of the Association. The Board of Administration, chaired by Jakub Duszy nski (Gutek Film, Poland) & Laurent Dutoit (Agora Films, Switzerland) is composed of 13 independent European distributors, representative of the sector in terms of nationality, type of structure, and cultural diversity.

#### LESLI KLAINBERG - FILM SOCIETY LINCOLN CENTER, USA



Lesli Klainberg is the Executive Director of the Film Society of Lincoln Center. Lesli is also an award-winning producer and director whose documentaries have screened at film festivals such as Berlin, Sundance, Outfest and Frameline, and have been broadcast on networks including Cinemax, AMC, A&E, The Independent Film Channel (IFC), WE and PBS.

Prior to her current role as Executive Director, Lesli served as FSLC's Managing Director and the producer of the New York Film Festival. From 2008 through 2011, she served as Executive Director of NewFest, the NYC LGBT Film Festival.

Lesli also produced the acclaimed independent film, PAUL MONETTE: THE BRINK OF SUMMER'S END, which won the audience award for documentary at Sundance, Frameline, and Outfest, and was released theatrically by First Run Features and broadcast on HBO/Cinemax Reel Life. MONETTE was also on the "short list" for the Academy Award in 1997 and was nominated for the IDA Award for Best Documentary.

Lesli is a past Board member of GLAAD, Outfest and NewFest and has appeared on many juries and panels at film festivals around the country.

She has a BFA degree in film from Purchase College.

#### COMPANY PORTRAIT

America's pre-eminent film presentation organization, the Film Society of Lincoln Center was founded in 1969 to celebrate American and international cinema, to recognize and support new filmmakers, and to enhance awareness, accessibility and understanding of the art among a broad and diverse film going audience.

As an independent constituent of the world's foremost performing arts center, the Film Society of Lincoln Center presents year-round programming that includes premieres of new films from an international roster of established and emerging directors; major retrospectives; in-depth symposia and high profile events.

The Film Society is best known for two world-class international festivals—the New York Film Festival (the most famous and prestigious in the country), and New Directors/New Films (celebrating new cinematic artists). It runs two state-of-the-art year round cinemas, the Walter Reade Theater (268 seats) and the Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center (90 seats, 150 seats and the 75-seat Amphitheater), and publishes the country's most respected cinematic journal, *Film Comment*. Each year the organization presents its annual Gala Tribute honoring legendary stars and industry leaders of our generation at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. At various times of the year the Film Society partners with Hollywood studios to present premieres and special live appearances.

For more info: <a href="http://www.filmlinc.org/">http://www.filmlinc.org/</a>

## NICHOLAS KAISER - MEMENTO FILMS INTERNATIONAL, France



Born in Paris, in 1981, Nicholas studied Finance at Dauphine University and Copyright Law at Sorbonne.

He started for REZO, as Head of Festivals and Marketing for four years working with many prestigious directors (Rohmer, Sokurov, Schlondorff, Delpy...). He moved in

2008 to Memento Films International into sales, before gradually moving into the development and production side of the industry. He's a coproducer of Jim Mickle's

We Are What We Are (Sundance, Cannes' Directors' Fortnight 2013).

**COMPANY'S PROFILE** 

Memento is a select sales company designated to track and accompany high-profile, director driven independent films. We choose only 8 to 10 projects a year and can offer tailor-made synergies and business expertise. We also act in production with other companies (La Cinefacture & Memento Films Production) and in French distribution (Memento Films Distribution), according to the specific needs of each project. We have recently worked with renowned and award-winning filmmakers such as Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Asghar Farhadi, Laurent Cantet, Pawel Pawlikowski, Dominik Moll, Kelly Reichardt, Ramin Bahrani, Jia Zhang-ke, Ursula Meier and

Olivier Assayas.

More recent titles include Winter Sleep by Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Still Alice by directors Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland starring Julianne Moore, Kristen Stewart and Alec Baldwin, Joachim Trier's Louder Than Bombs with Isabelle Huppert, Gabriel Byrne and Jesse Eisenberg, as well as Cop Car by Jon Watts with Kevin Bacon. Upcoming projects include Bruno Dumont's Slack Bay (shooting mid 2015), Cate Shortland's Berlin Syndrome (shooting Fall 2015) as well as Dominik Moll's new

film News From Planet Mars (in post-production).

Memento's young and dynamic team is devoted to promote rather than only sell with a maximum of commitment. Whether it is high-end arthouse fare with a medium-sized budget or cutting-edge low budget projects from emerging talents, we take a close look on the originality of the plot as well as the cinematographic

vision of the director.

For more info - <a href="http://international.memento-films.com/">http://international.memento-films.com/</a>

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# PAMELA LEU- FILM DISTRIBUTION, Belgium



After a master in Audio-visual Communication, at 21 years of age Paméla Leu became part of the Parisian international sales agency FILM DISTRIBUTION.

After being in charge of the Festivals and Marketing sections for the duration of four years, she developed a TV department within the existing structure. By exploring worldwide television markets and showcases, she accumulated a catalogue of 350 films and documentaries across all genres. Her expertise in the fields of TV/Video/VOD allowed her to subsequently become responsible for sales of rights in the areas of Canada, Central and Oriental Europe, Turkey and the Middle East.

With a passion for cinema and travelling, Pamela's entrepreneurship has brought her, after eleven years of collaboration at FILMS DISTRIBUTION, to create BE FOR FILMS in April of 2014. This new sales agency is based in Brussels and Paris.

Her new challenge is reaching out to international producers.

MATHIAS NOSCHIS - ALPHAPANDA, United Kingdom

Mathias is a film marketing strategist with extensive experience in PR, advertising

and branding. He is the founder of Alphapanda, a film marketing agency specialised

in digital. Before founding Alphapanda, Mathias ran online promotional campaigns

in several European territories for films such as Toy Story 3, Black Swan, The A-

Team, Gulliver's Travels and Piranha 3D. Today, Mathias is a film marketing tutor for

many training organisations and workshops, including the NFTS in the UK, the Erich

Pommer Institut in Germany, The Producers' Workshop in Israel, Films for Rio in

Brasil and FOCAL in Switzerland.

COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Alphapanda is a film marketing agency based in London and Berlin founded by

Mathias Noschis.

Since 2011, we help independent producers and distributors to identify the right

targets for their film and reach out to audiences through creative and innovative

promotional activities. Our services include positioning, sales and festival strategy,

online PR and social media, direct distribution, crowdfunding, strategic monitoring

and training.

For more info: <a href="http://alphapanda.com/">http://alphapanda.com/</a>

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#### MONIQUE SIMARD- SODEC, Canada



Monique Simard has been appointed (January 2014) President and CEO of the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC).

Before that, M. Simard was Director General of the National Film Board of Canada's French Program and was responsible for the creation and programming of innovative and socially relevant films all designed for multiple platforms.

From 1998 to 2008, she was part of the team at Productions Virage, specializing in documentaries that focus on social and international issues.

Founding member of the CSN's Committee on the Status of Women, M. Simard has also been very active in the international solidarity movement.

#### COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC) committed to promoting culture

SODEC is a government corporation overseen by the Québec Minister of Culture and Communications. It supports the creation and growth of cultural enterprises throughout the province. SODEC is a true driving force for cultural development in Québec. SODEC brings together the passion of artistic creation with the power of economic development and provides cultural enterprises with a range of solutions designed to nurture Québec creators and promote the production, distribution and exportation of their work.

Follow SODEC on Facebook, Twitter and visit www.sodec.gouv.qc.ca

# **SUSAN WENDT** - TRUSTNORDISK, Denmark



Susan Wendt started working at Nordisk Film International Sales as Sales Manager in 2000. In January 2008 she became Head of Sales at Trust Film Sales. Later that year, Nordisk Film International Sales and Trust Film Sales merged into TrustNordisk. Susan Wendt is also President of Europa International, the Sales Agents' Organisation.

#### **COMPANY DESCRIPTION**

With over 35 years of expertise and know-how in international film sale, TrustNordisk market and sell feature films and TV-series worldwide. Representing one of the largest film catalogues in Europe with a feature film catalogue of more than 600 films from highly acclaimed directors such as Lars von Trier, Susanne Bier and Thomas Vinterberg.

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