

**PETER D. MARSHALL (DGC)**  
**Film Directing Coach / Author / Directing Instructor**  
**Film & TV Director / First Assistant Director**  
Website: <https://actioncutprint.com>  
IMDb: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0551106>

## Author

(1) I am the author of the Directing book *Making the Magic Happen: The Art and Craft of Film Directing* published in 2017 by Michael Wiese Productions. <http://mwp.com/product/making-magic-happen-craft-directing/> (NOTE: This book has also been translated into Chinese.)

(2) I also wrote a chapter called “What’s an Assistant Director Anyway - Roles and Responsibilities” in the Focal Press book “*Directing for the Screen*” edited by Anna Weinstein. <https://www.routledge.com/Directing-for-the-Screen/Weinstein/p/book/9781138945005>

## Film Directing Coach (Since 2011)

I offer my services as a **Film Directing Coach** to filmmakers worldwide. My private coaching is done through in-person coaching, on-set coaching and online coaching (email, Zoom, Skype). To inquire about my full coaching services, please check out my website at: <https://actioncutprint.com/filmdirectingcoach> or email: [directingcoach@actioncutprint.com](mailto:directingcoach@actioncutprint.com)

## “The Director's Chair” Free Monthly Ezine

In 1999, I created my website, ActionCutPrint.com and began to publish the free monthly ezine, *The Director's Chair* which is currently read by over 2400 filmmakers around the world.

## 15 Years of Teaching Experience (Full Time/Part Time)

### (1) Vancouver Film School (2008-2015)

I was a Directing instructor in the Film Production program and the Entertainment Business Management program. I also created the Assistant Directing course for VFS.

### (2) Shanghai Vancouver Film School (2015-2023)

I was the full-time Directing instructor and Assistant Directing instructor. I created and taught over 35 different directing classes and over 20 assistant directing classes.

*\*During my 15 years as an instructor at VFS and SHVFS (since 2008), I have participated in the production of over 900 short films: from script notes - to set mentoring - to director cuts.*

### (3) Shanghai Film Academy( (Shanghai University) (2020-2023)

I was a part-time Directing instructor for 4 years and I taught over 75 directing classes.

# Live Workshop Teaching Experience (Canada)

## **(1) Raindance Canada - Toronto**

### **2 Day Workshops**

- *Film Directing Essentials* (2012)
- *Advanced Blocking Techniques* (2012)
- *Directing Actors Masterclass* (2013)
- *Chemistry Behind the Camera: Director & DOP Relationship* (2013)
- *Directing Actors Masterclass* (2014)
- *Advanced Blocking Techniques* (2014)

## **(2) Raindance Canada - Vancouver**

### **2 Day Workshops**

- *Essentials of Film Directing* (2013)
- *Directing Actors Masterclass* (2013)
- *Advanced Blocking Techniques* (2014)
- *Chemistry Behind the Camera: Director & DOP Relationship* (2014)
- *Essentials of Film Directing* (2015)
- *Directing Actors Masterclass* (2015)
- *Advanced Blocking Techniques* (2015)

## **(3) Directors Guild of Canada - Vancouver**

### **4 Day Workshops**

- *The Art of the Director* (2005)

### **2 Day Workshops**

- *Directing Actors* (2005)
- *AD Film Scheduling Course* (2006)
- *AD Film Scheduling Course* (2008)

### **3 Day Workshops**

- *The Art & Craft of the Director* (2009)

## **(4) Directors Guild of Canada - Regina (2009)**

### **2 Day Workshops**

- *AD Film Scheduling Course*
- *The Art & Craft of the Director*

## **(5) Gastown Actor's Studio – Vancouver**

### **2 Day Workshops**

- *On Camera Workshop (Part 1)* (1990)
- *On Camera Workshop (Part 2)* (1990)

### **2 Day Workshops**

- *Acting for the Camera (Level 1)* (1991)
- *Acting for the Camera (Level 2)* (1991)

## **(6) Vancouver Institute of Media Arts**

### **1 Day Workshops**

- *Actor/Director Casting Workshop* (2013)
- *Actor/Director Casting Workshop* (2014)

## **(7) Shoreline Actors Lab - Vancouver (2014)**

### **2 Day Workshops**

- *Essentials of Film Directing*
- *Directing Actors Masterclass*

## **(8) Studio on the Drive - Vancouver (2010)**

### **1 Day Workshop**

- *Audition Workshop*

**(9) Stunts Canada – Vancouver (2010)**

**3 Day Workshop**

- *The Art & Craft of the Director*

**(10) Telus Studios - Vancouver (2014)**

**2 Day Workshop**

- *Directing Actors*

**(11) Advanced Directing Workshops - Calgary (2008)**

**3 Day Workshop**

- *The Art & Craft of the Director*

**(12) Advanced Directing Workshops - Vancouver (2010)**

**3 Day Workshops**

- *Directing the Film Actor*

- *The Art & Craft of the Director*

**(13) Advanced Directing Workshops - Vancouver (2005)**

**3 Day Workshop**

- *The Art & Craft of the Director*

**(14) Advanced Directing Workshops - Vancouver (2006)**

**3 Day Workshop**

- *The Art & Craft of the Director*

**(15) Advanced Directing Workshops - Vancouver (2007)**

**3 Day Workshop**

- *The Art & Craft of the Director*

**(16) Holland College, Prince Edward Island - School of Performing Arts (2014)**

- **Guest Lecture:** *The Actor/Director Relationship*

**(17) University of Prince Edward Island - Theatre Studies (2014)**

- **Guest Lecture:** *What Film Directors Look for When Auditioning Actors*

**(18) Saskatchewan Media Production (Regina) (2023)**

- **Special Guest:** *Directing Actors “Explainer” plus Q&A*

**(19) Vancouver Film School (2023)**

- **Guest Lecture:** *Understanding Human Behavior*

- **Masterclass Workshop:** *Using Scene Beats to Direct Actors*

## **Live Workshop Teaching Experience (International)**

**(1) Singapore (2003)**

Moviecitiy2003 Film Production and Special Effects Workshops

**8 x 3 Hour Lectures:** *Film Directing Essentials*

**(2) Dubai, UAE (2006)**

Sponsored by ExtraCake P.R.A

**3 Day Workshop**

- *The Art of the Film Director*

**(3) Singapore (2008)**

Singapore Media Academy (Mediacorp)

**3 Day Workshop**

- *Directing the Artiste*

**(4) Petionville, Haiti (2013)**

Sponsored by Haiti Love Revolution

**2 Day Workshop**

- *Film Directing Essentials: The Art of Story-Telling*

**(5) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2016)**

Sponsored by Taipan Holdings

**2 Day Workshop (Hollywood Comes to Malaysia)**

- *The Art and Craft of the Director: Film Directing Essentials*

**(6) China Arts Museum, Shanghai (2017)**

**1 Hour Lecture: Filmmaking as a Profession**

**(7) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2017)**

Sponsored by Taipan Holdings

**1 Day Workshop**

- *The Art & Craft of Film Directing*

**(8) Yanching Institute of Technology - Yanjiao, China (2017)**

**1 Day Workshop**

- *Film Directing Essentials*

**(9) Yoobee School of Design and Film - Auckland, New Zealand (2018)**

**1 Day Workshop**

- *The 6 Essential Stages for Casting Actors*

**(10) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2019)**

Sponsored by Taipan Holdings

**3 Day Masterclass**

- *Directing the Actor Masterclass*

**2 Day Workshop**

- *Essentials of Directing*

**(11) L'Oreal Shanghai (2022)**

**3 Hour Lecture: The Role of the Director**

**(12) Vmovier.com (Production/Distribution for Short Films) - Beijing**

**9 Short Directing Lectures/Q&A Throughout China (2015-2018)**

*Beijing (x1) Shanghai (x2) Guangzhou (x3) Chongqing (x2) Chengdu (x1)*

## **Online Webinars Experience (Sponsored)**

**(1) Lightedstar Entertainment (2012)**

*The Essentials of Film Directing*

**(2) Northern California Filmmakers Coalition (2013)**

*The Essentials of Film Directing*

**(3) Sacramento Video Industry Professionals (2014)**

*The Essentials of Film Directing*

**(4) Raindance Canada - Toronto (2014)**

- *Working with Actors*

- *Blocking Techniques*

**(5) Stage 32 Presents “Next Level” 4 Week Online Course (2014)**

*Class 1 - Understanding Human Behavior: Motivation, Feelings, Emotions*

*Class 2 – Script Analysis: The 9-Step Scene Breakdown Process*

*Class 3 – Directing Actors in Prep: Auditions, Readthroughs, Rehearsals*

*Class 4 - Directing Actors on the Set: Blocking, Rehearsing, Shooting*

**(6) Stage 32 Webinar (2014)**

*Pre-Production: The Film Director’s Process of Discovery*

## Podcasts - Directing and Assistant Directing

**(1) Rex Sikes Movie Beat (2009 - 2015)**

- Director Series (29 x 1 hour Episodes)

- Assistant Director Series (5 x 1 hour Episodes)

## PDF Filmmaking Courses (Created & Sold Online)

**(1) The Art & Craft of the Director** is a 261-page multi-media Online course that demystifies the process of directing and fast-tracks your way to becoming a working Film and TV director.

**(2) Script Breakdown and Film Scheduling** is a 165-page course that shows you how to design a reliable shooting schedule for Feature Films & TV Productions.

**(3) Creating the Daily Prep Schedule** is a 100-page course containing 11 finished daily prep schedules that show you step-by-step, day-by-day, meeting-by-meeting, what "actually occurred" during prep on 11 real film and TV productions.

## Film & TV Production Work Experience

**(1) Documentary Writer/Director/Producer**

**1976 - 1983**

**OUR PETROLEUM CHALLENGE (1976)**

(6 X 15 Minutes)

CTV

**MENTAL HEALTH/CEREBRAL PALSY (1977)**

(2 X 10 Minutes)

Access TV

**WORLD OF PLANTS (1978, 1979, 1980)**

(40 X 1/2 Hour)

CBC

**THERE'S NO FREE LUNCH (1979, 1980)**

(18 X 1/2 Hour)

CBC

**AEROMEDICAL TRANSPORTATION (1980)**

(2 X 1/2 Hour)

Access TV

**NIGHT PEOPLE (1980)**

(1 X 1/2 Hour)

CBC

**ONE GIANT STEP (1983)**

(8 X 1/2 Hour)

Access TV

## **(2) Film and Television Director**

**1986 - Present**

### **HAMILTON'S QUEST**

"The Chariot" (1986)

Penta One

CTV

### **THE BLACK STALLION**

"Star Quality" (1990)

"Killer" (1990)

Alliance Communications

Family Channel

### **MOM P. I.**

"Looking For A Living" (1990)

Atlantis Films

CBC

### **SCENE OF THE CRIME**

"They Spell Mother" (1990)

Cannell Films

CBS

### **21 JUMPSTREET**

"No Summer Camp" (1990)

Cannell Films

Fox

### **WISEGUY**

"One Horse Town" (1990)

"Brrump Bump" (1990)

Cannell Films

CBS

### **BOOKER**

"Black Diamond Run" (1990)

Cannell Films

Fox

### **ELI'S LESSON** (1992)

1 Hour TV Movie Special

Minds Eye Productions

Family Channel/W.I.C.

### **NEON RIDER**

"Secrets" (1991)

"Safe at Home" (1993)

"St. Vincent" (1994)

AVR Productions

AVR Productions

AVR Productions

CTV

Canwest

Canwest

### **JOHN WOO'S ONCE A THIEF**

"Trial Marriage" (1997)

"Little Sister" (1997)

"Jaded Love" (1997)

"Politics of Love" (1997)

"Li Ann's Choice" (1997)

Alliance Communications

CTV

### **NOTHING TOO GOOD FOR A COWBOY**

"Charades" (1998)

"Sex, Lies" (1998)

"House Guests" (1998)

Alliance Communications

CBC

### **BLACK HARBOUR**

"Wait for Spring" (1998)

Three Sheets Productions

CBC

### **THE FAMOUS JETT JACKSON**

"Premiere" (1999)

"Bank Robbery" (1999)

Alliance/Atlantis

Disney Channel

### **CAITLIN'S WAY**

"Fear & Falling in Montana" (1999)

"The Candidate" (1999)

"Side Kicks" (1999)

Lynch Entertainment

Nickelodeon

### **POWER PLAY**

"The Truth" (1999)

Alliance/Atlantis

CTV

**BIG WOLF ON CAMPUS**  
"Don't Fear the Reaper" (1999)  
"Blame it on the Haim" (2000)  
"Pleased to Eat You" (2000)

Telescene Film Group

Fox Family Channel

**LARGO WINCH**

"Legacy" (2000)  
"Business as Usual" (2000)

TVA International    Global    Paramount

**SHORT FILMS**

"Steampunk Neverland: Forever" (2011)  
"Psycho Princess: Cinderella" (2011)  
"The Smell of Blood" (2012)  
"The Veil" (2012)

Vancouver Film School  
Vancouver Film School  
Vancouver Film School  
Vancouver Film School

**(3) Executive Creative Consultant (Producer)**

**1997**

**JOHN WOO'S ONCE A THIEF** (22 episodes)    Alliance Communications

**(4) First Assistant Director**

**Feature Films**

**1988 - 2008**

**THE FLY II** (1988)  
Twentieth Century Fox  
Cast: Eric Stoltz, Daphne Zuniga

Director: Chris Walas  
Producer: Steven-Charles Jaffe

**BIRD ON A WIRE** (1989)  
Universal Pictures  
Cast: Mel Gibson, Goldie Hawn

Director: John Badham  
Producer: Rob Cohen

**LOOK WHO'S TALKING NOW** (1993)  
Tri-Star Pictures  
Cast: John Travolta, Kirstie Alley

Director: Tom Ropelewski  
Producer: Jonathan Krane

**MAN OF THE HOUSE** (1994)  
Disney Pictures  
Cast: Chevy Chase, Farrah Fawcett

Director: James Orr  
Producer: Marty Katz

**BIG BULLY** (1995)  
Morgan Creek  
Cast: Rick Moranis, Tom Arnold

Director: Steve Miner  
Producer: Gary Foster

**HAPPY GILMORE** (1995)  
Universal Pictures  
Cast: Adam Sandler, Christopher McDonald,

Director: Dennis Dugan  
Producer: Robert Simonds

**THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT** (2002)  
New Line Cinema  
Cast: Ashton Kutcher, Melora Walters

Directors: J. Mackye Gruber & Eric Bress  
Producer: AJ Dix, Lisa Richardson

**THE LIZZIE MCGUIRE MOVIE** (2002)  
Disney Pictures  
Cast: Hilary Duff, Alex Borstein

Director: Jim Fall  
Producer: David Roessell

**DAWN OF THE DEAD** (2003)  
Universal Studios  
Cast: Sarah Polley, Ving Rhames

Director: Zack Snyder  
Producer: Eric Newman

**EDISON FORCE** (2004)  
Millenium Films/Nu Image  
Cast: Kevin Spacey, Morgan Freeman

Director: David Burke  
Producer: John Thompson

**THOMAS KINKADE'S CHRISTMAS COTTAGE**  
Lionsgate Entertainment/The Firm (2007)  
Cast: Jared Padalecki, Marcia Gay Harden, Peter O'Toole

Director: Michael Campus  
Producers: Ogden Gavanski, Julie Yorn

**PERSONAL EFFECTS** (2008)  
Insight Film Studios  
Cast: Ashton Kutcher, Michelle Pfeiffer, Kathy Bates

Director: David Hollander  
Producers: Kirk Shaw, Gil Netter

## Feature Films - Second Unit

## 1993 - 2003

**LEGENDS OF THE FALL** (1993)  
Tri-Star Pictures  
(W.W. I Battle Sequence Co-ordinator)

Producer: Patrick Crawley  
Main Unit Director: Ed Zwick  
Second Unit Director: David Wagreich

**UNDERCLASSMAN** (2003)  
Miramax

Producer: James Dyer  
Second Unit Director: Jeff Dashnaw

## Television Movies

## 1991 - 2009

**CAPTIVE** (1991)  
Ten-Four Productions/ABC

Director: Michael Tucker  
Producer: Sam Strangis

**SURVIVE THE NIGHT** (1992)  
Once Upon A Time Productions/USA Network

Director: Bill Corcoran  
Producer: Stan Brooks

**THE JOHN LIST STORY** (1992)  
Republic Pictures/CBS

Director: Bobby Roth  
Producer: Chuck McLain

**ONE MORE MOUNTAIN** (1993)  
Disney/ABC

Director: Dick Lowry  
Producer: Marian Rees

**NOWHERE TO HIDE** (1994)  
Paramount/ABC

Director: Bobby Roth  
Producer: Stan Rogow

**THE WAR BETWEEN US** (1994)  
Atlantis/CBC

Director: Anne Wheeler  
Producer: Valerie Gray/Gary Harvey

**THE DIANA KILMURY STORY** (1995)  
Alliance/CBC

Director: Sturla Gunnerson  
Producer: Anne Wheeler/Laszlo Barna

**ONCE A THIEF** (1996)  
Alliance / Fox Network

Director: John Woo  
Producer: William Laurin / Glenn Davis

**FOR HOPE** (1996)  
Two Sisters Productions/ABC

Director: Bob Saget  
Producer: Karen Moore

**ANGEL OF PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE**  
PMP Productions/Hallmark Entertainment (1996)

Director: Robert Ellis Miller  
Producer: Tom Rowe/Lisa Towers

**JITTERS** (1996)  
The Mannheim Company/ABC

Director: Bob Saget  
Producer: Rhonda Berkely

**ALL THE WINTERS THAT HAVE BEEN**  
Jaffe/Braunstein Films/CBS (1997)

Director: Lamont Johnson  
Producer: Christine Sacani

**KILLERS IN THE HOUSE** (1998)  
Ian Film Productions Ltd.

Director: Michael Schultz  
Producer: John V. Stuckmeyer

**SAVING MILLY** (2004)  
Milly Productions Inc/CBS

Director: Dan Curtis  
Producers: Dan Curtis/Daniel Blatt

**TOTALLY AWESOME** (2005)  
Westco Entertainment/VH1 TV

Director: Neal Brennan  
Producer: Don West

**BURY MY HEART AT WOUNDED KNEE**  
HBO/Buffalo Coat Productions (2006)

Director: Yves Simoneau  
Producers: Clara George, Thomas Thayer

**A DOG NAMED CHRISTMAS**  
Hallmark Entertainment (2009)

Director: Peter Werner  
Producer: Andrew Gottlieb

### Television Series Pilots

### **1994 - 2008**

**PARTY OF FIVE** (1994)  
Columbia Pictures/Fox

One-hour television series pilot  
Producer: Ken Topolsky  
Director: Dick Pearce

**1-800-MISSING** (2003)  
Lifetime/Lions Gate Television

One-hour television series pilot  
Producer: John Calvert  
Director: Michael Fresco

**THREE MOONS OVER MILFORD** (2005)  
Walt Disney Studios/Touchstone

One-hour television series pilot  
Producer: Holly Sloan, Pam Williams  
Director: Michael Fresco

**SHATTERED** (2008)  
Force Four Films/Blueprint Entertainment

One-hour television series pilot  
Producers: Hugh Beard, Noreen Halpern  
Director: Bobby Roth

### Television Series

### **1986 - 2008**

**HAMILTON'S QUEST** (1986)  
Penta One/CTV

Six half-hour television dramas  
Producer: Bill Mackie

**STINGRAY** (1986)  
Cannell Films

Four one-hour television dramas  
Producer: Chuck Bowman

**J.J. STARBUCK** (1987)  
Cannell Films/NBC

Five one-hour television dramas  
Producer: Chuck Bowman

**WISEGUY** (1988 - 1989)  
Cannell Films/CBS

Fourteen one-hour television dramas  
Producer: Les Sheldon

**BOOKER** (1989)  
Cannell Films/Fox

Four one-hour television dramas  
Producer: Steve Beers/Brooke Kennedy

**MASTERS OF SCIENCE FICTION** (2006)  
Industry Entertainment/ABC

Three one-hour television dramas  
Producer: Keith Addis, Sam Egan

**REAPER** (2008)  
Mark Gordon Co/ABC Studios

Two one-hour television dramas  
Producers: Tom Spezialy, JP Finn

### Commercials & Music Videos

### **1995 - 2005**

Over 25 Commercials (including Mattel, McDonald's, Toyota, Ocean Spray, Kraft)

## Awards and Nominations

### **ELI'S LESSON**

*9th Annual Television Movie Awards, New Jersey (1993)*

-Best Drama Production Feature Length

*Chicago International Children's Film Festival (1993)*

-Best Live Action Short Program 30 - 60 minutes

-Recognition of Excellence In Children's Media

-Nomination in Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in Children's Media (USC / UNICEF Rights of the Child)

*Saskatchewan Film and Video Showcase (1992)*

-Best Overall Production

-Best Drama

-Saskfilm Drama Award

*41st Annual Columbus, Ohio International Film & Video Festival (1993)*

-The Bronze Plaque for Best Children's Program

*26th Annual U.S. International Film and Video Festival (1993)*

-Silver Screen Award for Best Children's Program

*43rd Melbourne International Film Festival (1994)*

-Nomination, Best Youth Program, Kino Awards for Short Film

*11th Adelaide International Children's Film and Video Festival (1994)*

-Nomination, Best Children's Program

*Banff International Film Festival (1993)*

-Nominated for Best Children's Program

*Golden Sheaf Awards, Yorkton (1993)*

-Nomination for Drama Over 30 minutes

### **AEROMEDICAL TRANSPORTATION**

*John Muir Medical Film Festival (1982)*

-First Prize (Emergency Medicine)

*Health Sciences Communication (1981)*

-Second Prize

## MEMBERSHIPS

**DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA**      Senior Director since 1980

## EDUCATION

**RYERSON POLYTECHNICAL  
INSTITUTE**, Toronto, Ontario  
(Now: **TMU-School of Image Arts**)

*Diploma in Photographic Arts*  
(Motion Picture Major)  
Graduated – 1975

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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