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May 4, 2016

Film Connection Chapter 1 Assignment

What I desire from the program and what I want to do in the film industry

Connections and a foot in the door. That is primarily what I'm looking for out of this program. Which is why I was drawn to this mentoring approach in the first place. Getting the opportunity to work with, help out, and experience film making in all it's aspects, from a working professional. Which brings me to the second aspect of what I hope the program can give me. Exposure to those different aspects, both in class, for lack of a better word, and in practical use. The way I see it, the more I know about the different aspects of filmmaking; gaffer, grip, director, craft services, visual effects, producer, all of it, will just help me be that much better and more informed in whatever roles I take on. The knowledge of any role will inform the knowledge and choices in other roles.

I expect to get a great grounding in what it is to produce a film, what it takes. I suspect that my former career will have a lot of overlap with producing. But I also know there is a ton to learn, and a lot of it will not be in the book. In just talking with my mentor many things came up about fundraising, distribution and the like that no book is going to show me. I look forward to gaining that experience and learning those things that don't show up in any books.

In the producing and directing world I expect to leave with the tools to mount my own productions, to have the knowledge of what I can do and what I will need to get help and hire for.

From the screenwriting portion, it's again exposure to other frames of mind and working with someone who is functioning in the industry. Someone who can show and coach me on how to get the stories out of my head and onto the page. As well as how to market my work, again that foot in the door. And, their ability to critique me honestly will be very very valuable. I love good honest feedback and can use it to thrive and improve.

I want this program to show me how to get into and succeed in the business. Hard work is not a challenge to me, I love it. But marketing, networking and exposure are things I know I can improve on and could use some help with.

My desire for what I do in the industry. Dream job??? Would be to own and operate a studio here in Seattle, making great stories with great people, and making money doing it. All while making the audience feel and connect. However, I'm more than happy to do commercial work, corporate work etc. but want that ability to tell stories we want to tell as well. That being said, I'm not sure what position I will land on. Maybe in screenwriting, or script doctoring, I do like to read and give feedback to folks on their work. Hopefully it's productive for them. I've been told it is. Or editing, I truly believe the story is told three times, first when written, second when shot, and third when edited. And I do love the happy accidents that happen in editing, and on set. Or maybe it's visual effects, making a world that I see in my mind. Or directing, getting everyone to rally around a vision, working in that collaborative environment but being able to call the shots and give direction when needed. Or even producing, getting all the ducks in a row, being the one to truly pull the whole thing together, the lifecycle of a film, that would be awesome as well. We'll see where this takes me but I have high hopes for the program and what it, and the mentorship can offer me.