Discuss Line Producing and the importance of staying on budget.

A line producer makes the budget and oversees the budget each day on set. They oversee the logistical side of the project. It’s incredibly important to stay on budget or you won’t be able to finish the shoot.

Discuss the Wachowski’s career and why they ‘Needed a hit’.

They did the Matrix films which were a huge success. They did a remake of Speed Racer which was a $200 million dollar failure. They made a $140 million dollar independent film which was also a flop so even though they had success before they haven’t lately and that will kill your career.

What was the creative process for the Blair Witch Project and why was it so successful?

They had a $20k budget, birthed the found footage style of shooting, wrote a loose script and had actors improv the rest. It’s hard to say why it was such a huge success with making $300 million dollars but I would say the found footage style horror of it made it so real to the audience which made it so successful.

How did Tom Cruise prove that he was still commercially viable when he "needed a hit"?

His part as Les Grossman in Tropic Thunder helped because people were thinking Cruise was crazy at the time and paying this part kind of made fun of himself with the fat suite and the laughing at himself mentality.