

**Chris LaMont**

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**EDUCATION**

**Arizona State University – graduated 2005 - *Magna Cum Laude***

B.A. Interdisciplinary Arts & Performance  
College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Performance

**Phoenix College - Associate of Arts Degree**

**HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYMENT**

**Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, Arizona State University**

2023 – present: Clinical Associate Professor - The Sidney Poitier New American Film School  
2017-2023: Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Film, Dance and Theatre /The Sidney Poitier  
New American Film School  
2015-2017: Instructor, School of Theatre & Film / School of Film, Dance and Theatre  
2004-2015: Faculty Associate, School of Theatre / School of Theatre & Film

**Courses Taught (current courses marked with \*)**

*FMP 461 - Advanced Screenwriting Workshop*

Two-semester class enabling students to complete a feature-length (minimum ninety pages) screenplay that they can use as a writing sample or a spec script to be purchased by a producer.

*FMP 361 - Intermediate Screenwriting \**

Elective course guides screenwriting students through the rigorous process of screenplay writing to create two short film screenplays under intense faculty supervision.

*FMP 201 – Film: The Creative Process*

Required in-person course encompasses all aspects of filmmaking from development, pre-production, production, post-production and marketing.

*FMP 398 - Capstone Development*

Required course walks students through the development process and begins the pre-production process for the students ``Capstone Project”, their graduating senior thesis.

*FMP 370 - Film and Media Producing*

Elective course for students to learn about the process for producing film and media projects.

*FMP 335 - Careers in Media Industry*

Required course where students learn about the various aspects of making a career in the film and media freelance world outside the Hollywood studio system.

*FMP 280 - Intro to Film Production*

Required course where lower-division students learn the principles and techniques of production in a practicum and working under faculty supervision to create a class music video.

*FMP 380 - Production Crew*

Required course where students work on peer film sets and how to become a working professional in the production industry with a focus on individual career growth.

*FMP 405 – Special Topics: Alfred Hitchcock \**

Online elective focusing on the life, themes and cinematic career of filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock.

*FMP 405 –Special Topics: Great Comedy Films \**

Online elective focusing on principles of comedy structure, sub-genres of comedy film, as well as appreciation of films and filmmakers and the history of comedy cinema.

*FMP 300 – Film and Media Production I / THE 400 - Film Production Part 1 & Part 2*

Students are taught the principles of filmmaking – through idea development, screenwriting, pre-production, production and post-production and make their own individual mentored films.

*THE 405 – Focus on Film Festivals*

Elective course for student analysis and appreciation course of Film Festivals

*THP 261 - Intro to Screenwriting \**

Required course focuses on basic principles of original and adaptive screenwriting, with an emphasis on basic storytelling, exposition, character development and the structural formats.

*THE 400 Independent Film*

Required class focused on Independent Film appreciation, including studies of the American Independent Film Movement from 1969 to present day.

**ASU Teaching and University Service**

As part of a full-time faculty member's commitment to Arizona State University, faculty is expected to take part in service to the University in a variety of ways.

Current – 2015: School Internship Coordinator – works with students and employers opptys

Current – 2015: Location Coordinator for Film Area –working with Enterprise Marketing Hub to create a University-wide location request process for film projects

Current – 2015: Have attended several Commencement and Convocations ceremonies.

Current – 2019 Created and maintain the ASU Actor Database

Current – 2019: Faculty Advisor for student organizations MGE and FADE IN:

Current – 2015: Senior Projects, Individualized Instruction and mentoring  
 2024 – 2023: Alumni, Scholarship and Events School Committees  
 2020: HIDA Curriculum Committee – review of student academic petitions.  
 2021– 2018: Have represented ASU at the Arizona Student Film Festival  
 2022 - 2015: Various THF 125 Recitation sections.  
 2022 - 2015: SOFTD Film Area / SPNAFS Curriculum Coordinator
 

- Assisted Dr. Jason Scott with BFA Curriculum development
- Arranged semester class scheduling
- Worked with Faculty on class load and assignments
- Organized monthly Faculty Meetings
- Organized and Interviewed for Faculty Associate Openings

 2020 & 2024: HIDA Curriculum Committee – review of student academic petitions.  
 2019: Herberger Days Presenter  
 2021 – 2015: Safety Coordinator– developed schoolwide process for Safety Reviews.

### **Teaching at Other Universities**

#### **Grand Canyon University**

2012-2013: Faculty Adjunct, Digital Film Program

#### *DFP 113 - Film Financing, Budgeting and Distribution*

Taught essentials of film producing.

#### *COM 221 - Screenwriting I*

Taught basic principles of screenwriting.

#### **University of Advancing Technology**

2006-2012: Faculty Adjunct, Digital Video Production

#### *DVA 371 - Advanced Digital Editing*

Class focused on working outside of the school with and emphasis on external projects.

#### *THE 125 - History of Motion Pictures*

Focus on the creation of motion pictures, to present day.

#### *DVA 391 – Current Trends in Digital Video Industry*

Focus on technology advances and student preparation for career industry opportunities.

#### *SPT 399 – Special Topics – Multimedia and Advanced Short Film Production*

Taught courses developing student on television and individual and team short film production.

#### *DVA 341- Independent Film Production*

Taught advanced production techniques for students to develop their own individual films.

## **CREATIVE PUBLICATIONS**

Original Screenplay: *The Inheritance* (previous title *The Last Will and Testament of Charles Abernathy*)

Suspense-thriller written with co-writer Joe Russo, named to the 2018 BloodList for the top 13 unproduced horror screenplays in Hollywood and The 2018 Hit List, named as the #21 unproduced screenplay in Hollywood. Released in Summer 2024 on VOD and limited theatrical.

Screenplay: *Soul Mates*

Suspense horror adapted screenplay written with co-writer Joe Russo, named to the 2016 BloodList, for the top 13 unproduced screenplays in Hollywood. Released in Fall 2023 starring Charlie Weber and Annie Alonzeh.

Adapted Screenplay: *The Locksmith*

Drama written with co-writer Joe Russo as a rewrite from an existing screenplay. Film released in Spring 2023 starring Ryan Phillippe, Kate Bosworth and Ving Rhames.

Adapted Screenplay: *Hard Kill* (previous title *Open Source*)

Sci-Fi Action screenplay written with co-writer Joe Russo, purchased by Emmet Furla (producers of Hellboy and Lone Survivor). Rewritten for lower budget threshold in Fall 2019 and produced in Spring 2020 starring Bruce Willis and released as number one movie on Netflix in Fall 2020.

Original Screenplay: *The Au Pair Nightmare* (previous title: *The Au Pair*)

Suspense-thriller screenplay written with co-writer Joe Russo, purchased by Indie Film productions. Film released in Spring 2020 internationally and cable rights purchased by Lifetime networks with over 750K viewers on first two airings.

## **BOOK PUBLICATION**

Author: *Great Comedy Films: or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Funny Movies*

Published in 2016 (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition in 2023) by Kendall Hunt, developed for the FMP 405: Great Comedy Films course taught at ASU but currently sold nationwide to post-secondary institutions and available on Amazon.

It's an overview of American Comedy Films since 1892 with analysis and an interview with writer/director John Landis. Textbook has been adopted by several institutions across the United States.

## **PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

**Russo-LaMont Productions, LLC**

2016 - present: Partner

Production company started for screenwriting and producing with partner Joseph Russo.

**Executive Producer Credits**

*Soul Mates*

*The Locksmith*

**Feature-Length Screenplays Produced:**

*Soul Mates*

*The Last Will and Testament of Charles Abernathy* (retitled: *The Inheritance*)

*The Locksmith*

*Hard Kill*

*The Au Pair Nightmare*

**Feature-Length Screenplays Written:**

*Christmas Slayaway*

*A Complete Stranger Gave Me \$10,000 on Venmo*

*The Locksmith*

*Unwelcome*

*Inborn*

*The Last Rite*

*The Red Pill*

*Open Source*

*Soul Mates*

*Insolvent*

*Faith*

*The Long Con* (TV pilot)

*Blue Demon* (TV pilot)

*Road Rage*

*Starstruck*

*Exorcist Incorporated* (TV pilot)

*Battle of the Exes*

**Treatments and Pitches Written:**

*My House*

*Chain Letter*

*Murder Club*

*Outsourced*

*The Plumber*

*Exorcist Incorporated*

*Killer Klowns from Outer Space II*

*Leprechaun Homecoming*

*Nanny Cam*

*Poltergeist* (TV Series)

*Proximity*

*Silent Night, Deadly Night II*

*Something in My House*

*Stowaway*

## **Chris LaMont Productions, Inc**

1995-present: President and Founder

Company created to work on independent film and corporate video productions. Clients include NBC, Childhelp, Henkel / Dial Corporation, Arizona Supreme Court and others.

### **Feature Films**

Producer: *Rhea*

Production in 2017, this ultra-low budget science-fiction drama was written and directed by Robert Conway.

Producer: *Postmarked*

Production in 2015, this ultra-low budget dark comedy was directed by Gene Ganssle from a screenplay by Gene Ganssle and Ron Hunting

Producer: *Justice Served*

Production in 2014, this low budget suspense thriller was written and directed by Marvin Young. The film starred Lance Henriksen and Gail Grady. Selected as the 2014 FilmSpark Summer Feature Film.

Producer: *The Graves*

Production in May 2008. This independent suspense-thriller was created with writer/director Brian Released as part of the After Dark "8 Films to Die For" Winter 2009, aired on SyFy Network and released on DVD on March 23, 2010.

Director, Producer, Writer: *My Apocalypse*

Completed avant-garde feature film starring Corin Nemic, Nancy Allen, John de Lancie. World Premiered at 2008 Boston Underground Film Festival. Official Selections: Arizona International Film Festival, Sydney Underground Film Festival, River's Edge Film Festival, New Jersey Film Festival. Distributed by Moving Pictures Film and Television.

Producer: *Netherbeast Incorporated*

Production June 2006. Working with Brian Ronalds, produced feature-length office comedy about vampires. Starring Darrell Hammond, Judd Nelson, Dave Foley. Distributed worldwide by Shoreline Entertainment.

Screenplay writer: *Swap Meet*

Optioned romantic comedy screenplay to Oxygen Network, written with Steven Bencich and Ron J. Friedman (*Brother Bear*, *Chicken Little*).

### **Feature and Short Films (Writer/Director):**

*Writer's Block* - Ideal Marketing (released-to-video)

*Film Club (short)* - Borrowed Time Films (distributed to DVD)

*Prohibition 2: The Sequel (short)* - Moosylvania Advertising

**Screenplays Writtten**

*Take Out* - distributed in anthology feature film *Dark Deadly & Dreadful* (2018)

*Swap Meet* (w/ Ron Friedman and Steve Bencich)

*Loose Tooth* (w/ Golan Ramras)

*Starstruck* (w/ Golan Ramras and Joe Russo)

*The Next Big Thing* (w/ Golan Ramras)

*Under the Sea*

*The Last Summer*

**Full-length Plays Written**

*Holy Roller*

**Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, Arizona State University**

1999-2015: Video Producer, Technology Based Learning & Research

Position is responsible for all media and video production of the department and its' various projects.

Tasks included working with clients, coordinating projects from implementation through final delivery, Directing Filming of Long-Form and Short-Form Educational Video. Filmed over 300 classrooms and promotional videos, from pre-school to Masters Programs throughout United States.

Worked for such programs as SEBIT LLC's Adaptive Curriculum, Arizona State University, Arizona Department of Education, PT3, Links Learning Project, FIPSE, ASU College of Business, Music, Education, NCCJ and several non-profit organizations.

Directed feature-length documentary *Fourteen Days in America*, completed in Fall 2005 nationally, production involved traveling from coast-to-coast in 14 days filming America and Americans as a panoramic study of America in post 9/11.

**Banzai Entertainment**

1990-1995: Producer / Director

Started company with Steve Bencich (Screenwriter of Disney's *Brother Bear* and *Chicken Little*) in 1990 to produce, direct and write Arizona-based film, video, and theatrical productions.

Feature-Length Film (Producer/Director/Co-Writer)

*The Best Movie Ever Made* - 1994

Television (Producer/Director/Writer)

*MovieHouse* - local cable weekly show – 1992 - 1994

*TV or Not TV* - local cable weekly show – 1990 - 1993

## **BOARD AND COMMUNITY POSITIONS**

### **2000-present**

#### **Phoenix Film Festival**

Founder of and various leadership positions in the largest non-profit organization to support film in Arizona. Now the largest attended film festival in Arizona with over 23,000 attendees. Past guests included actors Kevin Bacon, Laurence Fishburne, Kyra Sedgwick, and Peter Fonda.

**Phoenix Film Foundation**, Founder of non-profit organization to support the Phoenix Film Festival and various programs.

Chairman of the Board: 2000 - 2003

President of the Board: 2003- 2017

Advisory Board President: 2018 - 2022

Advisory Board Member - 2022- present

**IFP – Phoenix** - National Chapter of Largest Filmmaking Community Organization in US.  
Founder and Member of Advisory Board in 2002 - 2008

**Phoenix Film Society** Founder in 2004, a film-going membership organization with monthly screenings hosted by prominent Arizona critics.

**Co-Founder and Executive Director of International Horror and Sci-Fi Film Festival**,  
Founded in 2006, became the largest genre film festival in Arizona, over 3000 attendees/year.  
Currently the late-night programming block of the Phoenix Film Festival

**Founder of the Arizona Student Film Festival**, started in 2007 as an opportunity for student filmmakers to have their films judged and screened.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Phoenix Screenwriters Association (2021 –present) Presenter at the 2023 Emerging Screenwriter’s Conference, Presenter for “Workshop Series”, Hosted “Film Works” – Monthly Film Screening Series featuring *The Graduate*, *Die Hard*, *Psycho* and *The Usual Suspects*.

Taliesin West (2022) Hosted “Taliesin West Movie Night” screening with lecture and leading discussion for *North by Northwest* and *The Maltese Falcon*.

Harkins Theatres (2018 – 2020) Hosted and Developed “ASU Film School” monthly screening program at the Harkins Tempe Marketplace theatres.

KPNX (NBC), KNXV (ABC) – Regular contributor on television news stations on such topics as the annual Academy Awards nominations and award predictions, State Film Incentives, Reviewing New Films, and discussing prominent film stories.

## **AWARDS and RECOGNITION**

Founder and Executive Director of the Arizona College Film Festival 2018 - 2021 bringing together ten post-secondary education programs across Arizona to showcase student work.

The Blood List – 2016, 2017, 2018. Screenplay with co-writer Joe Russo, *Soul Mates* named as the # 5 unproduced Hollywood genre screenplay and *The Red Pill* named #6 in 2017 and *The Last Will and Testament of Charles Abernathy* in 2018.

The Hit List – 2016, 2018. Industry recognition of screenplay work with co-writer Joe Russo, *Soul Mates* named one of the top unproduced Hollywood genre screenplays in 2016 and *The Last Will and Testament of Charles Abernathy* in 2018.

The Young and Hungry List – 2016. Named by the Tracking Board as one of the Top 100 Up-and-Coming Screenwriters in Hollywood.

Final Draft Big Break Contest – 2014 & 2015. Screenplay with co-writer Joe Russo. In 2015, *Road Rage* finished in the Top 10 for horror screenplays and in the Top 1% of all screenplays in the contest - and *Battle of the Exes* was a semi-finalist in 2014.

Phoenix Film Foundation Board of Directors Award – 2013. Given annually to celebrate the individual effort of a member of the Foundation Board for the Festival year 2012-2013.

Official Selections – Take Out short film, selected to over 35 national film festivals and feature on “Ain’t It Cool News”.

Telly Awards – 2001-2011. National recognition for several productions by ASU – TBLR.

Official Selections – Feature Films 2006-2009. *Netherbeast Incorporated*, *My Apocalypse* and *The Graves* were selected to nearly three dozen worldwide film festivals.

*Screen Wars* – AZ-TV Channel 6, 2005-2007. Executive Producer of multiple Emmy nominations for local television series created for exposure for Arizona filmmakers.

City of Phoenix Film Office, 2003. Recognition as Executive Director of Phoenix Film Festival

Johnny Walker Keep Walking Contest, 2002. National Finalist of Contest to create documentary

*Film Club*, 2000. National Exposure on CNN Headline News and MSNBC.com – Selected to numerous short film festivals. Included on a domestically distributed DVD package.

Blockbuster Video Guide, 1996. *Writer’s Block*- 3 1/2 out of 5 Stars. “Well-made, intelligent thriller.”

Emmy Award for Best Student Entertainment Program, 1992 for production of *TV or Not TV*.