

# IMAGES AND MESSAGES FROM THE WOMEN



DIANE LAKE, SCREENWRITER

Diane Lake has been a working screenwriter since 1993 when she sold her first story idea. Since then she has been commissioned to write screenplays for Columbia, Disney, Miramax and Paramount. Diane's film *FRIDA* opened the Venice Film Festival in 2002; it was named one of the 10 best films of the year by numerous top 10 lists, including The National Board of Review and the American Film Institute. *FRIDA* was nominated for 6 Academy Award in 2003. Lake is currently a professor of screenwriting at Emerson College. IMAGINE asked for her comments on the WGA strike. She was on her way to New York City to march in the picket lines for her guild. Here are her comments:

As to the strike. Well, what can I say? It's been a long time coming. Writers deserve to be paid for creating their work – what a concept!!! At the moment internet content is streaming out to the world and the creators of that content aren't getting a cent. All the network sites have advertising, so we know the networks are making money. The point is that the producers/studios/networks need to stop trying to play three card Monty with us! However our content is delivered to the viewer--via on TV sets, in movie theatres, via DVDs, MP3s, cell phones, the internet – WHATEVER... it's our content. We created it and, as its creators, we deserved to be compensated for our work. It seems so simple to me that it's hard to believe the studios, et. al., have the temerity to argue against what is, simply, fair.

CLAIRE FOLGER, SET STILL PHOTOGRAPHER

Claire Folger appeared on the cover of IMAGINE's "Women Who Work in the Industry" issue November, 2005. She's the best known set still photographer in the region. She's the stealth photographer on location that captures the shots that "publicity" will use for the film's promotion. She is professional and must always be unobtrusive while catching the photos that will sell the film. Folger's set photographs have appeared frequently over the years in IMAGINE. Notably she has captured four covers for IMAGINE. We caught up with her during one of the busiest years of her set photographing life. Here's what she says she has been doing:

It has been a busy year for me, starting out on the Cape with director Dan Adams on his film *CHATHAM* starring David Carridine, Bruce Dern, Rip Torn, Mariel Hemmingway, and Christy Cashman. After that, it was down to Providence for Season 2 of Showtime's *Brotherhood* (a five month location shoot). Right now I am finishing up on *BACHELOR # 2*, and looking for a project for January!

DOROTHY AUFIERO,  
PRODUCER & ENTREPRENEUR

Dorothy Aufiero's expertise and experience really comes to play when the film goes into production. A graduate of the acclaimed and one of our favorites Emerson College she has been a part of the Boston and New England production scene for 20 years. In 2005 Dorothy and I, along with Lisa Simmons were recipients of Women in Film and Video/New England Image Award for Excellence and Vision, remember this word. One of the founders and producers of Scout Productions who brought the world the smash TV hit *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* and countless other productions, she decided after ten years to create her own company. Aufiero has a lot on her plate, several projects in varying stage in development. We caught up with her. I also asked her about her company name. This is what she had to say:

"All I can really say is I am very excited to be one of the producers on *THE FIGHTER* with Mark Wahlberg and Brad Pitt, and hopefully everything will go according to plan. We plan to film it entirely in Boston getting into production late in 2008. Prep will begin in the spring of next year.

I'm thrilled to be shopping *DEPRAVITY*, an original thriller by the fantastic Boston writer Dennis Lehane whose films are really hot right now. There are numerous deals in the making and we're (Dorothy and partner Paul Tamasy) hoping to shoot pre-strike 2008. Tamasy, a seasoned screenwriter will direct.

And I'm working with Michael Corrente on producing 10 horror films that are scheduled for production in Rhode Island in 2008, and I'm working with John McNeil at Moody Street Pictures on a slate of made for TV movies.

Did you say there was a lot on my plate? I'm off this month to LA to pitch a couple of reality shows. One is a breakthrough "medium" show with medium Maureen Hancock. And I'm working with Marianne Leone's script "Christina the Astonishing," a funny and endearing coming of age in the Catholic School system.

You asked me about my company name, Red Hawk Productions. I'm a huge fan of Redtail Hawks. They have great vision and in folklore they are frequently referred to as messengers. I think vision and messaging are prerequisites for filmmaking, don't you?"

ANGELA PERI, CASTING DIRECTOR,  
BOSTON CASTING

Angela Peri owns and operates Boston Casting. Much of her work is casting commercial work and print. But lately the Massachusetts Film Tax Incentives have sparked a wave of studio films on location in Boston. We asked her for comments and as busy as she is, she did take time to say this:

"Boston Casting has been bursting at the seams since July. We started the summer with *PINK PANTHER 2* Principals and Extras, simultaneously did extras for *BACHELOR #2*. We finished those in October and have now moved right into *THE LONELY MAIDEN* Principals and Extras, while simultaneously doing *REAL MEN CRY* Principals and Extras, along with keeping our commercial and voice over clients happy. All I can say is "Be careful what you wish for! Hoping for a day off at Christmas."

TONI-ANN BAKER  
AND DIANE ST. LAURENT, PRODUCERS

When I was on a speaker's panel in Rhode Island during the Rhode Island International Film Festival, I met up with Two Sisters' Productions' Toni-Ann Baker and Diane St. Laurent. I wanted to know what they have been doing lately and here's is what they have to say.

"Most recently Two Sisters' Productions, Inc. has formed a partnership with a local scriptwriter, Raz Cunningham, to produce an indie feature film titled, *GHOST IN THE MACHINE*. We are excited and proud to work with Raz on this project, which has a wonderful, unique and fresh storyline. The film is planned to be shot entirely in Rhode Island next year. The Rhode Island State Tax Credit is a wonderful opportunity for us and our investors. We are currently in the development stage of production and we have signed three "well known" actors so far. We are getting closer to announce more about this film production, but until then read more at [www.ghostinthemachinemovie.com](http://www.ghostinthemachinemovie.com)."

MARY CHIOCHIOS, OPERATIONS  
MANAGER, MASSACHUSETTS FILM OFFICE

Mary Chiochios is the Operations Manager of the still new Massachusetts Film Office. Mary has been an independent Producer in this region since her first film, *MY SWEET VILLAGE*, which she produced with her brother George Chiochios in 1990. They formed Chiochios Studios and together have produced and directed several projects over the years. We visited with her at the Mass Film Office not so long ago and asked her a few questions, one of which is what her typical day is like. Here's what she had to say:

"I had worked with Nick Paleologos as producers for an independent film called *COULD BE WORSE* directed by Zack Stratis. We were lucky enough to be accepted into American Spectrum at the Sundance Film Festival. Since then we have been in touch on and off concerning various projects.

Nick asked me to meet with him several times but I was too busy. I finally met with him and he told me about the need for a producer type to help guide film companies inquiring about shooting in MA. I was