

## CAPE TOWN – 2 WEEK DOCUMENTARY WORKSHOP



DATES:	July 18 <sup>st</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2010
LOCATION:	<b>Cape Town, South Africa (Noordhoek)</b>
ROOM & BOARD:	Room not included. Lunch and Dinner provided
TRAVEL:	Additional Cost. Must be organized by student.
TUITION:	\$1,800.00
DEPOSIT:	\$400.00
	Deposit is non-refundable. Deposit must be in by May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2010. Balance due – June 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2010.
INSTRUCTOR(S):	Chandler Griffin Alison Fast chandler@barefootworkshops.org
CONTACT:	Alison.fast@barefootworkshops.org



### OVERVIEW

Take a workshop with Barefoot and make a difference in the world by using your knowledge together with HDV technology. Create skills that will allow you to continue making positive change anywhere and everywhere.

This class is structured for individuals who are interested in combining social activism and HDV documentary filmmaking into two weeks in Cape Town, South Africa. The workshop is set up for individuals living in South Africa who feel the pull to use their skills to contribute to a grassroots non-profit organization (NGO) or who just want to learn the art of documentary filmmaking. Subject matter is not limited to NGO stories. Cape Town is rich with stories that have not been told.

**Possible topics:** Environment, cuisine, HIV/AIDS, music, agriculture, orphans, building sustainable communities and civil rights.

Students should have some experience with video and editing. If you are interested in the workshop and have never worked with video, please just write and let us know.

## **CONTENT**

This 2-week workshop is designed for new documentary filmmakers who want to launch their careers in film and television documentaries or for those with experience in some aspects of filmmaking that are looking to expand their skill, understanding and mastery of the whole process. Producers, cinematographers, editors and writers with narrative experience who are considering working in non-fiction filmmaking are also encouraged to enroll. This workshop is ideal for working professionals who want to develop important skills, which will allow them to work with other filmmakers.

The workshop is unique because it explores every aspect of documentary filmmaking.

Chandler Griffin and Alison Fast will help you develop an understanding for the visual structure, style, and production requirements of a wide variety of documentaries along with storytelling and the art of writing and directing. This will include laying a visual foundation by spending many hours exploring how light, composition, and emotion make up the image. Many different lighting techniques and styles will be covered. Chandler will also be covering all editing demos using Final Cut Pro. Using case studies along with student's ideas, the goal of the course is to provide an intense overview of the art of documentary productions. Every student will learn how to evaluate non-fiction ideas, create their own ideas and develop an understanding of documentary film aesthetics and the storytelling process.

## **THE PROGRAM**

The workshop meets formally 6 days each week. There will be lectures, screenings, presentations, technical demos, a review and critique of all dailies, supervised editing sessions, discussion of documentaries, and individual meetings with the Chandler and Alison.

The workshop combines lectures and presentations with supervised and formal instruction in production laboratories (camera, lighting, sound, editing), shooting on location, transcribing, screening and discussion of current and classic documentaries, meetings with visiting filmmakers and written assignments. Students will write and develop proposals for future projects.

## **PRODUCTION**

The workshop will break into groups with each group producing a completed 5 to 8 minute piece shot on digital video and edited with Final Cut Pro. Students will meet and scout their subjects and write treatments and outlines to guide their production. From there they will conduct interviews, tape B-roll and coverage for a sequence, record sound and take their material into post-production. Students will be instructed in creating first an edit on paper, then on the computer, where after assembly into a final edit, they will color correct, mix sound and add titles to their finished work. The projects will encompass the diversity of documentary styles and allow the individual the chance to problem-solve by learning to work as a team.

## **PRESENTATION**

At the end of the workshop, the documentaries will be screened for the community. The filmmakers are encouraged to invite locals who have participated in their documentaries.

### **Definition: NGO**

*The World Bank defines NGOs as "private organizations that pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, protect the environment, provide basic social services, or undertake community development" (Operational Directive 14.70). In a wider usage, the term NGO can be applied to any non-profit organization, which is independent from government. NGOs are typically value-based organizations, which depend, in whole or in part, on charitable donations and voluntary service. Although the NGO sector has become increasingly professionalized over the last two decades, principles of altruism and voluntarism remain key defining characteristics.*

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Barefoot's goal is to create responsible filmmakers who care about the world around them and who make it a point to give back to the people they work with. The point of the workshop is to enrich and empower people at a grassroots level, through learning and exchange. Barefoot encourages students internationally, to find their voice as filmmakers, while improving conditions locally by passing on their knowledge and skills others.

## **INSTRUCTORS**

### **Alison Fast (Program Director – Africa & The Middle East / Field Instructor)**

Alison Fast is a Peabody Award-winning television producer who has worked for such networks as NBC/Universal, BBC Worldwide and MTV Networks. She has documented international events including, World AIDS Orphans Day in Los Angeles, the World Water Forum in Mexico City, the International AIDS Conference in Mexico City, and the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) in New York City. She spent six months documenting the power of grassroots media in Brazil, and speaks Spanish and Portuguese fluently. As Program Director of Barefoot Workshops, she has produced and led educational programs in the United States, South Africa, Burundi, Jordan, Kuwait, Bahrain, the West Bank, Israel and Saudi Arabia. Her goal is to use media to bridge diverse communities around the world and to work towards global strategies for peace and a sustainable future. She graduated in 1998 with a degree in Journalism from Boston University College of Communication.

### **Chandler Griffin (Founder & Director / Field Instructor)**

Chandler Griffin is a New York City-based, documentary filmmaker and educator, as well as the Founding Director of Barefoot Workshops. He has more than ten years of experience instructing over fifty film and video workshops, starting out at the prestigious Maine Media Workshops in Rockport, Maine. His projects have since taken him to Latin America, North America, the UK, Africa, India and the Middle East. He has developed and produced educational programs in northern Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya, South Africa, Honduras, Jordan, Kuwait, Israel, Palestine, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and various locations in the USA. He is a founding member of Video Volunteers and served on Jackson Hole Film Festival's Global Insight Advisory Committee. Chandler started The Arnold & Friends Fund to fundraise for AIDS orphans in Zimbabwe. He has collaborated with Navsarjan Trust, PLANusa, 1 Giant Leap, PBS, The American Cancer Society, FXB International, The Ford Foundation, RFK Center for Human Rights, Ocean Classroom, FilmAid International, UNESCO, UNAIDS/UNDP, Academy for Educational Development (AED), the State Department's Middle East Partnership Initiative and the President's Digital Freedom Initiative. His camera work has helped films earn a CINE Golden Eagle Award and an Oscar Finalist/Student Academy Awards. In 2006 Chandler founded A River Blue, an arts empowerment project for 100 displaced children in northern Uganda. A River Blue currently offers agriculture, agro-forestry, animal husbandry, tailoring, psychosocial counseling, English, business, and secondary school to 57 students every year. He holds a BFA in Photography and a BFA in Video/Film from the Savannah College of Art & Design.

### **Edward Symes (Field Instructor)**

Edward Symes is a producer, director, and founder of Here and Now Films. Edward has shot and produced documentaries in several countries, including Rwanda, Ethiopia, Peru, Guatemala, and East Timor. More recently, he has focused his efforts on web distribution, producing online videos for Time Magazine, Yahoo! Assignment Earth, Current Television and immigration reform organization Center for Community Change. He completed a five-part "web series" on the USS BOXER Navy Ship in 2008 with global health organization Project Hope and a six-part web series for OXFAM America on the mining industry in Peru. He has a strong focus in global health work. In 2008 he premiered a thirty-minute documentary film, *Los Medicos*, at the Jackson Hole Film Festival and edited a promotional video for the XVII International AIDS Conference for UNAIDS. As a cinematographer he documented musicians Eugene Hutz, Baaba Maal, Boots Riley, and Michael Stipe for the film, *1 Giant Leap* (19

Entertainment) and artist Alex Grey. In 2010 he plans to launch Fronrunner Magazine, a site to host multimedia from a team of artists on the forefront of the media shift online. A beta site can be found at [www.fronrunnermagazine.com](http://www.fronrunnermagazine.com). Edward has taught documentary filmmaking with Barefoot Workshops and the Maine Media Workshops. He attended Kenyon College and NYU Tisch School of the Arts in London UK. Please visit his site: [www.hereandnowfilms.com](http://www.hereandnowfilms.com)

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