

LEAH JOHNSTON- FILMOGRAPHY AND CIRRICULUM VITAE

director, actor, photographer, writer, producer

Films Include:

INGRID AND THE BLACK HOLE ('16)- Writer/Director/Producer/Editor

Two children discover a black hole and imagine what it would be like to travel through time.

Genre: Fantasy Drama. Running Time: 6 mins.

Winner: Best Canadian Short- Edmonton International Film Festival

Winner: Best Canadian Short- Silver Wave Film Festival

Winner BravoFact/WIFT 35k Pitch Contest.

Broadcasts: Air Canada- Not Short on Talent 2017

Festivals: Cannes Film Festival -Telefilm's Not Short on Talent, Fantasia International Film Festival, CBC Short Film Gala- Atlantic Film Festival, Edmonton International Film Festival, Festival de Cinema de la Ville Quebec, Charlottetown Film Festival, St. John's International Women's Film Festival, Showcase Truro Film Festival, Parrsboro Film Festival, Silver Wave Film Festival, Blood in the Snow Film Festival, Little Terrors Festival-Monthly Screening Series, Vancouver Island Short Film Festival, Reel to Real Int'l Film Festival for Youth, Toxic Nova Cinema Screening Series.

MY YOUNGER OLDER SISTER ('15)- Writer/Director/Actor/Producer

A young woman enters a crisis on the eve of her 19th birthday as she realizes she is about to out-age her older sister who died at 18.

Genre: Drama. Running Time: 16 mins.

Recipient of the 2014 Linda Joy Award. Awarded funding from Nova Scotia Arts Council.

Winner: Platinum Remi Award- Worldfest Houston

Nominee: Best Actress- ACTRA Maritimes Awards

Nominee: Best Canadian Short- Silver Wave Film Festival

Broadcasts: CBC Reel Coast Program

Festivals: Shorts International Film Festival- Maremetraggio, Atlantic Film Festival, Worldfest Houston, Silver Wave Film Festival, Spotlight Gala: Showcase Truro Film Festival, Parrsboro Film Festival.

SOME THINGS WON'T SLEEP ('14)- Writer/Director

A woman's attempt to bury her past becomes literally unearthed.

Genre: Thriller/Sci-fi. Running Time: 10 mins.

Recipient of the National Screen Institute Drama Prize, 201 & Brian Linehan Award Sponsorship.

Winner: Best Horror- Silver Wave Film Festival

Winner: Corus Fearless Female Director award- National Screen Institute

Winner: Special Jury Prize- Worldfest Houston

Winner: Best Production Design- Canadian Film Fest

Nominee: Best Emerging Filmmaker- Yorkton Golden Sheaf Awards

Nominee: Best Short- Screen Nova Scotia Awards

Nominee: Best Actress- ACTRA Maritimes Awards

Festivals: Montreal World Film Festival, CBC Short Film Gala- Atlantic Film Festival, Palm Springs Shortsfest Marketplace, Yorkton Film Festival, Canadian Film Festival, Hollyshorts Film Festival- Monthly Screening Series, Worldfest Houston, Silverwave Film Festival, Nickel Independent Film Festival, Island Media Arts Festival, Parrsboro Film Festival, Love Your Shorts Film Festival, New Vision Film Festival, Halifax Independent Film Festival, Showcase Truro Film Festival, Tromadance Film Festival, HIFF Touring series, NSI Online Film Festival

ANOTHER MAN ('13)- Writer/Director/Producer/Editor/Actor

A woman turns her boyfriend into an unwitting pawn in a vicious relationship cycle.

Genre: Drama. Running Time: 5:20 mins. Completed 2013.

Winner: Jury's Choice Award- Best Film (Under 5 Minutes)- Parrsboro Film Festival

Winner: Audience's Choice Award- Best Film (Under 5 Minutes)- Parrsboro Film Festival

Festivals: Montreal World Film Festival, Atlantic Film Festival, St. John's International Women's Film Festival, Parrsboro Film Festival.

Commercial Directing

Clients: Town of Truro Tourism Campaign, Ski Wentworth, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Well Within Chiropractic, Burchell MacDougall Law Firm.

Film & Television Appearances:

Everyone's Famous	Guest Star	CBC, Walter Forsyth
My Younger Older Sister (short)*	Lead	The World Beneath Productions
Haven	Season Recurring	Syfy
Gossip Girl	Under 5	Warner Brothers
As the World Turns	Principle	CBS
In-Patient	Principle	Pilot, CAA
The Desert Encounter(short)	Lead	Independent Short Film
Another Man (short)	Lead	Independent Short Film

Theatre Appearances:

American Dollhouse (LA)	Lead- Suzy	Gallery Godo, MMProductions
Bloodletters (NYC)	Lead- Cami	Bleeker Theatre, Adam Smith
Unlock'd (NYC)	Lead- Belinda	Playhouse Theatre, Selda Sahin
Beautiful (NYC)	Ensemble	NYC Fringe Festival, Al Sgro
Into the Woods (NYC)	Lead- Rapunzel	NYU, Jordan Fein
Rainy Day People (NYC)	Lead- Simone	NYU, Ryan Mekenian
The Yellow Wood (NYC)	Supporting- Amber	NYU, Ryan Mekenian
Sounds of Plaid (NYC)	Ensemble	NYU, Drew Garcia
Anne of Green Gables (Canada)	Swing, u/s Josie Pye	Charlottetown Fest., Anne Allan
Feux Follets (Canada)	Ensemble	Charlottetown Fest., Jim White
Legend of the Dumbbells (Canada)	Swing	" ", Duncan McIntosh

*Nominated for Outstanding Performance by Lead Actress- ACTRA Maritime Awards

Exhibits

Self-Created:

American Dollhouse ('11)- Gallery Godo, Glendale, CA.

Director/Producer/Writer/Actor

An experimental theatrical/video installation exploring the hidden desires of a family of living dolls trapped within a repressive 1950's household. Part of a larger multimedia exhibit co-created by Leah Johnston and Chris Barnett.

Genre: Experimental. Running Time: 3 hours. Completed 2010.

Group:

September Artist Showcase ('10)- The Hive Gallery, Los Angeles, CA.

Hotter Than July ('10)- Gallery Godo, Glendale, CA.

September Art Walk ('10)- NorbertEllan Gallery, Los Angeles, CA.

Cannibal Flower 10th Annivervy Show ('10)- Cannibal Flower, Los Angeles, CA.

Selected Publications featuring Ms. Johnston's Photography

Huf Magazine. (2016, December) "Leah Johnston- Award Winning Canadian Filmmaker, Actor, Photographer and Writer." Issue #56

Modern Metropolis. (2013, July 3) "Surreal Scenes Reveal Artist's Innermost Personal Secrets".

Lulus.com. (2013, July 3) "Breathtaking Imagery by Photographer Leah Johnston".

One Frame Magazine, Issue II. (2012, February 3) "Leah Johnston: Surreal Portraits, Powerfully Imagined Secrets". p 30-32.

Lights n' Colours. (2011, November 5) "Interview with Creative and Conceptual Photographer Leah Johnston".

Industry Wire. (2011, October 19) "Flickr Photographer Leah Johnston".

Stay in my Brain. (2011, February 20) "Interview: Leah Johnston".

Senza Respiro Magazine. (2011, January 1) Feature & Cover Story: "Leah Johnston". pg 7.

The D-Photo. (2010, November 23) "Fantastic Surreal Photography from Leah Johnston".

Web Urbanist. (2009, September 30) "Portrait Photography: 12 Creative Portrait Photographers".

Current In Progress:

- Developing feature film, 'Creature HE'.

Awards & Grants:

- **Winner National Screen Institute 2016-** Corus Fearless Female Director award- Some Things Won't Sleep
- **Film 5 (Phase I): Atlantic Filmmaker's Cooperative 2015-** Development Support, Creature HE
- **Winner BravoFact/WIFT 35k Pitch Contest 2015-** Ingrid and the Black Hole
- **Nova Scotia Arts Council Funding Recipient 2015-** My Younger Older Sister
- **Nominated for the 2014 Fox Global Director's Initiative at Fox Studios**
- **Winner Linda Joy Award 2014** for film My Younger Older Sister
- **National Screen Institute Drama Prize Recipient 2013** – Some Things Won't Sleep
- Recipient of **Brian Linehan Charitable Foundation Award Sponsorship 2013** – Some Things Won't Sleep

Film Curation/Adjudication:

- **Viewfinders: Atlantic Film Festival:** Jury Member, 2015
- **Showcase Truro Film Festival:** Programmer, Atlantic Shorts Segment

Teaching:

- **On-Camera Acting for Film and Television:** 2015-2016

Education:

2016 **Reykjavik Talent Lab-** Writer/Director Training program
2015 **Atlantic Filmmaker's Cooperative-** Film 5 Writer/Director Training program
2013 **Trailer Park Boys-** Shadowed Director Cory Bowles on his episodes
2013 **National Screen Institute-** Professional Development of Short Film
2012 **Freelance Courses: Cinema Lighting with Polly Morgan, Moving from Still to Cinema**

with Vincent LaForet, HD SLR Cinema, Post Workshop at Film Independent, Final Cut X, Premiere Pro, After Effects.

- 2010 Advanced Comedy Intensive. **Lesly Kahn Acting Institute**, LA
- 2008-2009 Advanced On-Camera Classes with Bob Krakower, **One on One NYC**
- 2008 **New York Film Academy**: Acting for Film with Jay Goldenberg
- 2007 **New York University**: BFA Drama & Musical Theatre

Businesses & Organizations:

- 2015 **The World Beneath Productions** incorporated as an inc. in Nova Scotia. Used to structure and facilitate concept-driven Canadian film with a focus toward female-driven content.

- 2010 **Manic and Muse Productions Incorporated** as an LLC in Fort Myers, FL. Used to structure and facilitate innovative film, theatre and multimedia productions.

Professional Memberships include **Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television (ACCT)**, **Screen Actors Guild (SAG)**, **American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA)**, **Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA)**, **Screen Nova Scotia**, **Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative (AFSCOOP)**, **Women in Film and Television (WIFT)**.

CONTACT:

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