

Don Dinicola (long bio)

Don DiNicola is a filmmaker and composer. Don has written music for film, TV and theatre. He directed and produced a feature documentary film, distributed on PBS, as well as numerous mixed-media shorts. His second opera is in the works.

Don's music career began in the 1980's. He worked extensively in regional theater, notably The American Repertory Theater (Cambridge, MA) and Anne Bogart's SITI Company based in NYC and Toga Japan. In 1992 his critically acclaimed opera, "Ubu Roi" earned him further commissions.

From there, film and television composition flowed naturally. Once in the multi-media genre, Don spread out to directing, producing, sound design and music supervision.

His film and television credits include Emmy Award winning shows "Suicide Bombers/Cult Of Death" (Discovery Channel), "The Art Of Failure; Chuck Connelly Not For Sale" (HBO) and "Baring It All" (Style Network). Don also worked on "Miami Ink", "How it's Made" and John Scagliotti's documentaries, "Before Homosexuals" and "After Stonewall". Don has written and produced music for NatGeo, The History Channel, PBS, A&E, TLC, Discovery Channel, CNBC, Style Network, Sundance TV, and HBO networks.

In 2020 Don completed a score for Award winning director, Patty Zagarella's web-series "Blind Love. Their previous collaboration on the film, "Baring It All" won an Emmy Award in 2011.

"Space Germ", an animated film written and directed by DiNicola, had its world premiere at New Filmmakers NY 2019 Festival, screening at the Anthology Film Archives. It was one of the last screenings in the Anthology Film Archives historical, original space. That summer "Space Germ" was selected as part of the Brooklyn Film Festival's BFF Kids Film Fest. The screening was attended by a full house, graciously hosted by festival director Lisa King and followed by a Q&A with the kids!

In early 2018 Don's animated short "ORIGINS 'Before There Was A Before'" was a finalist at the German United Film Festival. "Origins" also received the 2016 Phantasmagorical Film Festival's Best 3D Animation award. Employing all of his filmmaking skills, "Origins" has a 5.1 sound mix, includes original compositions and stars Fredi Walker-Browne ("Rent" and "The Lion King").

Late 2017 Don completed a full score for John Scagliotti's new documentary, "Before Homosexuals". The film marks John and Don's 3rd collaboration.

In 2015 Don directed and produced an original score by Renée Baker, recorded by the Chicago Modern Orchestra Project, for the 1925 Oscar Micheaux film "Body and Soul", starring Paul Robeson. The film received a grant from New Music USA to screen with a live orchestra sound track. It was performed at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, the Ebertfest, the Chatham 14 multiplex, and continues to tour internationally.

Don's animated film, "A Rabbit's Life; In 3 Parts", premiered at The Big Apple Film Festival 2014 and won Best Experimental at the 2015 Humboldt International Film Festival in California.

In 2011, Don formed Eureka Post Production, supervising video and audio post-production for over 300 hours of broadcast TV programming including more than 1500 episodes of the hit show, "House Hunters International".

His 2009 mixed-media short, "Karma Cats; The Chintamani Stone" spent two years screening at film festivals internationally with a special screening at the SoHo House Screening Series of Best British and International Shorts.

In 2006 Don's feature film directorial debut, "Nowhere Now; The Ballad of Joshua Tree" (Victoria Williams, Eric Burdon) enjoyed a vibrant life on the international film festival circuit before being picked up for a year by PBS affiliate KCET in Los Angeles. The film had a headline appearance at the Tucson Film and Music Festival which included live performances by bands featured in the film - Gram Rabbit and The Sibleys.

Don is writing a new opera, directing a musical animated feature and recently contributed original music to Paul Chihara's latest feature film project, "Jasmine", as part of their ongoing collaboration.

He is a founding faculty member of the Vermont College of Fine Arts MFA in Music Composition Program.

<http://www.dondinicola.com>

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