

Filmmaker Bio Assignment – TFIEM 201 – Intro to Film Studies

For this short assignment, you will investigate the work and life of each of the three filmmakers assigned to you. IMDB.com is a great place to start learning about these individuals, but you should consult additional sources to fill in gaps and find additional details. (List your sources at the end.) Questions you should ask (and find answers to) include: What type of work does/did this person do? What roles (writer, director, etc.) have they occupied? What significant films or other projects have they been a part of? Have they won any major awards or achieved any other unique accomplishments? Have they collaborated regularly with other filmmakers on the list? Are they known for a particular type/style of work? How might aspects of their identity (race, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, etc.) inform their work and/or shape their status in the industry? Present the highlights of your findings in a short report (about 150-200 words for each filmmaker) posted in the Canvas discussion forum, and be prepared to share your findings orally in class. Find and include a photo of the filmmaker as part of your post. The provided sample bio can be used as a guide.

Filmmakers

Students

Jamie Babbit Tina Mabry David O. Russell	Students A, B, C, and D
Todd Haynes Christine Vachon Wong Kar-Wai	Students E, F, G, and H
Spike Lee Ernest Dickerson Mathilde Bonnefoy	Etc.
Thelma Schoonmaker Jon Chu Guillermo Del Toro	
Ryan Coogler Rachel Morrison Edgar Wright	
Colin Higgins Lana and Lilly Wachowski Ang Lee	
Walter Murch Tom Tykwer Desiree Akhavan	
Lake Bell Amy Heckerling Alejandro Iñáritu	
Alfonso Cuarón Emmanuel Lubezki Ava DuVernay	
Dee Rees Bradford Young Kathryn Bigelow	

Sample filmmaker bio:

Ruth Carter

Ruth Carter is a costume designer who has worked with a number of famous directors and actors, including Steven Spielberg, John Singleton, Denzel Washington, and Jane Fonda. While Carter has had experience dressing characters for a range of time periods and genres, some of her best-known films include *Amistad* (1997) and the futuristic film *Black Panther* (2018). Carter has also collaborated extensively with Spike Lee including on *Do the Right Thing* (1989), *Malcom X* (1992), and more recent films such as *Chi-Raq* (2015). Having attended historically black Hampton University in Virginia and as a black woman in the industry, her identity has shaped many of the films on which she has chosen to work and set new precedents in the film community. In 2019, she became the first African American to win Best Costume Design at the Academy Awards for her work on *Black Panther*. She was also nominated for the Best Costume Design award in for *Malcom X* in 1993 and for *Amistad* in 1998. She received the American Black Film Festival Career Achievement Award in 2002 and was nominated or won various other awards since including a Primetime Emmy Award in 2016. (sources: IMDB.com and Hollywoodreporter.com)

