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As Founder of [Lucky Find Productions](#) and Co-Founder of the [True Delta Project](#), with an academic background in American Studies, and as a film producer, writer and director, I specialize in human-interest stories that entertain as they educate.

DOCUMENTARY FILMS

“Walk With Me: Lucious Spiller, Called to Sing the Blues,” (2020) 28 minute Documentary

Producer, Writer, Director for the True Delta Project and Lucky Find Productions

Synopsis: In his own words, Lucious Spiller was “born to sing the blues.” The gifted guitarist and compelling singer makes his home in Clarksdale, Mississippi, where history and daily life come together to shape a living blues tradition. “Walk With Me” goes inside Lucious’ personal journey, sharing a typical week, meeting friends and artists around town, engaging audiences at Red’s Juke Joint and Ground Zero Blues Club, praising the Lord at a Sunday service, and carrying the blues to a performance in New York City.

- Available online: <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/lucious>

“Griot Grit,” (2018) 28 minute Documentary

Producer, Writer and Director for the True Delta Project

Synopsis: A group of dedicated teachers and students spread hope in the Mississippi Delta by cultivating the arts and a sense of community in an after-school program called Griot Arts. Inspired by the Griots of West Africa, they impart love and respect for the music and culture of Clarksdale, while nurturing a sense of responsibility for carrying on tradition and forging new ways of strengthening civic bonds. Together they embody griot grit.

- Premiered on Mississippi PBS, March 2019
- Available online: <https://www.pbs.org/video/griot-grit-ipiwlx/>

“Enriching Destiny,” (2016) 24 minute Documentary

Co-Producer, Writer and Director, for the True Delta Project

Synopsis: a moving tribute to Sister Teresa Shields and her three decades of service in the Delta. By founding the Jonestown Family Center for Education and Wellness, Sister Teresa established an array of opportunities to enhance the community of Jonestown, Mississippi. As she returns to Seattle, Washington, to undertake a new ministry, her legacy will continue to enrich Jonestown for many years to come.

Featuring James “Super Chikan” Johnson as the film’s troubadour.

- Premiered on Mississippi PBS, December 2016
- Festival South Film Expo, Hattiesburg, MS June 2017
- Available online: <https://www.pbs.org/video/enriching-destiny-48hovh/>

“Freak the Language,” (2015) 29 minute Documentary featuring poet David Mills
Written, Directed, and Produced with Sam Hampton, Hampton Films

Synopsis: Explores the passionately creative and carefully crafted artistic impulses of New York City poet David Mills.

- Gary International Black Film Festival, Gary, IN, November 2015
- Alexandria Film Festival, Alexandria, VA, November 2015
- Big Apple Film Festival, NYC, November 2015
- Big Muddy Film Festival, Carbondale, IL, February 2016
- DC International Film Festival, Washington, DC, March 2016
- Annapolis Film Festival, Annapolis, MD, April 2016
- Toronto Film Week, Toronto, 2016

“From the Crossroads to the White House,” (2015) 26 minute Documentary
Writer and Director, for the True Delta Project

Synopsis: Features students and teachers from the Delta Blues Museum’s Arts and Education Program and the five-member band, ages 8 to 15, chosen to represent the Program and perform at the White House upon winning the National Humanities Youth Program Award.

- Premiered on Mississippi PBS, July 2015
- Clarksdale Film Festival, Clarksdale, MS, January 2016
- Available online:
<https://www.pbs.org/search/?q=From+the+Crossroads+to+the+White+House>

“Howl-N-Madd, Mississippi Blues Family Man,” (2014) 27 minute Documentary
Writer and Director, for the True Delta Project

Synopsis: Growing up picking cotton in Mississippi hill country, Billy Joe Perry moved to Chicago to make a new life for himself. But his real success came when he returned 40 years later as “Howl-N-Madd,” an engaging bluesman devoted to his music and his family.
Watch online: <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/truedeltafilms>

- Langston Hughes African American Film Festival, Seattle, April 2014
- People’s Film Festival, NYC, May 2014
- Mt. Vernon Film Festival, NYC, September 2014, Winner of Best Short Docs
- Orlando Film festival, Orlando, October 2014
- Mississippi International Film Festival, Jackson, MS, November 2014

- Big Easy Film Festival, New Orleans, December 2014, Winner of Best Short Docs
- Center for Southern Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, January 2015, Invited Screening

“True Delta,” (2012) 37 minute Documentary

Writer, Co-Director and Co-Producer, for the True Delta Project

Synopsis: A cinematic snapshot of the Blues tradition that remains vibrant in and around Clarksdale, Mississippi—the renowned birthplace of the Blues.

Watch online: <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/truedelta>

- Mountainfilm Festival, Telluride, May 2012
- Mountainfilm at Lincoln Center, LCFS, NYC, October 2012
- Hot Springs Film Festival, Hot Springs, AR, 2013
- B. B. Museum, Indianola, MS, August 2012
- Clarksdale Film Festival, Winner of Made in Mississippi Award, January 2013
- Tupelo Film Festival, MS 2013
- Orlando Film Festival, Orlando, October 2013, Winner of Audience Choice Award for Short Docs
- International Black Film Festival of Nashville, Winner of Best in Short Docs, 2013
- San Diego Black Film Festival, San Diego, January 2014
- University of Kentucky, Lexington, February 2014, Invited Screening

“Facing the Waves,” (2010) 19 minute Documentary

Writer, Director and Co-Producer, a Lucky Find Production

Synopsis: Bobby Vaughn was riding high in LA--a partner in the Von Dutch clothing line and a player in the celebrity scene--when a murder charge brought him down. Now he’s starting over.

- Mountainfilm Festival, Telluride, May 2010
- Mountainfilm on Tour, 2010
- City University Film Festival, March 2010

TRIBUTE VIDEOS

“The Light Bright Man of Rockaway,” (2019) Billy Arnold's artistic and electronic talents are highlighted in this 6 minute video. As a self-described luthier, he explains how he designs, constructs, and plays his unique musical instruments, which not only illuminate his rare skills but also light up the night.

<https://vimeo.com/348910682>

“Feeling Like a King,” 15 year-old blues musician Christone “Kingfish” Ingram (2015), Director and Co-Producer for the True Delta Project

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1esolbT-sl>

“Ladies Man,” Mississippi Bluesman T-Model Ford (2014), Director and Co-Producer for the True Delta Project

<http://truedeltaproject.org/?portfolio=ladies-man-full-movie>

“Respect the Kid,” Musician and Educator Mister Johnnie Billington, (2014), Director and Co-Producer for the True Delta Project

http://www.deltabluesmuseum.org/video_johnniebillington.asp

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Purdue University, American Studies and English, 1984

M.A. Purdue University, American Studies and English, 1979

B.A. University of North Florida, English and American Literature, 1977

TEACHING POSITIONS

2007-2014 Macaulay Honors College, CUNY, Distinguished Lecturer

2005-2007 Brooklyn College, Zicklin Chair in the Honors Academy

1984-2007 Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Harter Chair, 2001-2006

1999-2001 Rochester Institute of Technology, Gannett Chair in Humanities

1995 University of Athens, Senior Fulbright Professor in Critical Theory

1977-1984 Purdue University, Teaching Assistant, Women's Studies/English

AUTHORED BOOKS

- Millennial Seduction: A Skeptic Confronts Apocalyptic Culture (Cornell University Press, 1999)
- Anti-Apocalypse: Exercises in Genealogical Criticism (University of Minnesota Press, 1994)
- Freedom, Foucault, and the Subject of America (Northeastern University Press, 1991)

EDITED BOOKS

- Reel Revelations: Apocalypse and Film, co-edited with John Walliss (Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2010)
- Gender and Apocalyptic Desire, co-edited with Brenda Brasher (Equinox Press, 2006)
- Genealogy and Literature (University of Minnesota Press, 1995)
- Feminism and Foucault: Reflections on Resistance, co-edited with Irene Diamond (Northeastern University Press, 1988)

JOURNALISM AND MEDIA

- Guest Blog, “Shifting Focus,” Sandi Klein’s Conversations with Creative Women, December 2015, <http://sandikleinshow.com/uncategorized/shifting-focus/>
- Radio Interview, Sandi Klein’s Conversations with Creative Women, April 2014, <http://the51percent.podbean.com/?s=lee+quinby>
- Documentary Appearance, “Trading the Future,” Director B. H Yael (2007)
- Documentary Appearance, “Doomsday: The Secret History of the End of the World,” National Geographic TV (premiered April 24, 2006, re-aired numerous times)
- Radio Interview, “New York City Book Country,” WBBR, 1130 AM station, September 2000 (aired 6 times)
- MSNBC.COM Regular Contributor, 5 Opinion Columns on Millennium Issues, 1999
- “Diary of a Survivalist Wife,” Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester, NY, December 1999
- Television appearances on apocalyptic and millennial belief (1999): CNN, FOX TV; King TV (CNN affiliate) Seattle; R TV, Rochester
- Radio Interviews on Millennial issues (1999): “Millennial Dreams with Rachel Kohn,” Radio National, Sydney, Australia; “Connections with Bob Smith” (noon hour NPR) WXXI Rochester; “Innerview with Dave Cahn” (Sunday morning, WXXI Rochester); “The New Intimacy” (noon hour, Los Angeles)
- Pacifica Radio, “Democracy Now” guest editorial on the Promise Keepers, 1997, “Movement Preaches Inequality of Women, Power for Men.” Print version in The (Syracuse) Post-Standard, June 7, 1996
- Quoted comments in Newspapers and Magazines: New York Times, Boston Globe; Buffalo News; Chronicle of Higher Education; Dallas Morning News; Houston Chronicle; MSNBC.COM; The Progressive; Providence Sunday; Publisher’s Weekly; West County Times (Richmond, CA)