

# AFM<sup>®</sup> 2020 ONLINE

## American Film Market 2020 ONLINE ANNOUNCES INITIAL FIVE-DAY PROGRAMMING LINEUP

### Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

**Conversations with Solstice Studios' Mark Gill and NEON's Elissa Federoff to Kick Off Market on November 9**

**80 Sessions to Feature Executives and Producers from BFI, Cinetic Media, Cornerstone Films, Facebook, Film4, Highland Film Group, IMAX, MadRiver International, Millennium Media, Symbolic Exchange, The Exchange, Troma Entertainment, XYZ Films, YouTube and More**

**Prominent Film Podcasts to Take the AFM Stage for the First Time**



**Los Angeles, CA – October 21, 2020** – The American Film Market (AFM<sup>®</sup>) today announced its initial

speakers, topics, and programming calendar for **AFM 2020 Online**. Its 70+ sessions will take place over five days, November 9-13 alongside the AFM's marketplace and screenings at [AFM2020.online](https://afm2020.online).

The AFM's opening Conference – ***The Future of Film*** – will launch with two marquee one-on-one conversations: Mark Gill, President and CEO of Solstice Studios, will take the online stage to discuss his views and predictions of how independent film, the marketplace, and audience consumption will change in the near future. The morning will continue with a dialogue with Elissa Federoff, President of Distribution for NEON, who will share her insights on the future of feature film distribution and exhibition.

Gill just realized his goal of having the first new film in theatres since the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown with *Unhinged*, the first film his company also financed. Federoff recently made history for her company with four Academy Award® wins for *Parasite*, which became the third highest grossing foreign language film ever released in the US.

This year's lineup will take place wholly online and will bring 200 speakers to two stages for conferences, panels, conversations, workshops, podcasts and presentations. Covering timely topics and issues most relevant to global filmmakers and the independent industry at large, several sessions will center on how to move production and the business forward in the wake of the pandemic.

Highlights include:

- ***Producing Without a Completion Bond*** featuring **Jill Goldsmith**, Co-Business Editor, *Deadline*, **Brad Krevoy**, CEO, *Motion Picture Corporation of America*, **Brian O'Shea**, CEO, *The Exchange*, and **John Sloss**, Founder, *Cinetic Media*.
- ***Pandemic Production Challenges & Solutions*** featuring **Richard Botto**, Founder & CEO, *Stage 32*, **Chris Moore**, Producer, *Manchester by the Sea* and *Promised Land*, **Celine Rattray**, Partner & Producer, *Maven Pictures*, and **Jennifer Westin**, SVP, Production, MarVista Entertainment.

- **Keep Calm and Carry On Filming** presented in partnership with the British Film Institute (BFI) featuring **Adrian Wootton**, OBE, Chief Executive, Film London and the British Film Commission, **Anna Mansi**, Head of Certification, British Film Institute, **Julia Oh**, Senior Commissioning Executive, Film4, and **Alison Thompson**, Co-President, Cornerstone Films.
- **Navigating Hollywood During COVID-19 : How To Find Success For Your Project During A Global Pandemic** in partnership with the African-American Film Critics Association (AAFCA) and featuring **Jen Barrett**, Head of Entertainment, Creative Shop Facebook, **Megan Colligan**, President, IMAX Entertainment and EVP, IMAX Corp, **Malik Ducard**, VP of Content Partnerships, YouTube  
**Mike Jackson**, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Lifted Film Co., and **Gil L. Robertson IV**, Co-Founder, African-American Film Critics Association (AAFCA).
- **What's Working in the Pre-Sales Marketplace** featuring **Kimberly Fox**, Partner & Head of International Sales, MadRiver International, **Jeffrey Greenstein**, President, Millennium Media, Inc., **Jeremy Kay**, Americas Editor, Screen International, and **Nat McCormick**, EVP, Worldwide Distribution, The Exchange.
- **Low Budget Films with Huge Profit Potential** featuring **John Rhodes**, Co-Founder, Screenkraft, **Nick Spicer**, Partner, XYZ Films, and **Zachary Tarica**, CEO & Director, The Forest Road Co.
- **Working with Sales Agents** featuring **Tamara Birkemoe**, President, Foresight Unlimited, **Clay Epstein**, President, Film Mode Entertainment, and **Jordan Yale Levine**, Producer, Yale Productions.
- **Global Sales and VOD** presented in partnership with The Film Collaborative and featuring **Wendy Bernfeld**, Founder/CEO, Rights Stuff, **Todd Olsson**, President of International, Highland Film Group, **Orly Ravid**, Founder & Co-Executive Director, The Film Collaborative and Attorney, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP, and **Gabrielle Rozing**, General Manager, Fortissimo Films.
- **Deciphering Streaming Models & the Path to VOD Distribution** featuring **Audrey Delaney**, SVP, Distribution & Worldwide Marketing, Blue Fox Entertainment, **Bruce Eisen**, President, Digital Advisors, **Linda Nelson**, CEO, Indie Rights, **Lise Romanoff**, CEO & Managing Director, Vision Films, and, **James Schamus**, CEO, Symbolic Exchange.

- ***Navigating and Negotiating Intimacy on Set*** presented in partnership with SAG-AFTRA and featuring **Amanda Blumenthal**, Founder, Intimacy Professionals Association, **Gabrielle Carteris**, SAG-AFTRA President, **Jim Kleverweis**, Executive Producer, *Euphoria*, *Insecure* and *Silicon Valley*, **Alicia Rodis**, Executive Team, Intimacy Directors and Coordinators, and **David White**, SAG-AFTRA National Executive Director.
- ***Casting Global Talent: Who do Latinx Audiences Want to See?*** presented in partnership with the National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP) and featuring **Aaron Ashford**, Director of Development and Production, *Pantelion Films*, **Liliana Espinoza**, Projects Director, NALIP, and **Carla Hool**, Casting Director.
- **A Conversation with Lloyd Kaufman: Make Your Own Damn Movie in 60 Minutes or Less!**
- ***Facts Matter: Health & Science Accuracy Onscreen*** presented in partnership with USC Annenberg Hollywood, Health & Society and featuring its Program Director **Kate Langrall Folb**.
- ***The Black List Can Change Everything About How You Find Future Projects*** with The Black List's **Franklin Leonard**, Founder & CEO and **Terry Huang**, Director of Product and Data.
- ***The Director / Producer Relationship*** featuring **Shaked Berenson**, CEO, *Entertainment Squad*, **Gigi Saul Guerrero**, Director / Actor, *Culture Shock*, *The Purge (TV Series)*, **Travis Stevens**, Founder & CEO, *Snowfort Pictures*, and **Lisa Whalen**, Producer, *Mandy*, *Color Out of Space*.

For the first time, AFM will also spotlight five leading film industry podcasts with special episodes to take place on the AFM stages:

- **The Producer's Guide:** Founder of Broken Road Productions, Producer and host **Todd Garner** and WWE wrestler turned actor **John Cena** will discuss *Producing Comedy in Today's Hollywood, A Serious Business*.
- **Show Don't Tell:** Director and host **Noam Kroll** and screenwriter **Bryan Hill** to talk *Screenwriting on a Micro-Budget*.
- **The Filmmakers Podcast:** Host **Giles Alderson** and producer/financier **Ian Sharp** on *Making the Leap from Indie Films to Studio Features*.

- **Indie Film Hustle:** Host **Alex Ferrari** and producer **Franco Sama** on *Raising Money in a COVID World & The Future of Film Distribution*.
- **Film Riot:** Host **Ryan Connolly** and writer/director **Colin Levy** to talk *Directing a Blockbuster Film on an Indie Budget*.

View the [schedule of sessions](#) and speakers for AFM 2020 Online. For more information and registration, please visit [americanfilmmarket.com](https://americanfilmmarket.com).

### About the American Film Market® (AFM®)

The AFM is the most efficient film acquisition, development and networking event in the world. More than US\$1 billion in production and distribution deals are closed every year — on both completed films and those in every stage of development and production. Over five days in November, 7,000+ professionals from 70+ countries access the entire global catalogue of available films and projects, attend world class conferences, and connect with decision makers. The AFM is produced by the Independent Film & Television Alliance®.

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