



WWW stands for Works (in progress), Wrinkles or Whoops (whenever they happen), and Wraps (completed films and projects of any kind). Your contributions are encouraged. email to: [publisher@imaginenews.com](mailto:publisher@imaginenews.com).

## WORKS

### Connecticut's Busy High Employment Industry

While several major feature films BIG WEDDING starring Robert DeNiro and GREAT HOPE SPRINGS starring Meryl Steep and Tommy Lee Jones were shooting in Connecticut over the summer the state was also busy with three independent films that kept local crew, talent and government officials busy. The three films were: HOUSE OF DUST, DIAMOND RUFF and BRILLIANT MISTAKES.

### HOUSE OF DUST

HOUSE OF DUST is the third feature film that Director Alex Calvo has shot in Connecticut. The Indie horror film set on a college campus based itself in the eastern Connecticut town of Windham for easy access to major locations at both Eastern Connecticut State University and The University of Connecticut at Storrs. The film was produced by Todd Slater from Slater Brothers Entertainment in Los Angeles and David Eldridge of Budderfly Two LLC in Connecticut.

The ensemble cast consisted of SAG talent, young names and faces, while the crew was comprised of a mix of seasoned professionals at key positions and a strong contingent of recent graduates of the State's Film Industry Training Program. This production was a great success story. The crew did a fantastic job and they received a tremendous amount of cooperation from both the universities and the town of Windham.

"HOUSE OF DUST is my third feature film made here in Connecticut," said the film's director Alex Calvo. "I'm proud of the local crew and team we assembled to execute it. Most of my core team is local and remains largely unchanged from one film to the next. However, our crew will, at times, change due to the demands of other local films. That's why it's imperative that we have enough in-state talent to support multiple simultaneous projects without needing to pull resources from other states. At the same time, we need enough projects in CT so that we don't run the risk of losing the talent we've developed here. We have people who are trained, experienced, and ready to work; but that can only happen with the continued support of the CT film industry tax credits, the film industry training program, and the film office. It's more important than ever that we set ourselves apart from other states and the best way we can do that is by improving the quality of our own in-state crew-base and filmmaking infrastructure (e.g., production and post production facilities). I believe my latest film will show we're keeping up with both New York and Massachusetts in terms of quality, so now's not the time to let up on the gas. Let me be very clear, I could not have made this film, or any of my films, without the help of our state. Growing an industry is a team effort between private and public sectors and our home team is getting better and better with each and every game (film project). The film industry needs to see our small state as a viable place to make movies, quality movies. We are making good progress in that direction, and I'm happy to be a part of this burgeoning industry," added Alex Calvo, Director HOUSE OF DUST.



GREAT HOPE SPRINGS 2nd Unit shooting on location at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, CT. The Columbia Pictures film tag line is, "After thirty years of marriage, a middle-aged couple attends an intense counseling weekend to decide the fate of their marriage." The film stars Steve Carell, Meryl Streep, and Tommy Lee Jones. Photo by Mark Dixon.

House of Dust director Alex Calvo (center) working with Steven Grayhm (left) and Holland Roden (right) Photo by Chris Hale-Smith.

On the set of HOUSE OF DUST actors Steven Grayhm and Holland Roden in front of Director of Photography Christo Bakalov. Photo by Chris Hale-Smith.

Director of Photography, Christo Bakalov (at camera) setting up a shot with Inbar Lavi (with Flashlight) on the set of House of Dust. Photo by Chris-Hale Smith

For more information visit <http://www.goodnightfilm.com>.

### DIAMOND RUFF: A Story of Choices, Consequences & Redemption

According to Mark Dixon, Connecticut's Office of Film, Television & Digital Media, "At about the same time HOUSE OF DUST was going into preproduction DIAMOND RUFF signed Alec Asten to direct and began gearing up for a August - September schedule. This is another good example Mark says a film that used a large number of film Industry Training Program graduates. If you've ever needed a



Director Alec Asten at the monitor on location for DIAMOND RUFF at the Webster Correctional Institution in Cheshire Connecticut. Photo by Mark Dixon

Director Alec Asten, conferring with actors Fredro Starr and Jay Lewis on the set of DIAMOND RUFF at the Webster Correctional Institution in Cheshire Connecticut. Photo by Mark Dixon.

Diamond Ruff Location Manager Denise Hannon-Gross confers with Brian Garnett, The Director of External Affairs for the Connecticut Department of Corrections on Location at the Webster Correctional Institution. Photo by Mark Dixon, CT Office of Film, Television & Digital Media.

DIAMOND RUFF Script Supervisor Jenna Dayton on the set at the Webster Correctional Institution in Cheshire. Jenna is a graduate of the CT Film Industry Training Program. Photo by Mark Dixon.

The Crew of Diamond Ruff setting up for a scene in the Dining Hall of the Webster Correctional Institute in Cheshire. Photo by Mark Dixon.

correction or prison facility as a location you will appreciate that the Connecticut Film Office is very fortunate to have the cooperation of the CT Department of Corrections. Brian Garnett, the Director of External Affairs is one of several key agency film liaisons that our office depends on.

DIAMOND RUFF's creator Joe Young, Jr comments on his film, "I have always been fascinated by the human spirit and how powerful it is. Overcoming odds is very spiritual and DIAMOND RUFF shows this."

The strength and weakness of human nature are under the microscope in the DIAMOND RUFF book, and now the movie, which will be filmed into early October. It's about circumstances, the choices a person makes, the consequences, and second chances. Orphaned at a young age, Diamond Ruff uses his intelligence and shrewdness to survive. He becomes an accomplished con artist, crime boss, and millionaire. His tool of choice is manipulating the weaknesses of others to his advantage. But on the eve of the biggest job of Diamond's career, his weaknesses surface setting in motion events that will have deadly consequences. Is prison the final fate of Diamond Ruff? Does the Rev. Trek Woods hold the key to Diamond's redemption? There are no easy answers.

Fredro Starr (SAVE THE LAST DANCE, Moesha, and The Wire) takes on the challenging role of portraying Diamond. A founding member of the rap group Onyx, Starr leads a talented cast that includes Dennis L.A. White aka Dennis Da Menace (Notorious and The Brave One), Michael Colyar (THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG, HOUSE PARTY III), and Felicia "Snoop" Pearson (The Wire).

The movie was shot mostly in Hartford, Connecticut and in several other locations in the state. The movie's director is Mystic native Alec Asten. Young and his son Kyle Young, both of Springfield, Massachusetts are producing the film under Young Feature Films LLC.

"The movie is very emotional. It's funny, serious, it's touching. It hits a lot of emotions in a short amount of time," said Joe Young, a cartoonist, animation producer, writer and president of Young Studios in Hartford. "The movie makes you think about your purpose in life. You can identify with one or several of the characters. This is a movie of scruples," Young continued. This work is the latest embodiment of the scruples theme for this nationally recognized artist.

In 1988, Young created the comic strip Scruples about orphans dealing with social issues. Since its inception, Scruples has been featured in national syndication and on television. The 1999 Guinness Book of World Records recognized Young as the official holder of the longest comic strip in the world.

Young has also been cited by the White House and locally for his community involvement through the Joe, Picture This Show Inc., [501 (c) 3] a youth arts agency, and its Hartford Animation & Film Institute. Through the writing of the book and the making of the movie, Young said he wants to show people all things are possible. "When

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I start on a project I believe it can happen. I see it before it happens," he said. "I want people to believe in themselves and go after their dreams," Young said. "I feel like people have given up and through DIAMOND RUFF, I want to tell [that] story."

For more information visit <http://diamondruffmovie.com/>.

### BRILLIANT MISTAKES Based on True Live Events in Post Production

Salisbury Films worked through the spring in pre-production for Paul Brighton's first SAG indie feature BRILLIANT MISTAKES a story of 2011 based on a series of real-life events and inspirations. Doug Klozner penned the Screenplay with Paul's assistance during the winter and spring months in time for raising funds, hiring crew and pre-production. Paul went into production in September on location in Connecticut. The film features actors from Connecticut, New York City, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Texas, Long Island, and New Jersey. Brighton directed. Award-winning Cinematographer Christo Bakalov, B.A.C., shot it with the RED ONE camera.

BRILLIANT MISTAKES is about Marcus Wright, a young 24 year-old Connecticut English teacher. His young girlfriend, Gabby is driving to her job at the bakery, swerves off the road and gets into a violent car accident. Gabby is left in a vegetative state and can no longer speak or walk. Marcus had previously promised to marry Gabby, and while the values instilled by his well-respected parents are ingrained in Marcus, this causes Marcus to get sideswiped, question his loyalties, and challenge his allegiance. Marcus is consumed by his love, his values, and his conscience for meandering on the path to fulfilling his promise. It's an unconventional love story.

In the end, we see a young man who finally comes full circle while embracing life's unexpected surprises.

Here's the first part of the conflict: During his period of grief and inner struggle he goes to get counseling where he is surprised to see Gabby's mother Sandra. In her persuasive and manipulative way, Sandra crosses the line with Marcus, pulling him closer to her, not only to deal with her own grief, but maybe subconsciously getting back at the world.

The second part comes when Marcus meets 27 year-old Elliot, a writer and trust-funder who changes Marcus' life, forces him to question his loyalty to Gabby even further, and even raises questions about his sexuality. Elliot is exuberant, bright, funny and witty. He is the medicine Marcus needs – someone he can finally trust as much as he trusted Gabby. But we soon discover something is wrong.

Brighton grew up in White Plains, New York. He began photographing and filming his own productions at the age of 8 and believes he has always been involved in some way in the business.

"I have been a cameraman, a producer, a writer, pretty much anything in the industry, I have done," he said. "Having had a hand in so much before, it allows me to communicate with the crew a lot better."

Brighton and co-producer Tom Forry now have this unique and heart-breaking story in post production with a look to marketing this character driven drama in late spring 2012.

For more information visit <http://www.salisburyfilms.com/>.



Paul Brighton & Crew on the set of BRILLIANT MISTAKES shoot in Connecticut. ©2011 Salisbury Films & Starportal Productions, LLC.

Director Paul Brighton Center, with Producer Timothy Forry to his left, and Assistant Director Anthony Cox to his right, with Partial Cast and Crew of BRILLIANT MISTAKES. ©2011 Salisbury Films & Starportal Productions, LLC.

Christo Bakalov (DP) & Paul Brighton (Director) on the set of BRILLIANT MISTAKES. ©2011 Salisbury Films & Starportal Productions, LLC.

Christo Bakalov (DP), Paul Brighton (Director) & Jessica Barbosa (1st AC), Aaron Miller (Sound) on the set of BRILLIANT MISTAKES. ©2011 Salisbury Films & Starportal Productions, LLC.

Chris Hale Smith (Grip), Aaron Miller (Sound), Paul Brighton (Director), Christo Bakalov (DP) Dave McRorie (Boom), on the set of BRILLIANT MISTAKES. ©2011 Salisbury Films & Starportal Productions, LLC.

(L-R) Paul Brighton (Director), Christo Bakalov B.A.C. (DP), Chris Dimoulas (Script Supervisor), Jessica Barbosa (1st AC), Todd Rawiszzer (2nd AC), Chris Hale-Smith (Key Grip), Phillip George (G&E) on the set of BRILLIANT MISTAKES. ©2011 Salisbury Films & Starportal Productions, LLC.



### WRINKLES

#### Addy Miller: What Two and a Half Hours of Make-up Can Do

While photographer George Weinstein was roaming at with his camera ready at Rock and Shock, a spooky event at DCU in Worcester, October 15th, he came across this young lady Addy Miller whom he photographed. She is a clever career woman he thought engaging her in conversation and observing her art of conversation.

Addy Miller was 8 years old when she was in THE SEASON OF THE BEES with Dakota Fanning and Alicia Keys. Now she is a star performer in the hit TV show The Walking Dead, a horror drama where police officer



above  
Movie and TV star Addy Miller at the Rock and Shock Show at DCU Center in Worcester, MA. Make-up artists took two and a half hours to transform Addy into a little girl wandering zombie for the TV hit show The Walking Dead. Photo by George Weinstein.

Rick Grimes leads a group of survivors in a world overrun by zombies. Make-up transformed Addy everyday on the set from a pretty young girl to a terrifying looking little girl walking zombie in about 2 and 1/2 hours each time. Frightening.

### WRAPS

#### Linda Brown to Receive Kodak Educational Award at SMPTE Technical Conference

Linda Brown received the Kodak Educational Award at the prestigious Honors & Awards ceremony during the SMPTE Technical Conference on October 27 held at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel. Brown was honored for her dedication to educate the next generation of filmmakers in the art and science of cinematography throughout her professional career and personal endeavors.

"Linda Brown has committed herself to pushing professional standards in the educational arena, and insisting her students have a strong foundation in both the technical and aesthetic principles of cinematography, enabling them to choose the best medium for their project," says Judy Doherty, marketing director of the Americas region for Kodak's Entertainment Imaging division. "She is a champion for equal opportunities for women and minority filmmakers, and has actively engaged the professional community to recognize talent in all of its forms. We are thrilled to recognize her efforts and honor her accomplishments."

Brown is a previous recipient of a Kodak Vision Award for cinematography, and is a Fulbright Scholar. She studied filmmaking at Temple University and cinematography at AFI. Her feature credits include LITTLE INDISCRETIONS, LUCKY BASTARD and AMERICAN BEAUTIES: IN PURSUIT OF ART, which she also produced.

The SMPTE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition brings together world-renowned technology thought-leaders from the media content business. As an accredited industry standards-setting body, SMPTE is also the industry's leading nonprofit association providing technology education and information to the motion imaging industry.

For more information on Kodak imaging products, technologies and services for the entertainment industry, visit [www.kodak.com/go/motion](http://www.kodak.com/go/motion),



Linda Brown received the Kodak Educational Award October 27th the at SMPTE Technical Conference in Hollywood. She is a previous recipient of a Kodak Vision Award for cinematography. Photo by Douglas Kirkland, courtesy of Kodak.