

## **Maggie Parke, PhD Film and Digital Media**

Script Editor, Fan Consultant

**Bio:** Maggie Parke earned her PhD in Film and Digital Media from Bangor University, Wales UK, with her specialty in the Creative Industries. She focused on the adaptation processes of event films and fan management, and her research included working on the sets of *Twilight* (2008), *Captain America* (2009), case studies of *The Golden Compass*, *Eragon*, *Harry Potter*, and *The Dark is Rising*. She also worked on the Academy Award shortlisted short, *Love at First Sight* (2010), as well conducted research at the game design company Turbine Inc., makers of *The Lord of the Rings Online* (LOTRO) and DC Comic's *Infinite Crisis*.

She currently works in both education and the film industry, developing projects, editing scripts, and consulting on fan management, while also teaching at Signum University, CAPA University, and working with Unis Wales promoting Welsh Higher Education. She has been published in *The Journal of Gaming and Virtual Worlds* (2009), co-edited a book of Critical Essays on *Twilight*, published by McMillan (2011), writes for *Hypable.com*, has a chapter on 'Utilising Fans in the Adaptation Process of *The Lord of the Rings*' (2015) in Intellect Publishing's Fan Phenomena series, and has written the forward and was interviewed about her work on *Twilight* in their *Twilight* edition (2016).

### **Lecture locations:**

*USA-* Wellesley College, Dartmouth College, University of California: Northridge, the University of Mary Washington, Gettysburg College, Arcadia University, Plymouth State University, George Fox University, Reed College, California Lutheran University, High Point University, University of Denver, Columbus State University, and many high schools.

*Chile-* La Universidad Católica de la Santísima Concepción.

*Brazil-* A Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul.

*Santo Domingo-* Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo

*UK-* Ffilm Cymru, Hay Festival, AHRC Training Events, BFI London, CAPA University

### **Guest Lectures and Class proposals:**

These are flexible; they are to give you an idea of the areas I've spoken about before.

However, if you have a subject you'd like discussed, do bring it up with me and we'll see if there's an angle for covering it (this is how my marketing class came to be).

- 1) **Film Adaptation and Fan Management-** This is the class I teach most often. It requires no previous knowledge from the audience, and is popular from high school freshman to professional filmmakers. It focuses on the creative industries as a business, and event film adaptation and fan management. I discuss how popular texts are taken to the screen, how filmmakers involve or ignore the fan base, and how their interactions affect box office results. (*The Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter*, *Twilight*, *Marvel/DC Films*, *Star Wars*, *Game of Thrones*, etc.).
- 2) **Film Adaptation Process-** This is a film-specific course, particularly for students who have some experience in film classes previously. Here I discuss the physical processes of adapting a text: optioning the property, script development process, considerations, etc.

- 3) **Script Writing and Pitch Sessions-** Also generally for film students, as it provides tools and exercises to better script writing processes, and the pitch session gives an opportunity for students to practice pitching, a vital tool in the film industry, to an industry professional.
- 4) **Social Media and Marketing for Film (book/game/event) promotion.** An in-depth look at utilising popular social media platforms to see how audience interactions are managed, and discuss how they may impact box office returns and the longevity of a franchise. (*Hunger Games, Lord of the Rings, Harry Potter, Twilight, Marvel Films, Star Wars, and Star Trek, amongst others*).
- 5) **Creating your Brand.** Usually for film/creative artists about how to create their personal brand, help curate their work, and includes a workshop element.
- 6) **Fantasy Literature (book and/or film) or Myth and Movies.** My MA is on Arthurian Literature, and I have done a fair bit of work on medieval influences on modern writers, and mythic structures in story. I provide a particular focus on the works of Susan Cooper, Mary Stewart, Lloyd Alexander, Philip Pullman, C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and J.K. Rowling.
- 7) **Gaming and Adaptation.** This draws from my work at Turbine Inc with Lord of the Rings Online and Infinite Crisis; creating a game based on pre-existing characters, and exercising creativity while working within fan expectation.
- 8) **International Education-** I usually put this at the end of the above lectures, and keep it concise, but informative, and broad – not just about Bangor. However, I can do an entire session on International Education/PG study abroad if it appeals.

**Additional Info/Options:**

Brief screening and a Q&A of two films I worked on with local producer, Catrin Cooper

**Films (2 options right now):**

- 1) ***Love at First Sight.*** 9 Festival Nominations, 7 wins; most for 'Best Short.' This was also shortlisted for the 2012 Academy Awards (final ten). A short film starring John Hurt and Phyllida Law, directed by Michael Davies, produced by Sandra Gorel, Executive Producer Beryl Vertue, and made with support from the Wellcome Trust. The story of love in a retirement home, overcoming challenges, and celebrating change and life.
- 2) ***Little Stars.*** This is not yet released, but I could pre-screen. Narrated by Stephen Fry, directed by Amy Coop, produced with Sandra Gorel, and made with support from Film Agency for Wales. A documentary about a primary school's Christmas Nativity play in England. It is sweet, simple, observational filmmaking that focuses on a small slice of life at a magical time of the year. Selected for London UK Film Focus Breakthrough.

[www.maggieparke.com](http://www.maggieparke.com)

@maggieparke