

Tom Kane Interview

By: Joey Franco



Tom Kane is retired. Actually, Tom Kane would probably best describe his career status as semi-retired. Mr. Kane's three day Film Production Workshop will have him reveal his tricks of the trade in nine cities across North America and Europe in little over two months. With such a jam packed end of year, only a veteran film producer would consider this type of agenda as that of a retiree.

At 66 years of age, Kane has done it all in Hollywood; from Unit Production Manager, to Assistant Director, to Producer. Kane is quick to stress the importance of a position such as the assistant director. "You are the engine. You are also the main communicator."

The seasoned filmmaker has had a long and distinguished career in the film and television industry. Kane's clients have included Twentieth Century Fox, Miramax Films, Columbia Pictures, United Artists, Warner Bros., ABC Motion Pictures, Turner Network Television, CBS, NBC, ABC-TV and Hallmark Entertainment, among many others.

Kane, a native New Yorker, began his career in the big apple working on numerous box office successes such as *Prizzi's Honor*, *Taxi Driver*, *Raging Bull*, and academy award-winning *Kramer vs. Kramer*. He has had the pleasure of working alongside legendary directors such as John Huston, Martin Scorsese, and Garry Marshall. Kane admits that it was difficult to work with the

legendary Martin Scorsese. “He’s very creative, and like all people that are creative, he’s demanding... so it’s not easy, but you make all kinds of allowances because the guy’s really good!”

Kane has also worked with such notable actors as Jack Nicholson, Robert DeNiro, Meryl Streep, Dustin Hoffman, Ed Harris, Glenn Close, Elijah Wood, Pierce Brosnan, Sylvester Stallone, Spaulding Gray and Matt Dillon.

On top of being a filmmaker, Kane has had a passion for teaching and mentoring for quite some time. Since 1984, he has taught film and television production to hundreds of students from all over the world. He created "*The Line Producer, UPM, AD Workshop*" for The International Film & Television Workshops in Rockport, Maine, where he taught for 12 years. Right now, he is channeling all his efforts in his Film Production Workshop.

Kane’s 3-Day Film Workshop is the definitive course for aspiring Producers, Directors, Production Managers, Assistant Directors, Writers, Actors, Documentarians, Indy Filmmakers, Industry Executives, and anyone wishing to begin a career in film or video production. His three day schedule is very simple, he starts with a screenplay and works his way to the screen. “I take the students, and I begin the course with a finished screenplay. Now how do you make that into a movie? How do you get it onto the screen?” The transition from script to silver screen involves tremendous scheduling and planning, clear-cut budgeting, and people skills- all of which have become second nature to Kane.

Moreover, the seminar will look at the roles of the Producer, Production Manager (UPM) and Assistant Director (AD). Kane examines the procedures, attitudes, techniques and paperwork needed to plan and run a large or small film production - from scouting locations, breaking down a script, and budgeting the film. Students will learn invaluable techniques in this extensive course because of the simple fact that Tom Kane has BEEN THERE and DONE THAT.

The best part of the seminar is that if Tom Kane is not coming to your city, you can buy the workshop DVD series. The package includes: 8 discs: 7 DVDs of the *3-Day Film Workshop*, recorded live, plus the Workshop Manual, and both *Prizzi's Honor* and *Crossfire Trail* screenplays on disc.

<http://filmtvworkshops.com/>

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