

JURY OF YOUR PEERS

Electronic Press Kit

Director's Bio - Bob Giraldi

As a director, Bob Giraldi's visual storytelling prowess has left an indelible mark on multiple mediums. In an industry where innovation is paramount, Giraldi set the tone for music videos during the early days of MTV. His most iconic creation, Michael Jackson's Beat It, was a groundbreaking masterpiece that resonated with audiences worldwide. Giraldi's ability to seamlessly blend music and narrative was further showcased in videos for artists like Paul McCartney, Lionel Richie and Pat Benatar.

Beyond music videos, Giraldi excelled in the realm of commercials, amassing a portfolio of over 4,000 advertisements. His award-winning campaigns for brands like McDonald's, Pepsi-Cola, and Miller Lite showcased his talent for combining storytelling with advertising. In the advertising world, Giraldi's name became synonymous with creativity and innovation.

Bob Giraldi's feature film, Dinner Rush with Danny Aiello, John Corbett, Sandra Bernhard and Summer Phoenix appeared on a number of 2001's Top 10 Lists and was selected for the prestigious New Directors/New Films Series at MoMA. The film's influence can be felt through the many narrative and factual food shows that populate the modern TV and media landscape.

Among its many accolades, Dinner Rush was listed by Roger Ebert as "One of the Best 100 Films in the Last 10 Years." As Giraldi notes, "...not every day a film is required viewing in the curriculum at the Culinary Institute of America."

Bob Giraldi's passion for storytelling extends beyond the screen. For over three decades, he has been an integral part of the School of Visual Arts (SVA) in New York City. At SVA, Giraldi has shaped the minds of aspiring filmmakers, sharing his wealth of knowledge and experience. Today, he serves as the Chair of SVA's MPS Film Directing department, where he continues to nurture the next generation of cinematic talent.

Principle Cast Bios

- **Jesmille Darbouze - Kira**

Jesmille is a proud Afro-Latina, the daughter of a Dominican mother and Haitian father. She was raised in Elmont, NY and then moved to South Florida at the age of 10. She is an accomplished actor and singer, with experience working professionally in television, film and stage. Broadway credits include Tony nominated plays *A Doll's House* and *Betrayal*, both directed by Jamie Lloyd, and Tony nominated musical *Kiss Me Kate*. Jesmille began her training at New World School of the Arts in Miami, FL and then went on to receive her BFA in Acting from Carnegie Mellon University.

- **Sean Patrick Reilly - Frankie**

Sean Patrick Reilly is an Actor, Director and Writer best known to audiences for playing Joe Sculari for five seasons on the Showtime series *Billions*. Other TV appearances include *Bull* (CBS); *Law and Order SVU* (NBC); *Blue Bloods* (CBS); *The Black Donnellys* (NBC); and *Law and Order* (five seasons) (NBC). Films include *A Wife Alone*; *Following Bliss*, *Sleepers* among many. He performed on Broadway in Tracy Letts' *Superior Donuts* and Martin McDonough's *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*. Other recent Theater: Atlantic Theater Company; Signature Theatre; The Public / NYSF; Williamstown Theatre Festival; Alley Theatre; TheatreSquared; Geva Theatre; Indiana Rep. and The Cleveland Playhouse. He has directed *Superior Donuts*, *Hamlet*, *God of Carnage*, *Amadeus* and the world premieres of *B-Side Myself*, *This is Your Captain Speaking*, Terry Neil's *Future* and *The Killer Inside Me* among many. He trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and The Neighborhood Playhouse.

- **Kersti Bryan - Constance**

Kersti Bryan is an actress and filmmaker based in NYC. Her acting credits include HBO's *Perry Mason*, AMC's *Tales of the Walking Dead*, Apple TV's *Invasion*, *Hustlers*, *FBI: Most Wanted*, *Ray Donovan*, and *All Rise*. As a filmmaker, she has written and directed two award-winning short films. Her latest, *Stalled In Eight Etudes* (2024), has won Best Innovative Short Film at the Sedona International Film Festival, Best of the Fest at San Francisco Indie FF and Bread and Roses FF, and Best Short Film at Port Townsend and Woods Hole Film Festivals. Kersti is a recipient of the NYC Women's Fund. Her debut film, *Egg Party* (2021), won the Cinequest Audience Award and the Panavision First Time Filmmaker grant. She will next appear in Neil Burger's *Inheritance*, starring Phoebe Dynevor.

- **Vandit Bhatt - Rohan**

Born and raised in India, Vandit has been acting for over twenty years and has shared his talents on the stage, on film and on television. Highlights in Television include a seven episode arc as Priyanka Chopra's teammate on *Quantico*, a seven episode arc as Anupam Kher's son on *New Amsterdam*, working with Michael J Fox and getting knocked out by Sting on *The Michael J Fox Show*, and working with Matthew Broderick on *Elsbeth*. His films, both features and shorts, have played globally. He currently has

five shorts in post production, is filming his fifth feature and has a series and a feature in development. On stage, he has worked with The Public, The Atlantic Theatre Company, The Roundabout Theater Company, The Ensemble Studio Theater, Ma-Yi Theater Company, The American Conservatory Theater, and The Denver Center Of Performing Arts, amongst others. Theatre highlights include working with the Oscar and Tony winning legend Tom Stoppard twice.

- **Glori Dei Filippone - Sophia**

Originally from Iowa, Glori Dei is an NYC based actor who graduated from NYU Tisch. Lovingly called “The Manic Pixie Peter Pan”, Glori Dei delivers vulnerable, gutsy, hungry performances. They have extensive stunt, dance, and physical training- including working as a stunt PA on the Russo Brothers’ *Avengers: Infinity War*.

- **Daniel Jenkins - Jeffrey**

- **Christie Sanford - Phyllis**

Logline

On the one year anniversary of a high profile acquittal, members of the jury reunite to celebrate, reminisce and discuss the verdict.

Synopsis

Production Notes

Each year in the first semester, the MPS Film Directing program produces a Learning Film with the help of its faculty and students. A short film script is written, produced, directed, performed, edited and finished by professionals, with each student playing an important role in front of or behind the camera.

Director's Statement

"My daughter Theresa, who runs a delightful B&B in Hyde Park, NY, told me about a recent rental she had where members of a jury all met at her place for a reunion to celebrate the GUILTY verdict they arrived at a year earlier in a high-profile murder case. They seem to have had a grand old time, but it got me thinking, I never imagined members of a jury liking each other that much they would think about getting together again! I couldn't stop my mind from snapping back years and years to the fabulous Sidney Lumet directed courtroom drama "Twelve Angry Men". I knew I had to make a film about today's unique perspective on prejudice, politics and consequences.

So we came up with *Jury of Your Peers.*" - Bob Giraldi, 2025.

Stills

- [Production Stills](#)
- [Behind the Scenes](#)
- [Poster](#)

Video

- [Trailer](#)
- [Full Film](#) p/w: **JOYP2025**

Contact(s)

- Cailin McFadden cmcfadden@sva.edu

Technical Info

- Running Time: 25:52
- Exhibition Format: DCP
- Aspect Ratio: 2.35:1
- Shooting Format: Digital 2K
- Color
- English

Credits

Director	Bob Giraldi
Writers	Natasha Soto-Albors Jake D. Williamson
Producers	Cailin McFadden Natasha Soto-Albors Alistair McMeekin
First Assistant Director	Natasha Soto-Albors
Second Assistant Director	Anoushka Iyer
Third Assistant Director	Keegan Sailor Lindsey
Script Supervisor	Chen Chen
Production Assistant	Christi Bertelsen Leo Wang Roxie Sun
Stills Photographer	Kairui Yang
<u>Cast</u>	
Kira	Jesmille Darbouze
Frankie	Sean Patrick Reilly
Constance	Kersti Bryan
Rohan	Vandit Bhatt
Sophia	Glori Dei Filippone
Jeffrey	Dan Jenkins
Phyllis	Christie Sanford
Samantha	Natasha Soto-Albors
Landlord	Jason Cicci
Bar Owner	Rich Dreher
Restaurant Employee	Roujia (Alice) Wang
Podcast Assistant	Chenhong Jin
Uber Driver	Jake D. Williamson
Director of Photography	Andressa Cordeiro
1st AC	Annie Mara
2nd AC	Sonea Patil
B Camera Operator	Haoyu Zhu
B Camera 1st AC	Linkai He
Gaffer	Stephen Turco
Key Grip	Andrew Landreville
Swing	Robert Bevis
G&E Assistant	Anran Chen
Production Sound Mixer	Tim Perdoch
Boom Operators	Fengting Liu

	Keegan Sailor Lindsey
Production Designer	Kathryn Vega Davis
Art Department Assistant	Law Artis
	Roujia (Alice) Wang
Wardrobe Assistants	Chenhang Jin
	Weiran (Wyan) Zhu
Key HMU Artist	Evelyn Ziropoulos
HMU Artist	Linnea Sumner
Unit Driver	Shiyah Trotman
Editor	Alistair McMeekin
Digital Imaging Technician	Shuyu (Ash) Zheng
Colorist	Joseph Overbey
Sound Mixer	Anthony Cappellino
Final Mix Recorded at	Sound Lounge NYC
Composer	Maria Linares
Score Mixed by	Juan Pablo Méndez.
Score Recorded and Produced at	Fiona Records

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