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Goals: To participate in the development and production of stories related to health and human services; arts, culture and education; environment and conservation; community service and politics. To see these productions aired on public broadcasting and in other not-for-profit or public service venues.

Strengths: Creative writer-producer, well versed in PC-based technology, with a strong background in project management. By being a jack-of-all-trades, can produce high quality pieces, within tight budgets and on time. Easygoing team-oriented personality, with a strong work ethic and high degree of respect for deadlines and customer satisfaction. My productions to date have been notable for their compassion toward the dilemmas and longings of youth as well as toward the struggles of adults to do the right thing for families.

Resources: Own and operate equipment necessary to produce short video and radio productions, including Panasonic DVX-100 video camera, Marantz minidisc recorder, and array of microphones; PC-based production software, including Adobe Premiere, After Effects, and Creative Suite and Sony sound editing packages.

Overview: In 2003, I took early retirement from Hillside Family of Agencies to launch a second career focused on using my creative skills in a new form of community service – using the positive power of short film – and founded Cosmopolitan Productions with Maria Cristalli. Shortly thereafter, my enjoyment of sound production led me to add radio to my goals.

At Hillside, I worked for 24 years in quality management, strategic planning and organizational design, with additional responsibilities in marketing and technology development. Prior to that, I worked for four years in the Department of Community Health and Preventive Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine, where I did research, taught, and supervised field placements. I have a Masters degree in Community Health.

Filmmaking

Short Movies: Youth and Family

"The Valentine 1955" (2:30 min, 2002) Two little girls face off – one white, one black. Where is the respect in fearful times? This animation is a conversation starter for cultural competence and race relations training. Shown at 6th Annual United Nations Association Film Festival in Palo Alto CA (Oct 2003) – one of 30 films selected worldwide. UNAFF Traveling Festival screenings in Monterey (Nov 2003), Harvard University JFK School of Government (Sept 2004) and Chicago (Nov 2005). Screened at Rochester's Little Theater "Emerging Filmmakers" series (Apr 26, 2004). Licensed for broadcast on the Free Speech TV and released as a radio production (see "Radio" below).

ROLES: *Writer, motion graphics animator, recordist and sound designer, narrator*

"Lightening the Load" (18 min, 2004) Under the auspices of the Mental Health Association of Rochester/Monroe County, actors in fictional scenarios explore the emergence of anxiety disorders in older loved ones and illustrate how working caregivers can recognize and manage these situations.

ROLES: *Writer, videographer, director, editor, sound designer*

"Lucy's Integrated Plan" (5:30 min, 2004) Unified Services of Allegany County wanted a story to inspire and enlighten service providers who are learning a new service model for youth in trouble. This video tells the story of Lucy, a teen mother in distress and portrays her journey in a simple animated cartoon.

ROLES: *Writer, actor, animation director and artist, sound designer*

"Foster Parent Recruitment" (8:30 min, 2004) Five foster parents from western New York talk about working with kids and the support they get from Hillside Children's Center. Commissioned to help recruit new foster parents.

ROLES: *Videographer, editor, voiceover recordist, sound designer*

"What Students Are Saying" (7 min, 2002) Students from Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection express how the program has given them opportunities they might never have had. Certificate of Creative Excellence (Non-Profit Public Relations), 2003 U.S. International Film and Video Festival, Redondo Beach, CA.

ROLES: Videographer, editor, sound designer

"Lucy" (2 min, 2002) Developed as a recruitment tool for Hillside's Parents As Partners Roundtable. Using animated cut-outs, it tells a story from a child's perspective, watching what her mother has to go through to help her brother who is in trouble.

ROLES: Writer, motion graphics animator, voiceover actor, sound designer

"Polar Bear Project" (2 min, 2003) Children whose parents are members of the Mental Health Association's Better Days Ahead group depict their vision of family life in this expressive micro-documentary on the development of one entry in Rochester's ESL Animal Scramble. "It turned out to be a really moving piece. It told the story in a meaningful way that leaves you feeling like this program is one that truly makes a difference in the lives of these kids" (Meg Joseph, speaking on behalf the sponsor Business Methods in an interview for the *Penfield Post*).

ROLES: Writer, videographer, motion graphics animator, editor, voiceover recordist and sound designer

"Green Reality" (5 min, 2003) Hillside staff discuss the impact of implementing a new behavior support system at the Halpern Education Center. They have learned not only new tools for eliciting positive behaviors, but also gained insights about themselves.

ROLES: Recordist, editor, motion graphics animator, and sound designer

"Learning Respect" (3 min, 2003) Youth with histories of not being able to get along reflect on how they have learned about "respect" and what it means to them. This film shows the youth perspective on positive behavior expectations at Hillside. Along with the video above, it has been used throughout the NYS community of Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) experts to illustrate how the PBIS model can work.

ROLES: Recordist, editor, artist/animator and sound designer

"The Cost of Cool" (7:30 min, 2003) A youth-produced video that looks at what happens when a boy sells his soul to the devil just to be one of the cool guys. Produced under the label "Mad Mary Moviemaking," it serves as a model for what kids can do when given the opportunity to plot their own stories and improvise their own dialogue.

ROLES: Videographer, director, editor, sound designer

"System of Care Progress - Live!" (5 min, 2003) Fifty-five staff, clients, and Board members of Hillside Family of Agencies, throughout central and western NYS, were interviewed about Hillside's progress toward its strategic goals. The result is a lively montage of faces and voices expressing enthusiasm for the "new" Hillside and hopefulness for the future. This production was used to lift spirits at the annual HFA staff conference.

ROLES: Videographer, editor, sound designer

"The Hill - A Place to Reinvent Myself" (5:16 min, 2003) Three youth in residence volunteered to tell the Hillside story to potential donors. They worked from a script and also spoke from their hearts. Youth in need of services are presented in a positive light - using their strengths to do what Americans do best: reinvent themselves.

ROLES: Writer, videographer, editor, sound designer

Short Movies: Community and Environment

"Mission and Magic" (3:40 min, 2005) The Seneca Park Zoo Society commissioned this piece to promote and support the Monroe County Seneca Park Zoo. What is the role of a small zoo in the Rochester community and what is its place in the world? A Zoo Society board member provides his perspective, his voice complemented by the perspective of a zoo visitor.

ROLES: Writer, videographer, editor, voiceover actor, sound designer

Short Movies: Personal Essays

"Artist Emerging" (2 min, 2003) Rochester artist Sheila Peters commissioned this piece to celebrate the opening of her workspace at Artisan Works and her participation in the ESL Animal Scramble. The video is a personal statement in which she muses on the dualities expressed in her work.

ROLES: Videographer, sound recordist, editor, sound designer

"Ghosts" (2 min, 2002) In this experimental piece, 8-mm film of a 1940s party is edited together with sound clips of home recordings from the same era. The mood is established as raucous and silly, then reverses into something more haunting.

ROLES: Editor, sound designer

Independent Radio Production

"Respectacle" (2.5-min, 2006) mockumentary sound project accepted by the Third Coast Festival ShortDocs "99 Ways To Tell A Story."

ROLES: Recordist, editor, sound designer, producer

"Midlife Web Diary" (6:40 min, 2006) At the age of 50 I was a colorless corporate malcontent. I decided to engage the world by keeping an anonymous online diary. No one noticed. The initial dangerous thought turned into a challenge to become more entertaining. The result: I wound up being discovered, not by the colorful world of writers and artists, but by ... my mother. Licensed by KFAI Public Radio (Minneapolis and St Paul, MN, 2006). "It's just this kind of quirky, strange-but-true story that makes This American Life so fascinating. And the fact that Susan's whole online adventure led to a new life, and a new outlook, makes it more appealing to others. Especially women who might be in the same situation" (review by Cheryl-Anne Millsap, Spokane Public Radio).

ROLES: Writer, recordist, narrator, sound designer, producer

"Kitty Keeps On Singing" (6:30 min, 2004) A personal essay exploring how my grandmother dealt with sorrow and loss, using family recordings from the 1940s. Licensed for broadcast at Public Radio East (New Bern, NC, 2005) and WHQR 91.3 (Wilmington NC, 2005). "I continue to applaud the honoring of this grandmother's strong spirit, and it's still great to hear the home-recordings of Kitty belting out a song. The writing is good throughout, there's a nice blend of text and music of the period, and Kitty is brought to life" (from Editorial Board review, Public Radio Exchange [PRX]).

ROLES: Writer, recordist, narrator, sound designer, producer

"The Valentine 1955" (2:30 min, 2002) Two little girls face off – one white, one black. Where is the respect in fearful times? A radio version of our film, pertinent for programs dealing with race relations and the history of school desegregation. Licensed for broadcast at RTE Radio 1 (Ireland, 2006); Public Interactive (Boston, 2006); WKNO 91.1 (portions of Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi and Missouri; 2006); WFUV (Fordham University, NYC); WYSO 91.3 (Antioch University, Yellow Springs, OH – Dayton area); DWAU 104.1 (Angeles University, Angeles City, Pampanga Philippines); WCFM 91.9 (Williams College, Williamstown MA). "This piece uses music and background almost all the way through, but its use feels nonetheless very sparing; I was pleased that it never distracts the listener from the deep, textured voice of the speaker. The piece is of a perfect length-- the producer manages to bring us back to the heart of the fifties racial tensions in a matter of 2 short minutes – and the final twist in the narration is haunting but very satisfying in a way that unsaccharine endings are" (from review by program director, WYSO).

ROLES: Writer, recordist, narrator, sound designer, producer

"Dangling Woman" (5:15 min, 2003) Social reformer tries to take a vacation in Costa Rica and gets stuck in the treetops. Featured online at Transom.org in *Three About Me* and licensed for broadcast at WCAI/WNAN (Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket MA); KABF (Little Rock AR); KZYX/KZYZ 90.7/91.5 (Mendocino County CA); WYSO 91.3 (Antioch University, Yellow Springs OH - Dayton area); KUBH 91.9 (St. Paul, Alaska). "The voice is nicely braided with sounds that place the musings in a very real physical place, where the singular problem to be solved happens to mirror the labyrinth that the writer brought to the jungle. The degree of complexity in the voice/sound mix is just right" (from PRX review).

ROLES: Writer, recordist, narrator, sound designer, producer

Multimedia Presentation

"Chakras: 7 Wonders of the Soul" Interactive presentation using Macromedia Flash, and including both video and audio. Created for Intrinsic Wisdom, Rochester NY. (August, 2006)

Writing

Script-writing. Wrote scripts for movie and radio production above (except where otherwise indicated).

Editorials. Mastering the short form of editorial prose:

- *Democrat & Chronicle*: "Time to Ask 'What Would Gandhi Do?'" (Sept. 8, 2006). Op-Ed essay based on conversations with Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mohandas Gandhi.
- *Democrat & Chronicle*: "Tribute" Op-Ed essay on James W Cotter (Jan. 9, 2006)
- *Democrat & Chronicle* Sounding Board Member 2004, 2006: Opinion solicited and accepted for topics of gay marriage (Feb 2004), NYS legislative inaction (Feb 2004), Mayor's State of the City (Jun 2004), 2004 Vice Presidential debate (Oct 2004), and amending the constitution to allow naturalized citizens to run for president (Nov 2004).
- *City Newspaper*: "The Problems in Foster Care," Jun 23-29, 2004

Personal Essays.

- "The Best Way Out Is Through" *Rochester Shorts* (December 2000) and online in *Melange Magazine* (June 2004)
- "Dangling Woman" *Rochester Shorts* (May 2001)
- Series on bead collecting: "The Bead Collector," "Romanced by Wandering Amber," "On the Border: Peshawar Bead Bazaar," "From the Sands of Western China: Petrified Coral Beads," and "Strangled in Tangles of Beads" in the *Bead Bugle* online magazine. (Begun in 2004)
- "The Artist's Book as Inspiration" *Digital Divas' D'Zine* (Sept. 2001)
- "Mad in Pursuit of Video: A Learning History" *Digital Divas' D'Zine* (March 2002)

Website. "Mad in Pursuit" (www.madinpursuit.com) is both workshop and playground. More complex than a blog, more far-ranging than an online journal, since 1999 it has been a place to test ideas and document learning.

Professional Writing. From 1979 through 1995, published in various professional journals and books primarily related to quality assurance methods in mental health care for children.