



SAFE SETS

Dying to Work in the Film Industry

MEDIA KIT



I'VE NEVER
MISSED A DAY
OF WORK IN MY
LIFE. I'VE SHOT
FILMS WITH
HEPATITIS."


— John Malkovich
Actor

Safe
Sets

A concerned doctor conducts a shocking investigation into systemic health and safety issues in the film and TV industry, exposing hazardous working conditions, personal sacrifices, and unnecessary risks faced by cast and crew members.



ABOUT THE FILM



**I HAVE FRIENDS
THAT HAD
TWENTY
CONCUSSIONS,
WHICH CAN
CAUSE
SIGNIFICANT
BRAIN
DAMAGE.”**

— Lori Stewart
Stunt Performer

Safe Sets: Dying to Work in the Film Industry is a feature length exploration of systemic issues impacting the health and wellbeing of film workers.

Directed by Paul Heinzelmann, a physician and former clinical instructor at Harvard Medical School, the film weaves together candid interviews with technicians, union representatives, public health experts, and notable performers (Jon Hamm and John Malkovich) with the story of Paul's effort to conduct research into health and safety in the film industry.

The cumulative impacts of sleep deprivation, toxic exposure, stress, long hours, accidents and other issues explored in Safe Sets are not only detrimental and unhealthy, but potentially deadly for film workers.

It doesn't have to be this way. A well-rested, happy worker is less prone to accidents, less likely to be abusive or be abused, and less vulnerable to dangerous mental and physical health issues. They are apt to thrive – not just survive.

ABOUT THE FILM

John Malkovich, Actor
Jon Hamm, Actor
Theresa Tova, Actor, Past President of ACTRA
(Canada)
Liza Huget, Actor, Vice President UBCP/ACTRA
(Canada)
Emma Barber, AD
Doug Freeman, Art Department
Emelia Mendieta, Cinematographer, friend of
Halyna Hutchins
Rob Bessette, Colorist
Maryann Brandon, Editor
Adam Merims, Exec Producer
Dutch Merrick, Propmaster; Past President of
IATSE Local 44
John Lindley, Cinematographer; Past Pres Intl
Cinematographers Guild.(IATSE 600)
Mark Ulano, Sound Engineer; Past Pres of IATSE
Local 695
Tom Adair, Past Ex . Director, BC Council of Film
Unions (Canada)
Doreen Manuel, Indigenous filmmaker, Dir. of
Bosa Centre for Film and Animation, Capilano
Mona Shum, Industrial Hygienist
Monona Rossol, Industrial Hygienist/Union Rep;
ACTS
Sherryn Smith, Makeup artist
Joyce Gilliard, Makeup artist/ iSafe Film & TV
Sheila Scott, mother of Luke Scott
Richard and Elizabeth Jones, Parents of Sarah
Jones
Jeanette King, Animation Director, President, The
Animation Guild, IATSE 839
Mo Flam, Gaffer

FEATURING INTERVIEWS WITH

DIRECTOR

Paul Heinzelmann is a practicing primary care doctor, additionally trained in public health at the Harvard School of Public Health. Over the years of providing medical support on sets, he gained a deeper understanding of how film and TV production operates. It became clear that systemic factors were creating unique risks to those working in this industry and sharing these observations has become an important call to action in his career.



INTERVIEW DIRECTOR

Jonathan Schwartz is a seasoned documentary film director with a flare for the investigative. He brings a unique background in public and occupational health to *Safe Sets*, as such is an issue close to his heart. He serves as Director of Subject Interviews and Producer for this film. Notable previous work includes *Faith in the Big House* and *CodeSwitching*.

EDITOR

Richard Levien's editing credits include Barry Jenkins' *Moonlight*, short film *Remigration*, and *A Fragile Trust* about the worst plagiarist in the history of the New York Times. He also edited *D Tour*, which won Best Bay Area documentary feature at the San Francisco International Film Festival. Levien's debut feature film as a writer / director, *Collisions* won four SFFILM/ KRF Grants, premiered at the Mill Valley Film Festival, and won the Audience Award (US Independent Cinema: Gold). It has gone on to win 13 awards from 19 festivals.



PRODUCER

Kerri Coombs is a producer with over three decades in film and event production, and one of the first female grips and gaffers in Alberta and B.C. A frequent speaker at the Sustainable Production Forum in Vancouver, and a recent NYC MOME guest speaker on sustainable cinematography. She produced the Vancouver segment of *Safe Sets*, and *Katiba Banat: Sisters in Arms*, a docu-series by Adhel Arop about women veterans of the SPLA, which aired on OMNI in July 2023. She is currently in development of several projects centered on diversity, workers' rights and ecological sustainability.



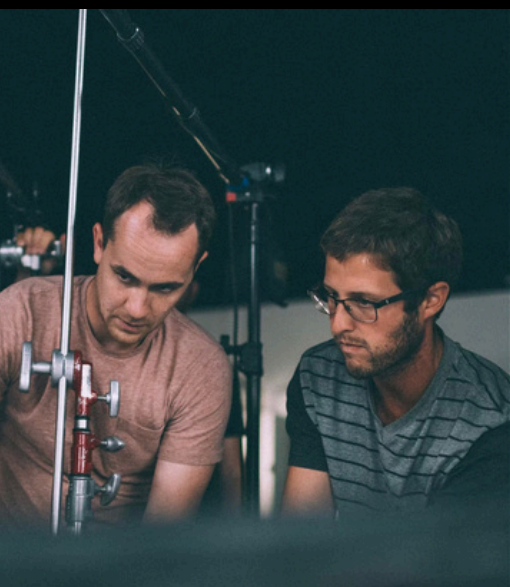
PRODUCER

Becky Morrison is an award-winning producer whose vision is to set a new standard for how people are treated on set. She is the Founder and CEO of The Light, a production company that has produced hundreds of high-profile projects for studios and brands including Apple, Nike, Google, NBC, Gucci, Hulu, and Netflix. Becky began her career on the Hollywood blockbuster *I Am Legend* and Disney's *The Wild*, then moved into the world of rock 'n' roll as the visual content producer for U2's world tour. .

PRODUCER

Azadeh Nikzadeh is a Middle Eastern writer, director, producer, and women's rights activist. She wrote, directed, and produced award-winning films including feature documentaries *Banned* and *The Credible Fear*. She has won multiple fellowships and awards such as the Women Empowerment Fellowship, Asian Film Academy Fellowship from the Busan IFF, Athena Film Festival Writing Lab, and an Honorable Mention at the Charlotte Film Festival.





safesetsmovie.org



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