

SHE SHOOTS TO CONQUER NEWS: APRIL 12, 2006

My dearest friends,

I feel like it has been an eternity since my last issue of "She Shoots to Conquer News". The reason, quite honestly, is that there hasn't been a free minute to spare since the last issue back in the Fall of 2005. I had hoped to garner a small missive for the Winter, but between the success of "Ménage à trois" and the beginnings of a new feature-length project – it has been a wildly exciting and productive time in my life!

So first, let me begin by thanking each and every one of you for your continual support and encouragement! I am always so happy to receive your phone calls and e-mails full of well-wishes, inquiries and praise. Knowing I have such a wonderful support base keeps me encouraged and positively-charged during the drearier times (which we all know are often par for the entertainment course) and I relish your warm thoughts on a constant basis.

So... THANK YOU! And now... onto the news!

The end of 2005 brought about some changes in my personal life. My step-grandfather passed away and I was fortunate enough to be able to take some time off and spend it at home with my family in Florida. The time was not only recuperative for my soul, but was a great time for personal reflection on the importance of family relationships; which proved to be great fodder for the birth of a new project!

So I spent the next two weeks pounding out a new feature-length screenplay. Diverging from my usual path of adapting opera stories for the screen, this film explores the importance of honoring one's family and mending broken ties with the past in order to secure a stronger future.

Titled "A Pretty Girl", it is told under the veil of a young, social-climbing Manhattanite who discovers that her grandmother is not an Irish Catholic, but in fact a Polish Holocaust Survivor. Kathleen (the granddaughter) embarks on a journey to connect the dots of her grandmother's secret life, while learning to come to terms with her own hidden past; as Kathleen has created an entirely new world for herself in Manhattan Society, far removed from her blue-collar upbringing in the South. Their two present 'perfect' worlds collide when the past bubbles up and faces each of the squarely in the eye.

The script has undergone several major revisions since those two weeks I spent glued to my desk in December and now it is being considered by two of the larger independent production companies here in New York as well as one or two top-tier actors, one of whom actually requested to read the script after meeting her at a cocktail party in January!

Now, knowing that that doesn't necessarily mean too much in the film industry, I have begun a furious campaign to begin production on my own, and with the help of some wonderfully generous friends and colleagues, I now have a projected budget, a rock-solid business plan and a full investment package, ripe for those willing to make the investment in such an ambitious project!

In addition, I have succumbed to the lure of corporate health benefits and a more steady income (imagine!) for the next year while I prepare for this film, so I have accepted a position with a legal and financial consulting firm in the city and am fortunate enough to have landed with a company that understands my first priority to filmmaking and is completely supportive of my endeavors – even when I need to skip out a little early to attend a fundraising seminar or leave town for a week for a film festival. About 30% of the office has come out to various Winter screenings of “Ménage à trois” and more plan to attend as the Spring/Summer screenings kick into gear...

...which is what will start happening next week! After several attempts in 2005 to get into a Florida film festival, the **2006 Palm Beach International Film Festival** will be the Florida Premiere for “Ménage à trois!” We will be screening on **Saturday April 22nd at 4:00pm** at the **Muvico Parisian in West Palm Beach** and I will be heading down for my home state premiere!

On **Wednesday May 3rd at 7:00pm**, “Ménage à trois” will play in the **Tribeca Underground Film Festival**, at the SoHo House here in Manhattan and will be immediately followed by an encore Florida screening in my hometown of Clearwater’s inaugural **SunScreen Film Festival, March 5 – 7th** (exact date TBA). I couldn’t be happier to help kick-off the fest and help support the local film community where I grew up, especially as I am planning the Florida sequences of “A Pretty Girl” to be shot right there!

And then... (as if all of that weren’t enough) the distribution/education leg of the “Menage a trois” will be kicking up some dust soon – with plans for a full-scale education program, geared for music schools and regional opera companies’ education departments – to compare and contrast the film alongside Gian-Carlo Menotti’s one-act opera, “The Telephone”, which inspired the film!

So I guess to say that I’m busy might be the understatement of the new millennium! But I’m insanely happy and am just so darn grateful for everything new opportunity that presents itself!

In case you haven’t clicked into www.sheshootstoconquer.com in a while, there are loads of new press links, constant festival updates, and a brief blurb about the upcoming “A Pretty Girl.” If I can find a spare five minutes each week, I may start a blog (or blah-g) about the progress of the feature film, but I can’t make any promises yet...

My very best wishes to you, wherever you may be! When you find a moment, I’m always happy to hear how YOU are doing!

~Kimberly