

A black and white photograph of a field with a fence in the background and three lit flare devices in the foreground. The scene is dark, with the flares providing the primary light source, casting long shadows and illuminating the ground and the fence. The sky is overcast.

BLACK CANARIES

A Film by Jesse Kreitzer

Producer's Packet

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LANTERNA

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Thomas Clarence "TC" Chapman

Filmmaker Fesse Kretzner's Great Grandfather

1881 - 1963

Second from right
Born in Marion, Iowa

In 1907, the Maple coal mine collapsed and blinded the Lockwood family's youngest boy and killed the hauling mule. To keep his surviving family warm against the winds of the vacant prairie, Father has no choice but to continue drudging the depths and extract coal from the ruinous mine.

As his pickaxe wails far below earth's surface, he discovers a rare mineral coveted by a secret society of the town's miners. When distilled above flame, the mineral releases an intoxicating spirit that gives men brief reprieve from their hellish lives. Father's induction into the inner circle breeds a consuming desire to exhume the family mine for its riches, as his wife and children witness the destructive bond between people and the land they are captive to.

Inspired by filmmaker Jesse Kreitzer's maternal ancestors, *Black Canaries* is a folktale about the miner's plight against a land gone rogue.



ABOUT THE FILMMAKER



JESSE KREITZER is a Boston/NE Emmy® award-winning filmmaker from Vermont whose creative interests include rural storytelling, ancestry and acts of compassion. Kreitzer's fascination with rural cinema stems from his upbringing in the country, where root structures of fallen trees became mythic kingdoms and laws of nature wove their own spirited tales. As a child, Kreitzer possessed an inherent bond to image-making, inspired by his grandfather Abraham Kreitzer who devoted a lifetime to 35mm landscape photography.

From 2001-2003, Kreitzer studied at the Center for Digital Art in Brattleboro, Vermont under the mentorship of video artist Michel Moyses, a frequent collaborator with Brian De Palma, Jonathan Demme and Woody Allen. In 2007, Kreitzer received his Bachelor's degree in Visual and Media Arts from Emerson College, magna cum laude, and was the recipient of the Graduate Award for Outstanding Achievement in Photography for his frame-by-frame restoration of an 8mm family film. He was awarded a Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship Grant in Film/Video the same year.

Working in narrative and documentary modes of cinema, Kreitzer's interest in rural filmmaking derives from a personal desire to reconnect his fractured ties with the land. Amidst the ever-increasing rapidity of daily life, rural stories have been eclipsed by cinema's inherent link to the modern world. Kreitzer's films aim to restore deteriorating bonds between people and nature, honor and preserve the ways of our ancestors and champion a collective cultural heritage.

Kreitzer's short films have screened at the Museum of the Moving Image, the Raindance Film Festival, IFFBoston, Ashland Independent Film Festival, Little Rock Film Festival, Chicago International Music and Movie Festival, Berkshire Independent Film Festival, and the Crossroads Film Festival, among others.

Kreitzer is currently an MFA candidate and instructor in the Department of Cinematic Arts at the University of Iowa.

ABOUT THE CAST



PATRICK TOWNE has acted in theater, television and film. Patrick's writing credits include award-winning screenplay adaptations of two stage musicals, "A Time Out Of Rhyme" and "Music Most Foul," which won the Iowa Motion Picture Association's Award of Excellence for best screenplay in 2006 and 2008. He lives in Fairfield, Iowa with his wife Ann and his son Donovan.



ANDREW STEWART is a fourteen year old freshman at Iowa City City High School. He has appeared in a number of City Circle Acting Company productions, in roles such as Young Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol, Wally Web in Our Town, and Pilate's son in Jesus Christ Superstar. In addition, this spring Andy was cast as Oliver Twist in City High Theatre's production of the musical "Oliver".



ANANKA KAHLMEYER moved to Fairfield, Iowa from Washington, DC where she was songwriter, performer and co owner of Shenanigrams and the Balloon Lady singing telegram companies. Ananka studied acting with Eric Morris and Anthony Abeson, and has worked with an experimental acting group in Paris under a Peruvian director. Ananka served as a political activist with the Natural Law Party during three presidential campaigns and is an associate teacher of Transcendental Meditation.



RIVER QUINN is an actor from Fairfield, Iowa. His parents are both writers, performers and filmmakers, so naturally he has been included in their projects. He has been cast as a Starship commander in the short film Drama in Sector Z, a fairy in the pilot Fairyfield, a football player in a spec Doritos commercial and has performed in various other spec commercials.



LOU BOLSTER has served on the Board of Directors for the Fairfield Area Community Theater for over 15 years and has also served as president. Lou has been on stage performing since the age of nine and has been involved in 40+ productions in the Midwest and the greater Boston area.

ABOUT THE ADVISORS



JESSE MCLEAN is a media artist whose research is motivated by a deep curiosity about human behavior and relationships, and is concerned with both the power and the failure of the mediated experience to bring people together. She has presented her work at museums, galleries, and film festivals worldwide, including the International Film Festival Rotterdam, Venice Film Festival, Transmediale, CPH:DOX, Ann Arbor and Images Festival, amongst others. She recently received the International Critics' Prize (FIPRESCI Prize) at Internationale Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen.



JIM SNITZER is a photographer and professor who has shown nationally and internationally. Selected exhibitions include the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, Keio University in Japan and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He is the recipient of an NEA grant and was an Artist in Residence at Yosemite National Park. His work is in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago and the Yosemite Museum, Yosemite National Park, California.



JASON LIVINGSTON is a film and video maker from Upstate New York. His work has been programmed at the Rotterdam International Film Festival, Anthology Film Archives, Ann Arbor and more. His interests include political documentary, avant-garde history, indigenous media, left history and eco-poetics.



STEVE CHOE received his PhD at UC Berkeley and teaches courses and researches on German cinema, Korean cinema, and topics in film theory, philosophy, and phenomenology. He has particular interest in Weimar film and culture, and is currently working on a manuscript entitled *Afterlives: Film and Philosophy in Early Weimar Germany*.



CENTRAL PRODUCTIONS / FISCAL SPONSOR

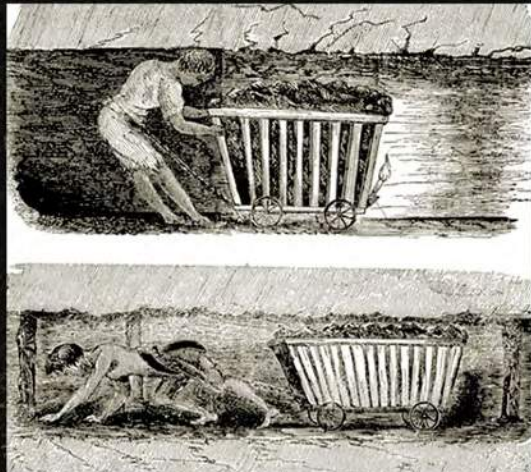
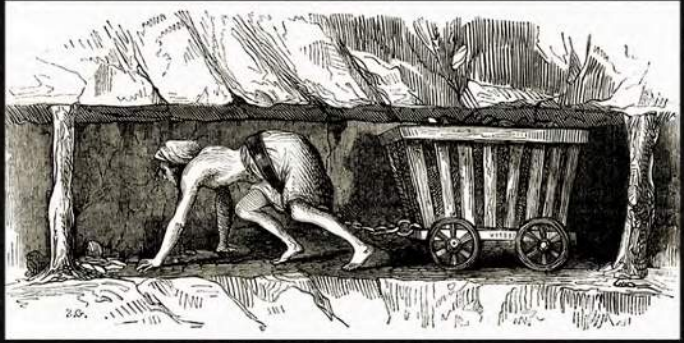
For over a decade, Central Productions has been supporting filmmakers operating outside of the mainstream. Through community building, education, production support and fiscal sponsorship, Central Productions champions work that puts story, craft and artistry above commercial success.

PRODUCTION STILLS





REFERENCE MATERIAL



REFERENCE MATERIAL



SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY



SOUL OF ASHES (2014)

A personal documentary honoring the life and death of Ruth Ruckert, filmmaker Jesse Kreitzer's maternal grandmother, whose spirit reappeared in a photograph taken during the spreading of her ashes.



THE MURDER BALLAD OF JAMES JONES (2014)

Chicago bluesman James "Tail Dragger" Jones shares the untold story of the second-degree murder of fellow musician Boston Blackie.



NERA LAIKO (NO TIME) (2011)

In the Lithuanian countryside, two neighbors fear that an impending storm may disrupt the order of all things.



OT TVARKA (GOOD GRIEF) (2011)

An elderly woman confronts the changing order in rural Lithuania, drawing comparisons to her own impending mortality.



THE RESTORATION PROJECT (2011)

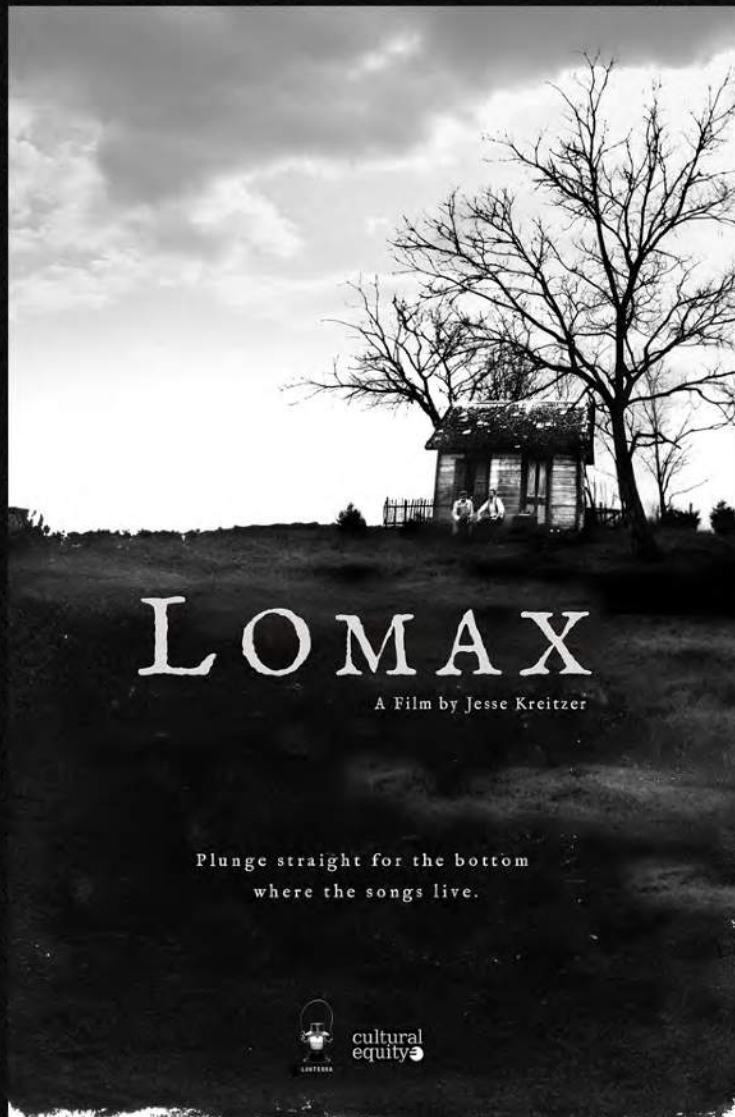
A personal documentary detailing filmmaker Jesse Kreitzer's frame-by-frame restoration of a decayed roll of 8mm family footage, exploring the importance of memory and the lengths in which we go to preserve it.



PEARLSWIG (2007)

Meet Jerome Pearlswig, Boston's self-proclaimed #1 celebrity autograph hound and amateur paparazzi. For over 40 years, Pearlswig has been capturing some of the world's most beloved stars, in hopes of achieving fame of his own.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY



LOMAX (2013)

In 1941, folklorist Alan Lomax was sent from the Library of Congress to the Mississippi Delta to record an oral history of the Blues. Hauling 500 pounds of audio equipment powered by his car battery, he ventured across nameless roads to discover the most beautiful and harrowing songs ever sung.

LOMAX has been an official selection at film festivals across the country (five of which were featured as *Moviemaker Magazine* Editor's choice). The film received an official endorsement from the Association for Cultural Equity, Lomax's founding organization, and was invited to screen at the Library of Congress centennial celebration in 2015.

BUDGET OVERVIEW



The *Black Canaries* budget was prepared by Jesse Kreitzer in May 2014.
The budget will be raised through tax-deductible donations.

OVERVIEW

TITLE *Black Canaries*
LENGTH 25 Minutes
PRODUCTION COMPANY Lanterna Film
ADDRESS 721 Brown Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
CONTACT Jesse Kreitzer
TELEPHONE 319.333.8434
EMAIL jesse.kreitzer@gmail.com
PREPRODUCTION DAYS 60
LOCATION DAYS 5
LOCATION Iowa
DATES November 2014
FORMAT Super 35mm film

SUMMARY

Pre-production and wrap costs \$3,250
Shooting crew labor \$10,000
Location and travel expenses \$1,850
Props, wardrobe and animals \$2,500
Studio and set construction costs \$3,250
Equipment costs \$7,050
Film stock / media costs \$5,250
Miscellaneous costs \$1,200
Talent costs and expenses \$1,125
Post-production costs \$5,200

SUBTOTAL \$40,675

Insurance (2%) \$813.50
Director/Creative Fees \$3,500

GRAND TOTAL \$44,989

For a comprehensive line-by-line budget, please email jesse.kreitzer@gmail.com

PRODUCTION SCHEDULE



Black Canaries is intended for worldwide film festival exhibition in 2015 - 2016.
Preproduction begins May 2014 and the film will be completed May 2015.

MAY 2014	PREPRODUCTION Cast/crew scout
JUNE 2014	Location scouting Set construction
JULY 2014	Lock cast, crew and locations Lock housing, equipment and transport
AUGUST 2014	Secure props and costumes In-studio rehearsals
SEPTEMBER 2014	Devise shotlist & storyboards
OCTOBER 2014	PRODUCTION 3 days on location / 2 days in studio
NOVEMBER 2014	POSTPRODUCTION Assembly edit Music licensing & original scoring
DECEMBER 2015	Rough cut
JANUARY 2015	Picture lock
FEBRUARY 2015	Sound mix
MARCH 2015	Color correction
APRIL 2015	Sound master / Online edit
MAY 2015	EXHIBITION / FESTIVALS Final cut Submit to festivals

JOIN THE TEAM



Support *Black Canaries* by making a 100% tax-deductible donation via Central Productions, a Cambridge-based arts organization and fiscal sponsor of the film.

\$100+

THANK YOU CREDIT

100% tax-deductible donation
Digital download of completed film
Miner's Circle newsletter updates

\$500+

SPECIAL THANK YOU CREDIT

100% tax-deductible donation
Digital download and DVD of completed film
Miner's Circle newsletter updates
Limited edition *Black Canaries* poster
Two Tickets to film festival screening of choice

\$1000+

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER CREDIT

100% tax-deductible donation
Digital download and DVD of completed film
Miner's Circle newsletter updates
Limited edition *Black Canaries* poster
All access Pass to one film festival of choice

\$5000+

PRODUCER CREDIT

100% tax-deductible donation
Digital download and DVD of completed film
Framed & signed *Black Canaries* poster
All access pass to two film festivals of choice
Work in progress screenings and feedback sessions

\$10000+

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER CREDIT

100% tax-deductible donation
Digital download and DVD of completed film
Framed & signed *Black Canaries* poster
Unlimited all access pass to film festivals
Work in progress screenings and feedback sessions

To make a tax-deductible donation, please complete the form on the following page.

MAKE A DONATION



If you'd like to make a 100% tax-deductible donation to *Black Canaries*, please complete the form below or online at www.blackcanaries.com.

By mail, send form and donation to:

Central Productions
Attn: Black Canaries
721 Brown St.
Iowa City, IA
52245



Since 1999, Central Productions has been supporting filmmakers operating outside of the mainstream. For more information, visit centralproductions.org

Please make checks payable to *Central Productions*, fiscal sponsor of the film.

If you have any questions, please contact Jesse Kreitzer:

jesse.kreitzer@gmail.com or 319-333-8434

BLACK CANARIES DONATION FORM

This form can be completed with Adobe Acrobat®

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Make checks payable to:
Central Productions
Attn: Black Canaries
721 Brown Street
Iowa City, IA 52245

Any questions, please contact:
Jesse Kreitzer
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319-333-8434

THANK YOU SPECIAL THANK YOU ASSOCIATE PRODUCER PRODUCER EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

NOTE _____

Donations can also be made online at www.blackcanaries.com

"The old order changeth."



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