Conference Spotlight- ScreenCraft 2019

Jackson

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Two MAPW faculty members, eight MAPW students, and at least one MAPW alumna attended the 2019 ScreenCraft Summit, held from April 4 to April 7 at the historical Georgian Terrace hotel in downtown Atlanta.

It was a weekend packed full of events for seasoned and emerging screenwriters. Numerous workshops, panels, pitch sessions, happy hours and networking opportunities provided a fast-paced but valuable experience for all attendees.

A workshop highlight was British producer John Yorke’s (“East Enders,” “Shameless”) panel on The Power of Structure. He broke storytelling down to its bare bones and hammered home the fact that every story, whether novel or screenplay, has the basic Hegelian three act structure of thesis, antithesis and synthesis. The three act structure works because it is an organic and intuitive answer to the symmetry all stories seek to find.

Other conference highlights include our very own MAPW student Laura McCarter who presented a two minute pitch of her rock-indie screenplay, “Dee,” to a small panel of judges. They chose McCarter out of over three hundred contestants to advance to a second round and pitch her script in front of a crowd of upwards of four hundred industry professionals and screenwriting enthusiasts.

MAPW Professor Mitchell Olson hosted a panel titled “Building a Development Culture in Georgia,” which included MAPW Professor Gabrielle Fulton and other local and LA-based industry professionals. The panel discussed ways to bring preproduction and script development to Georgia. Hard-hitting questions were presented and pondered, and viable solutions were brainstormed and deliberated.

If you’re interested in joining next year’s 2020 ScreenCraft Summit, tickets are on sale now and can be purchased here.