Smile 'Til It Hurts: The UP WITH PEOPLE Story

CREW BIOS



LEE STOREY Writer/Director/Producer

SMILE 'TIL IT HURTS is director Lee Storey's début feature documentary. After learning that her African American husband was secretly a former member of *Up With People*, curiosity reigned and she was compelled to begin her journey into filmmaking. Lee received her B.A. in English and M.A. in American Indian Studies from UCLA, and her law degree from U.C. Berkeley. She is an experienced attorney practicing law in Phoenix, Arizona.



BARI PEARLMAN, Producer

Bari Pearlman produced and directed her first feature documentary *Daughters of Wisdom* in 2007 (distributed by Seventh Art Releasing) following her award-wining short *Mah-Jongg: The Tiles That Bind*. She is currently completing *A Period Piece*, and is in development on several feature documentaries, including *Looking For Lepke*, about her familial ties to the famous gangster, and another about the people and peculiarities of Whittier, Alaska. As a producer, she helped create *Shots In The Dark* for Court TV/Channel 4 and VH1 *Fan Club: ABBA* (Bruce Sinofsky, Dir; Joe Berlinger, Executive Producer). She was a Contributing Editor to Filmmaker Magazine from 1996-2008 and has a Master's in Literature from the Indiana University, Bloomington.



JACK LECHNER, Executive Producer

Jack Lechner has been involved in the production and development of dozens of movies, including *The Crying Game, Good Will Hunting,* and *The Full Monty*. He is based at Washington Square Films, where he develops projects for film and television. He was an executive producer on the Oscar-winning documentary *The Fog Of War,* the Emmy-nominated *Left Of The Dial* for HBO; *Parking Lot* for Trio; *Very Young Girls* and *Naked On The Inside* for Showtime; and co-produced the pilot of the Emmy-nominated AMC series *Mad Men.* Jack's book <u>Can't Take My Eyes Off You:</u> <u>One Man, Seven</u> <u>Days, Twelve Televisions</u> was published in 2000, and his picture book <u>Mary Had A Little Lamp</u> in 2008. He is writing lyrics for the musical *The Kid,* which will premiere off-Broadway in September 2009. He is an adjunct professor at NYU.

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PENELOPE FALK, Editor

After receiving an MFA in film production from the University of Texas at Austin, Penelope Falk moved to New York City to pursue a career in film. She has spent the last 15 years working primarily as a documentary editor. She started her career on Jennifer Fox's groundbreaking series, *An American Love Story*. Since then, her editing credits include *A Letter Without Words* (premiered at Sundance Film Festival), *Bombay Eunuch* (winner of the New York Gay and Lesbian Film Festival), *Stagedoor* (debuted at the New York Film Forum), Toots Shore: Bigger Than Life (premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival) and *Election Day* (premiered at SXSW and aired on POV). She has also done numerous films for television, including *Afghan Stories* (the Sundance Channel), *Uncle Sam Wants You* (A&E), *Escuela* (PBS) and *Unfinished Country* (PBS).



AIMÉE LYDE, Associate Editor/Graphic Designer

Aimée Lyde is originally from Texas. After studying filmmaking and film theory at Vassar, she moved to New York City in 1993 and has been working as an editor ever since. Her first training was at high-end commercial post houses, where she had the opportunity to work on national ad campaigns with directors such as Spike Lee, Tony Kaye, and Errol Morris. She has edited many short films and one feature-length film, *The Egoists*, which premiered at the 2003 Palm Beach Film Festival. Her documentary work includes *Anytime Tomorrow*, a profile of Americana singer/songwriter Neal Casal, which premiered at the 2001 New Yorker Film Festival. She has also edited television programming for MTV, Sundance Channel, Oxygen, Showtime, A&E and Discovery Channel.



EZRA BOOKSTEIN, Director of Photography

Ezra Bookstein was introduced to filmmaking while studying sculpture at the University of Oregon, (B.A. '95). After moving to NYC he began working as a cameraman for the landmark PBS series, "City Arts", "EGG: The Arts Show" and "City Life", winning an EMMY award (1999) for outstanding documentary camera. Over the last 8 years Ezra has worked as a Director of Photography for cable series, narrative shorts and documentaries – including the PBS film, *Big Town Groov*e which earned him another EMMY nomination – and hundreds of stories, profiles and segments. As a creator, producer and director, he filmed a 21-episode sitcom for the Asian American Network (AZN). He filmed and directed the award-winning feature documentary *The Rich Have Their Own Photographers* and has other films and series in various stages of production. Bookstein's company, Telling Image Films, is a full service production company and studio in NYC's Garment District.