

the  
[writers]  
lab

**ADVANCING WOMEN SCREENWRITERS OVER 40**

***Launched in 2015 with Meryl Streep as our advocate,  
The Writers Lab is a non-profit incubator that amplifies  
cinematic stories by women over 40.***

***[ Because some people still believe women over 40 aren't vital to the conversation ]***

### ***Mission***

**To discover and promote superior film and television content by underrepresented women storytellers.**

### ***Vision***

**A world in which the stories of vital, complex women bring truth to the collective narrative.**



# Our Luminary Advocates

**Meryl  
Streep**

*"The Writers Lab provides practical tools and spirited encouragement for the work of screenwriters whose point of view, fruit of their age, and gender, has been consistently undervalued in the marketplace." MS*



**Nicole  
Kidman**

*"The more women's stories we see, the more women are empowered." NK*



**Oprah  
Winfrey**



**Cate  
Blanchett**



# Our First 10 Years: Success Stories

*"I was hired on Netflix's Queen Cleopatra."*

**Peres Owino**



**3**  
Movies  
Produced

**7**  
Projects in  
Production

**29**  
TWL Writers  
Represented

**68**  
TWL Prizewinners

**46**  
TWL Writers  
Signed Contracts

**24**  
TWL Writers  
Hired

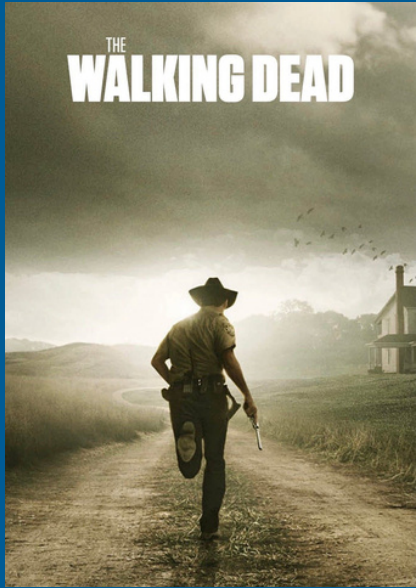


**Kim Kressal**

*"LIT Entertainment signed me after The Writers Lab."*



# Our Top-Tier Mentors



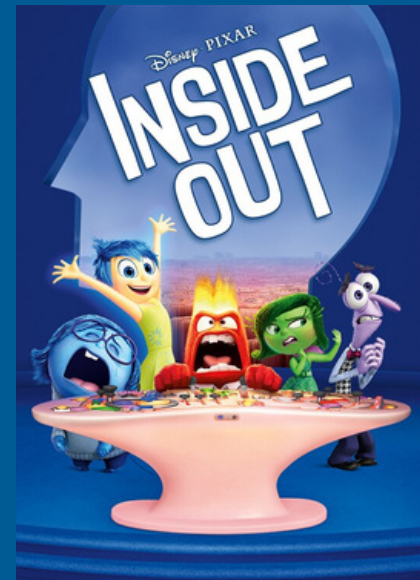
Writer  
**ANGELA KANG**



Writer  
**GINA PRINCE-BYTHEWOOD**



Writer  
**RITA HSIAO**



Writer  
**MEG LEFAUVE**



Producer  
**SHELBY STONE**



Writer  
**JESSICA BENDER**



Writer  
**KIWI SMITH**



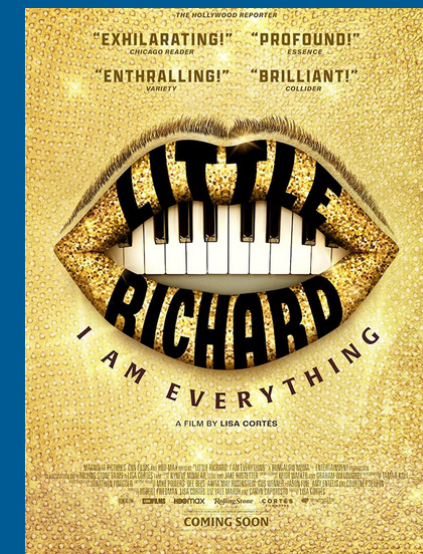
Writer  
**ROBIN SWICORD**



Producer  
**SUSAN CARTSONIS**



Writer  
**ANYA EPSTEIN**



Producer  
**LISA CORTES**



# Visibility

**THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER**  
BY GREGG KILDAY  
FEBRUARY 1, 2018 10:00AM PST

GETTY IMAGES

Nicole Kidman is lending her support to The Writers Lab, which supports women screenwriters over 40 by providing mentoring

**VARIETY**

HOME > FILM > NEWS  
August 1, 2018 7:00am PT

## Participants Named for Writers Lab, Backed by Meryl Streep, Nicole Kidman

By Dave McNary

**SCREENDAILY**

NEWS

## The Writers Lab to run first combined UK and European programme (exclusive)

BY MONA TABBARA | 6 APRIL 2023

WOMEN AND HOLLYWOOD

**DEADLINE**

HOME / INTERNATIONAL / BREAKING NEWS

## Emily Mortimer, Film4's Farhana Bhula, 'Top Boy' Producer Yvonne Isimeme Ibazebo & 'Rocks' Scribe Claire Wilson Among Mentors of The Writers Lab UK & Ireland's Second Development Program

By Jesse Whitlock  
May 30, 2022 4:25am

Trending on Deadline

- 1 / Guardians Of The Galaxy Vol. 3 Rises To \$114M Opening: What Does This Mean For The Summer Box Office? - Sunday AM Update
- 2 / Christina Applegate "Probably Not Going To Work On-Camera Again" But Plans To Voice Kelly Bundy In The "Married With Children" Animated Series
- 3 / Richard Dreyfuss On New

**THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER**

NEWSLETTERS SUBSCRIBE

FILM TV AWARDS LIFESTYLE BUSINESS GLOBAL VIDEO MUSIC WRITERS STRIKE

HOME > NEWS > GENERAL NEWS

## Writers Lab Selects Over-40 Screenwriters for 2020 Virtual Edition (Exclusive)

The Writers Lab, which supports women screenwriters over 40 mentors and 12 participants for a first-time virtual 2020 edition

BY ETAN VLESSING | AUGUST 3, 2020 5:00AM

**DEADLINE**

HOME / FILM / SCREENWRITING

## The Writers Lab Sets Participants For Eighth Edition As Meryl Streep & Nicole Kidman Renew Support

By Matt Grobar  
September 20, 2022 8:45AM PDT

WOMEN AND HOLLYWOOD

**SCREENDAILY**

NEWS

## The Writers Lab UK & Ireland for women over 40 years old returns for 2022 (exclusive)

By Ben Dalton | 12 MAY 2022

SOURCE: TOM MUNRO  
CATE BLANCHETT

The Writers Lab UK & Ireland, a development and marketplace programme for women screenwriters over 40 years old, is returning for a second virtual programme in 2022.

The programme will select up to 12 writers across feature film and TV pilots, for a six-month script development process; submissions are open from today for three weeks.

**Forbes**

## British Actors Challenge Gendered Ageism Onscreen And Beyond Via Acting Your Age Campaign

Nancy Berk Contributor @  
I'm a psychologist and writer analyzing the entertainment world.

May 31, 2022, 01:14pm EDT

Listen to article 4 minutes

**DEADLINE**

HOME / FILM / SCREENWRITING

## The Writers Lab Sets Participants For Eighth Edition As Meryl Streep & Nicole Kidman Renew Support

By Matt Grobar  
September 20, 2022 8:45AM PDT

WOMEN AND HOLLYWOOD

**VARIETY**

HOME > FILM > GLOBAL  
Aug 12, 2022 2:27am PT

## Romola Garai, Elizabeth Karlsen, Cheryl Dunye, Tilusha Ghelani to Mentor Writers Lab U.K. & Ireland, Participants Revealed (EXCLUSIVE)

By Naman Ramachandran



# [ Leadership ]



**Elizabeth Kaiden**  
Founder, *Producing Director*

Elizabeth is the contest and organization operations manager. She served as Head of Development at Tangerine Entertainment, mentored for Stowe Story Labs, was a prolific theater and film critic, and is a graduate of Princeton and the Yale School of Drama.

The only program of its kind in the world, The Writers Lab was cofounded by Elizabeth Kaiden and Nitza Wilon in 2015. It is co-produced with Cynthia Lopez, CEO of New York Women in Film & Television.



**Nitza Wilon**  
Founder, *Creative Director*

Nitza leads communications, retreat design, and community programming. Her advocacy for women screenwriters originates in her years as an actor, journalist, & magazine and book editor. She earned her BA from the Annenberg School at UPenn.

## *Contact*

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