



PRESENTS

CODE BLACK

A FILM BY

RYAN McGARRY, M.D.

82 min., USA, 2014

Best Documentary Feature – Los Angeles Film Festival
Best Documentary Feature – Hamptons International Film Festival
Audience Award – Aspen Film Festival
People's Choice Award – Starz Denver Film Festival

PRESS MATERIALS:

<http://www.musicboxfilms.com/codeblack>

OFFICIAL SITE:

<http://www.musicboxfilms.com/codeblack>

Music Box Films Marketing & Publicity

Brian Andreotti: bandreotti@musicboxfilms.com

Rebecca Gordon: rgordon@musicboxfilms.com

312-508-5361/ 312-508-5362

Distribution Contact

Andrew Carlin

acarlin@musicboxfilms.com

312-508-5360

Home Entertainment Publicity

Margarita Sophia PR

Margarita Sophia Cortes

Margarita@msophiapr.com

917-474-7292

SYNOPSIS

In his vivid and thought-provoking filmmaking debut, physician Ryan McGarry gives us unprecedented access to America's busiest Emergency Department. Amidst real life-and-death situations, McGarry follows a dedicated team of charismatic young doctors-in-training as they wrestle with both their ideals and the realities of saving lives in a complex and overburdened system. Their training ground and source of inspiration is "C-Booth," Los Angeles County Hospital's legendary trauma bay, the birthplace of Emergency Medicine, where "more people have died and more people have been saved than in any other square footage in the United States." CODE BLACK offers a tense, doctor's-eye view right into the heart of the healthcare debate – bringing us face to face with America's only 24/7 safety net.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

When I first started documenting CBooth at LA County Hospital, as a first-year resident already working 80-hour weeks, I didn't plan to make a film. In fact, no one asked me to make this. But I believe some of the best stories come from moments we witness in our everyday lives, and for me, everyday life just happened to be in one of the busiest Emergency Departments in the country.

CODE BLACK is, above all, an experiential documentary. I went to great lengths to capture the noise, the adrenaline, the commotion, and the fear of what life is really like in the ER. I used the RED camera and the talents of Richard Burton for sound design. I wanted the audience to feel like they are there with us, experiencing the highs, the lows, and all the frustration in between.

I hope the film will also provide some crucial perspective on the current healthcare debate. To see what it's like to be on the front line of providing care in this country shows just how difficult it is for physicians and nurses: try telling a patient that they need to see a specialist for their rotting foot, only to find out that the specialist will only accept a certain level of insurance. Or ask them to choose between being late for their night shift or wait yet another hour in the ER in the hope that they will see a doctor, who may not have a permanent solution for their illness anyway.

The film features my colleagues and mentors—physicians who have, not by choice, inherited more than a few of the most weighty issues in America today. They are dynamic young men and women who grapple with their ideals and with the reality of practicing medicine. I thank them for being so incredibly open and honest with me and for being patient as they tolerated a camera documenting five long years of their lives.

Towards the end of the film is a scene that consists of uncut picture and total silence. The greatest medical question we have yet to answer in America — where I believe we have both the world's best and worst healthcare simultaneously — is what is the lowest standard of care we will allow each other as a society to have? The answer of course is *silence* because for too many people, we haven't answered that question yet: the lowest standard we continue to allow is no standard at all.

--Ryan McGarry M.D., Director

FILMMAKERS

Directed by	RYAN McGARRY, M.D.
Written By	RYAN McGARRY, M.D. JOSHUA ALTMAN
Producer	LINDA GOLDSTEIN KNOWLTON
Executive Producers	MARK JONATHAN HARRIS MARTI NOXON EDWARD NEWTON, M.D. WILLIAM "BILLY" MALLON, M.D. JAN SHOENBERGER, M.D. DIKU MANDAVIA, M.D. KEVIN M. GOODWIN
Co-Producers	ANDREW C. RICHEY THOMAS G. MILLER
Edited By	JOSHUA ALTMAN
Director of Photography	NELSON HUME
Music by	JAMES LAVINO
Additional Camera	TOM CURRAN SANDRA CHANDLER RALPH KAECHLE
Assistant Editor	ANDREW C. RICHEY
Digital Consultant	MATT RADECKI

FEATURING

ANDREW EADS, M.D.
JAMIE ENG, M.D.
LUIS ENRIQUEZ, R.N.
DANNY CHENG, M.D.
ARASH KOHANTEB, M.D.
WILLIAM "BILLY" MALLON, M.D.
RYAN McGARRY, M.D.
EDWARD NEWTON, M.D.
DAVE POMERANZ, M.D.

BIOGRAPHIES OF SUBJECTS

DANNY CHENG, M.D.



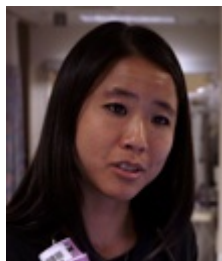
Danny Cheng is currently an Emergency Department physician at Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu, HI. He is also a Clinical Professor at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, where he received his medical degree. Dr. Cheng is an alumnus of the University of California Irvine (BS Biological Sciences) and received his Masters in Public Health from UCLA. He is married to the love of his life, Jackie.

ANDREW EADS, M.D.



Andrew Eads is currently a third year Emergency Medicine Resident Physician at LA County and USC Hospital. He is a graduate of UC Berkeley (BS Chemistry) and received his Masters in Public Health from UCLA. He attended the University of California Irvine School of Medicine. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Melissa, with whom he is expecting his first child later this year.

JAMIE ENG, M.D.



Jamie Eng is currently the EMA Administrative Emergency Medicine Fellow in Los Angeles. She attended Chicago Medical School prior to completing her residency training at LA County + USC Medical Center. She recently earned a Masters in Medical Management from the USC Marshall School of Business.

LUIS ENRIQUEZ, R.N.



Luis Enriquez is a twenty-seven-year veteran Emergency Trauma Nurse at LA County USC Trauma Center. In addition to Clinical practice he serves as an Adjunct Clinical Instructor and lecturer. He is a graduate of LA County School of Nursing and California State Polytechnic University (BS Chemistry). Luis also is part of the Volunteer faculty with Good Samaritan Medical Ministry and has taught Emergency Nursing in Vietnam for the past three years. He has two grown children, Laura and Michael, with his wife Evelyn.

ARASH KOHANTEB, M.D.

Arash Kohanteb is currently a fourth-year Senior Emergency Medicine Resident Physician at LA County/USC Hospital. He attended UCLA earning a Bachelors in Science. He received his medical degree from the Chicago Medical School after taking time to travel. Arash currently lives in Santa Monica, California.

WILLIAM "BILLY" MALLON, M.D.

Billy Mallon has been a member of the Emergency Medicine faculty at LAC+USC Medical Center for over 2 decades, including 10 years as the Emergency Medicine Residency Director. As an educator he has won numerous teaching awards locally and nationally for his teaching style which is direct and unfiltered. He is a past president of the California Chapter of ACEP, a Fulbright Senior Scholar (to Iceland), an AOA Faculty Inductee, and has lectured in over 20 countries on a wide variety of EM topics. Dr. Mallon has been intimately involved with the export of EM as a specialty to other countries to improve patient care. He helped to found the specialty of EM in Chile during a sabbatical year spent in South America, and he also obtained a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the Gorgas' School of Tropical Medicine in Lima, Peru. LAC+USC Medical Center has been his clinical home since 1987 when he began his internship there, followed by his EM residency, and ultimately joining the faculty in 1991.

EDWARD NEWTON, M.D.

Edward Newton, MD grew up in Montreal, Canada. He has undergraduate degrees in History (Loyola College), Microbiology (UBC) and Medicine (McGill University). He trained in Emergency Medicine at the LAC + USC Medical Center and completed a Fellowship in Medical Toxicology from 1982-1985. He then practiced at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal and returned as the Emergency Medicine Residency Training Director at LAC + USC Medical Center from 1988 to 1995. He became Vice Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine in 1995 and Chair of the Department from 2002-2012. He currently is working in the Emergency Department at LAC + USC.

DAVE POMERANZ, M.D.

Born and raised in Reno, NV, Dave Pomeranz is currently a third-year Emergency Medicine Resident Physician at LA County and USC. He attended Cornell University and studied Civil and Environmental Engineering and subsequently lived in New York City, Colorado, New Zealand, and back to Reno. He eventually attended the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine in Los Angeles, where he still currently resides.

BIOGRAPHIES OF FILMMAKERS

DIRECTOR and WRITER - RYAN McGARRY, M.D.



Ryan McGarry is an Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine and a physician at The Weill Medical College of Cornell University/New York Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City and the director of the feature-length documentary *CODE BLACK*. The film is a first-person reflection of McGarry's own training at the Los Angeles County General Hospital, the birthplace of emergency medicine. McGarry spent five years in production on *CODE BLACK* while simultaneously working the 24/7 schedule of a young doctor in training—an especially sleepless approach to first-time filmmaking! He studied English at The Pennsylvania State University and received his medical degree at The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, a decision inspired in part by his experience as a stage IV cancer patient while in college. He is currently developing fiction, scripted projects for both film and television.

PRODUCER - LINDA GOLDSTEIN KNOWLTON



Linda Goldstein Knowlton directed and produced the 2012 documentary, *SOMEWHERE BETWEEN*, which chronicles the coming-of-age stories of four teenaged girls in the US, all of who were adopted from China as babies. It premiered in Toronto at the 2011 Hot Docs Film Festival, where it garnered the Sundance Channel Audience Award and went on to screen at the LA Film Festival, and many other festivals including Aspen, Vancouver, Boulder, Portland, and Milwaukee where it won the Best Documentary Award. The film screened at numerous festivals, and was released theatrically in over 80 cities across the US and was also selected for the 2012 Sundance Film Forward: Advancing Cultural Dialogue program, screening in India, Morocco, China, and Columbia.

Goldstein Knowlton also co-directed and co-produced the documentary, *THE WORLD ACCORDING TO SESAME STREET*. It examines Sesame Street's international co-productions, made primarily in some of the world's political hotspots, including Kosovo, Bangladesh, and South Africa. It made its World Premiere in competition at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival. Previously, Goldstein Knowlton produced the New Zealand film *WHALE RIDER* (2002), directed by Niki Caro, which was the winner of the Audience Awards at Toronto, Sundance, Rotterdam, Seattle, San Francisco, and Maui film festivals. She produced the 2001 film, *THE SHIPPING NEWS*, directed by Lasse Hallstrom. In 1999 she produced both *MUMFORD*, written and directed by Lawrence Kasdan, and *CRAZY IN ALABAMA*, directed by Antonio Banderas.



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER - MARK JONATHAN HARRIS

Mark Jonathan Harris is an Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker and Distinguished Professor in the School of Cinematic Arts at the University of Southern California, where he heads documentary production. Among the many documentaries he has written, produced and/or directed are *THE REDWOODS*, a documentary made for the Sierra Club to help establish a redwood national park that won an Oscar for Best Short Documentary (1968); *THE LONG WAY HOME*, which won the Academy Award for Best Feature Length Documentary (1997); and *INTO THE ARMS OF STRANGERS: STORIES OF THE KINDERTRANSPORT*, produced for Warner

Bros. that also won an Academy Award for Best Feature Length Documentary (2000). **UNCHAINED MEMORIES: READINGS FROM THE SLAVE NARRATIVES**, a documentary that he wrote on slavery in America, premiered at Sundance and aired on HBO in February 2003. It was nominated for an Emmy for a Nonfiction Special and Harris was nominated for Outstanding Writing for Nonfiction Programming. **DARFUR NOW**, a feature documentary he produced with Cathy Schulman and Don Cheadle, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2007 and was nominated as Best Documentary of the year by the National Board of Review and the Broadcast Film Critics Association and won an NAACP Image Award. **LIVING IN EMERGENCY: STORIES OF DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS**, a film, which he executive-produced, was shortlisted for an Oscar for Best Documentary Feature in 2009. The International Documentary Association recently awarded him the Preservation and Scholarship Award.



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER - MARTI NOXON

A versatile writer/producer who works fluidly through genres and mediums, Marti launched into the feature world with her debut **I AM NUMBER FOUR**. She followed this with **FRIGHT NIGHT**, a reimagining of the classic cult horror film, starring Anton Yelchin and Colin Farrell. Additionally, Noxon is currently developing **THE GLASS CASTLE**, based on the best-selling memoir, for Lionsgate. Noxon has written and Executive Produced for many critically-acclaimed shows including *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Private Practice*, *Brothers & Sisters*, *Point Pleasant*, and *Still Life*. She has also acted as consulting producer for *Mad Men*, *Prison Break*, *Angel*, and *Glee*. Other current projects include *Proof*, a pilot for SyFy developed with M. Night Shyamalan (The Sixth Sense) that she will also Executive Produce. She is also writing and producing a dramedy called *Guide To Divorce* for Bravo. A graduate of UC Santa Cruz, Noxon currently lives in Hollywood with her two children.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER – DIKU MANDAVIA, M.D.



Diku Mandavia M.D. is an emergency physician and a residency graduate of the LA County + USC Emergency Medicine program and a medical graduate of Memorial University in Canada. He has over twenty years of emergency practice in Southern California including at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. He is a Clinical Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Southern California and Chief Medical Officer of FUJIFILM SonoSite Inc. He currently resides in Los Angeles with his wife Katina and daughter Neela.

EDITOR and WRITER - JOSHUA ALTMAN



Joshua Altman graduated from The Pennsylvania State University with a degree in Film & Video and is currently an editor based in Venice, CA. He's edited six feature length documentaries, three of which premiered at Sundance. From that list, **WE LIVE IN PUBLIC** took home the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance in 2009, **THE TILLMAN STORY** was on the 2011 Oscar short list for the "Best Documentary" award, and **BONES BRIGADE: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY** went on to become the number #1 documentary on iTunes upon its release. That same year, another film he edited, **NO ROOM FOR ROCKSTARS**, also took the #1 documentary slot on iTunes. Additionally, Joshua's work on **WE LIVE IN PUBLIC** garnered a nomination by The Cinema Eye Honors for 'Outstanding Achievement in Editing.' He has also edited numerous non-scripted television shows for CBS, NBC, FOX, Discovery, VH1, and Bravo.

COMPOSER - JAMES LAVINO



Lavino's film music includes scores for the Oscar-nominated documentary *GOD IS THE BIGGER ELVIS*, the Oscar-nominated, Emmy-winning HBO film *WHICH WAY HOME*, and Henry Singer's acclaimed BBC film *LAST ORDERS*. Other film work includes *RUBBERNECK*, directed by Alex Karpovsky (*Girls*), the Gabriel-Byrne-produced *TENT CITY USA*, and the forthcoming *SOMETHING WHISPERED*, starring Cuba Gooding, Jr, and William Sadler. Lavino's score for Karpovsky's film *WOODPECKER* features performances by Colin Greenwood of Radiohead, and Lee & Tyler Sargent of Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, and was hailed by *The Guardian* as "a stunning film soundtrack...warm...gorgeous." Lavino's music for television includes HBO's *Kevorkian*, the eight-part series "Sissinghurst" for BBC television, and songs for the groundbreaking Disney animated show *The Book of Pooh*.

About Music Box Films

Founded in 2007, Music Box Films is a leading distributor of international, American independent and documentary content in North America, along with the best in international TV series and mini-series.

Releases in 2014 included Roger Michell's *LE WEEK-END*, written by Hanif Kureishi and starring Jim Broadbent; the Emmy Award winning French-language series "The Returned"; Pawel Pawlikowski's *IDA*, the official Polish submission to the Academy Awards®; the Sundance Audience Award-winning documentary *THE GREEN PRINCE*; and the award-winning documentary *WATCHERS OF THE SKY*.

Upcoming releases include Dominik Graf's *BELOVED SISTERS*, Germany's official submission to the Academy Awards®, and Shlomi and Ronit Elkabetz's *GETT: THE TRIAL OF VIVIANE AMSALEM*, Israel's official submission to the Academy Awards®.

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