

## **JIM JERMANOK**

Jim Jermanok is an award-winning writer, director and producer, creative entrepreneurship expert, author and speaker based in New York. He is currently directing and producing AN ACTOR'S ACTOR, a feature documentary about the art and life of Oscar-winning actor Martin Landau featuring interviews by Chris Rock, Dianne Ladd, Jon Voight, Woody Allen and Ellen Burstyn, among many others. Jim Jermanok's recent bestseller, *BEYOND THE CRAFT: What You Need to Know to Make A Living Creatively!* <http://amzn.to/2hmx6YQ>, was published in 2017 to great acclaim. It is a current and insider's guide to doing what one needs to do to make a living creatively.

Jim Jermanok wrote and produced PASSIONADA, a sophisticated romantic comedy that was released in over 120 American cities in 2003. It was later released in 2004-2005 by Columbia Tri-Star in over 150 countries. The film stars: Jason Isaacs ( HARRY POTTER), Sofia Milos (CSI: MIAMI), Emmy Rossum (SHAMELESS), Theresa Russell and Seymour Cassel.

PASSIONADA was the prestigious closing night film of the Seattle International Film Festival. Upon its release by The Samuel Goldwyn Company, the film received high praise from prominent American film critics. *Ebert and Roper* gave it "TWO THUMBS UP!" on their weekly television program and syndicated column. Kevin Thomas of the *Los Angeles Times* wrote: "The Jermanoks strive for and achieve a romantic comedy with humorous, fanciful plotting yet shaded by genuine tenderness and passion." Rex Reed of the *New York Observer* added that "Passionada is a charming and luxurious romantic interlude carefully constructed and greatly enhanced by fresh dialogue."

Mr. Jermanok also produced EM, a romantic drama about loss and love. EM had its world premiere at the Seattle Intl. Film Festival, where it won the Grand Jury Prize. It went on to win the Criterion Collection's Intl. Inspiration Award, The Intl. Film Guide Award, Best Film at Strasbourg Intl. Film Festival, and Best Producer Award at the Brooklyn Intl. Film Festival. It was released by Vanguard Cinema and SnagFilms in 2011. Mr. Jermanok went on to direct a feature PBS documentary, AGGANIS, about the extraordinary and beloved New England sports legend of years past, Harry Agganis. Jim previously wrote and produced a highly praised film, CLEAR CUT, starring Calista Flockhart and Stephen Fry. He has also written HIGH MOON, a full-length screenplay commissioned by Just Betzer, the Academy Award-winning Producer of BABETTE'S FEAST.

In the world of theater, Jim has been fortunate to have directed and produced over fifteen professional and regional productions ranging from G.R.POINT to ROSENCRANZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD. One of his directorial efforts, THE TRAMWAY END, (the American premiere of esteemed Irish playwright-novelist Dermot Bolger) was presented for three months at the Chelsea Playhouse. It is about an Irish immigrant who now lives in Germany and starred the renowned, gifted Irish actor and director, Ray Yeates, who is currently the Dublin City Arts Officer.

This representative Off Broadway production drew over forty positive reviews including *Time Out New York*: “There is a great deal that is admirable about Tramway. . . . Jermanok’s simple direction is well tailored to the intimacy of the Chelsea Playhouse,” and *The Wall Street Journal* which added: “Ray Yeates is doing a powerful solo turn in Dermot Bolger’s *The Tramway End*. . . .He gives us something precious: the soul of a human being.”

Jim Jermanok wrote and directed “Homophonia,” a political comedy film on gay marriage rights that appeared at The Palm Springs ShortFest and over 50 other film festivals while winning several of them. Also active also in TV and New Media, Jim’s revolutionary new web series “LIFEADVICE.TV” has drawn tremendous praise since going live globally on in late 2015. LIFEADVICE.TV gives our oldest and wisest people a voice and the rest of us some guidance in our lives.

Jim was an Agent at International Creative Management for nine years. Within a year of starting in the mailroom, he was promoted to a full-fledged agent at the age of 25. He helped to represent: Alan Arkin, John Chancellor, E.L. Doctorow, Helen Hayes, Ben Kingsley, Shirley MacLaine, Arthur Miller, Dudley Moore, Harry Reasoner, Andy Rooney, General H. Norman Schwarzkopf and Henry Winkler, among others. Jim also speaks and has conducted over 300 workshops worldwide on the subject of his 2017 bestseller, *BEYOND THE CRAFT: What You Need to Know to Make A Living Creatively!*, as well as *Successful Film/TV Producing & Financing* and *The Art and Business of Screenwriting*.

A former exchange student and journalist in South Africa, Mr. Jermanok has traveled and worked extensively throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East. In London, he interned at the British Parliament, where he directed a short documentary that was screened before a Parliamentary committee. Jim Jermanok was educated at Cornell University and The London School of Economics.

## QUOTES

### The Jermanok Brothers

The Jermanoks strive for and achieve a romantic comedy with humorous, fanciful plotting yet shaded by genuine tenderness and passion... Writers Jim and Stephen Jermanok intricately yet briskly bring Celia and Charlie together.

- **Kevin Thomas, *Los Angeles Times***

The movie has been directed from a screenplay by the brothers Jim and Steve Jermanok, whose freelance writing credits sound like homework for this story. Steve wrote the book "New England Seacoast Adventures," and here the brothers create an emotional adventure for a down-and-out gambler and a Portuguese-American widow who sings of lost love and vows she will never marry again.

- **Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times***

Passionada is a charming and luxurious romantic interlude carefully constructed...and greatly enhanced by fresh dialogue.

- **Rex Reed, *New York Observer***

There's much to admire here, including an often witty script.

- **Leslie Camhi, *The Village Voice***

The script from Boston-area brothers Jim and Steve Jermanok boasts trawlers, triple-deckers, street feasts, and casinos in a *Like Water for Chocolate*-style tale of two seemingly mismatched souls who find each other.

- **Loren King, *The Boston Phoenix***

An engaging and similarly well conceived, directed and acted romantic drama.

- **William Arnold, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer***

Screenwriters Jim and Stephen Jermanok employ the music, foods, and seafaring traditions of New Bedford's Portuguese fishing community.

- **Chuck Wilson, *LA Weekly***

Brothers Jim and Stephen Jermanok have created a wonderful script, beautifully directed and fantastically acted.

- **Sable Jak, *Script Magazine***

Give screenwriters Jim and Stephen Jermanok credit for pitching the pursuit above the usual level of goo.

- **Hap Erstein, *Honolulu Star-Bulletin***

## QUOTES

### *Passionada*

**TWO THUMBS UP!**

**- Ebert & Roeper**

Passionada could have been called “My Big Fat Portuguese Romance.” It’s a gem.

**- Richard Roeper, *Ebert & Roeper***

The Reel Deal! CHARMING & LUXURIOUSLY ROMANTIC!

**-Rex Reed, *The New York Observer***

Passionada has the relaxing beauty of a great summer vacation. You leave feeling recharged.

**- Charles Taylor, *Salon.com***

\*\*\*\* Passionada accomplishes a lot with movie magic and with the kind of adult romantic passion that is rarely found in today's movies.

**- Michael Janusonis, *Providence Journal***

Passionada is a lovely fable marked by strong performances and infused with glorious bursts of soulful Fado music.

**- Lael Lowenstein, *Variety***

Among the film’s many charms is how its setting makes it feel like a European rather than an American movie.

**- Carrie Rickey, *Philadelphia Inquirer***

A romantic story with ethnic flair.

**- Marta Barber, *The Miami Herald***

Enticing! Sassy, sensual and charismatic.

Sofia Milos is a revelation. Jason Isaacs is charming.

**- Stephen Farber, *Movieline***

Romantic...A rare kind of film.

**- Mick LaSalle, *San Francisco Chronicle***

\*\*\*\* This film is a romance with all the trappings of a great European film, but with true Americana flavor.

**- Mike Szymanski, *Tribune Media***

A real find. Passionada tops “My Big Fat Greek Wedding.”

**- Joe Baltake, *The Sacramento***