

CAROLE DUCHARME, Vancouver, BC
WIDC 2004 Director Participant

Ducharme was born in Montreal and is a graduate from University of Montreal's Law School. She has been working in the film industry since 1988 specializing in film financing. In 1991, Ducharme had the opportunity to work in Paris where, as Head of International Co-Productions for a French production company, she ate croissants every morning, and co-produced feature films, namely with Quebec: MON AMIE MAX, by Michel Brault with Geneviève Bujold. Having worked as a Legal Advisor, Producer, Director and Writer in Montreal, and in Paris, Ducharme is now based in Vancouver, where she has resided since 1996. Fluently bilingual, she works both in English and in French. She acts as Writer, Director, and Producer for other production companies in addition to developing and producing her own projects through her company, Witness Productions.

Back in Montreal in 1994, she wrote, directed and produced her first short film: LOVE INTERRUPTUS. In 1996, she moved to Vancouver, started doing yoga and eating organic, and wrote, directed and produced her second short film, the award-winning half-hour comedy STRAIGHT FROM THE SUBURBS (BC-Quebec co-production), financed by Telefilm Canada, SODEC and the NFB. The film was a huge hit and has had an impressive career, winning two Nell Shipman Production Excellence Awards, including Best Short Film, and has been presented in more than 35 international film festivals, as well as having been broadcast in Canada, the USA and Australia.

She has also associate-produced the award winning, 13 half-hour animated television series CYBERSIX (Canada-Japan co-production), broadcast on Teletoon, and the one hour documentary MAN-MADE WOMEN, about the Miss Venezuela beauty pageant. She has written and directed two documentaries: THE NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS, winner of the Blizzard Award for Best Non-Dramatic series, and MAN-MADE WOMEN, which premiered at Hot Docs in 2002. She has also co-written and directed episodes of the educational documentary series for teenagers CANADA A LA CARTE II, broadcast on TFO.

Ducharme has recently joined the Vancouver Rowing Club, and has written the feature film script THE WOMEN OF MY LIFE, with the assistance of Telefilm Canada, BC Film, The Harold Greenberg Fund, and the National Screen Institute Features First Program. It is the story of a seven-year old girl who thinks she was born a fish, and who takes refuge in a world of fantasy and soap opera romance in order to escape her parents' disintegrating marriage, amidst the escalating Anglo/Franco tensions in 1970 Quebec. The script has received numerous readers' reports from various agencies praising the script and highly recommending it for funding. The film will be a co-production between her company and a Montreal based producer, set to be shot in Montreal in the summer 2004. This will represent her first feature film directing experience. It is Ducharme's goal to establish herself as a feature film Writer-Director, and go to the gym at least three times a week.

Ducharme is known for her sensitivity, her story-telling skills, her finely-tuned aesthetic sense, her attention to details, and her sugar-free banana bread. She has a keen eye for the comedic, and obviously enjoys working with people, inspiring confidence in all she works with.