



**JENNIFER KIERANS, Montreal, QC**  
**WIDC 2006 Director Participant**

Jennifer Kierans is a Montreal-based screenwriter, director and producer whose film career began dramatically when, a day before scheduled to start the bar admission course, she left the legal profession behind, packed a U-haul van and escaped from her home-town of London Ontario to Montreal.

Jennifer's first screenplay, *SIGNS OF LIFE*, won her acceptance into the Canadian Film Centre as a Writer Resident. Soon after, her script for a short film about family dysfunction entitled *THE ROGERS' CABLE* won the National Screen Institute's Drama Prize and enabled her to try her hand at directing. The resulting 10 minute film screened at over 25 festivals around the world, including the prestigious Critic's Week section at Cannes.

Capitalizing on her success, Jennifer began writing for children's television, penning scripts for shows such as *PADDINGTON BEAR*, *ANIMAL CRACKERS*, *TO THE M@X*, *POPULAR MECHANICS FOR KIDS* and *MYSTERY HUNTERS*. She also story edited entire seasons of the kids' cooking shows *FUN FOOD FRENZY*, and *EDIBLE INCREDIBLE*.

But Jennifer's passion for film continued. In 2000 she founded Day Job Productions and began developing and producing her own projects. Jennifer's second short film, *BRUCH WITH FAME*, was sold to the Bravo! arts channel and The Comedy Network, while a third, *SOOTHER*, won a grand prize at the Uppsala Short Film Festival in Sweden. A fourth short film, *CHUTE*, won the prize for best short at the inaugural ACTRA Shorts Film Festival.

Her feature screenplays *OPEN TICKET* and *STAR-CROSSED* both won grants from the Quebec government, while her most recent screenplay, *INTO THE SUN* was funded by the Telefilm Screenwriter's Assistance Program and developed through the NSI's Features First Program.

*INTO THE SUN* is scheduled for production in the spring of 2006 and will mark Jennifer's debut as a feature film director.

Jennifer also recently completed the bar admission course -- just for fun.