

***An Honest Liar* Premieres on *Independent Lens* Monday, March 28, 2016 on PBS**

TCA Panelists



Credit: Scott Peterson

Tyler Measom (Director/Producer) is the co-director/producer of *Sons of Perdition*, which tells the story of teenagers exiled from their polygamist Mormon community. The documentary premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and was acquired by the Oprah Winfrey Network. He is the producer of the feature film *Take* (Tribeca Festival premiere) starring Minnie Driver and Jeremy Renner. He has written, produced, and directed nearly 100 commercials, short documentaries, and industrials for a wide range of national and international clients. He won an Emmy for the PBS documentary *Beehive Spirits* and produced the Showtime documentary *Jesus Town*. He is currently in production on the documentary *New Sensation*, about the birth, rise and cultural effects of MTV. Tyler currently lives in Salt Lake City under

the shade of giant oak tree.



Credit: F. Scott Schafer

Bill Nye (Participant) has made it his mission for many years to turn the general public, and kids in particular, on to the “way cool” wonders of science. Scientist, comedian, teacher, and author, Nye became a household name with his innovative, fast-paced television series, *Bill Nye the Science Guy*. Nye earned a degree in mechanical engineering at Cornell University, where he was introduced to the wonders of astronomy in a class taught by Carl Sagan. He spent several years working as an engineer for the Boeing Corporation and continued to work as a consulting engineer on various projects in the 1980s, with clients that included the U.S. Department of Justice. His career took a different path in 1986 when he originated *Bill Nye the Science Guy* on KJR Radio in Seattle, Washington. He was also the

writer and talent for *Almost Live*, a television comedy show produced by KING Television, Seattle, for which he won 13 local Emmy Awards for writing and performing. From 1992 to 1998, Nye was the writer, producer, and talent for the Emmy Award-winning *Bill Nye the Science Guy* TV series, co-produced by Buena Vista Television (Disney) and KCTS (Seattle public television). He has authored several books, including *Bill Nye the Science Guy's Great Big Book of Tiny Germs*.



Credit: Courtesy of James Randi

James Randi (Subject) has an international reputation as a magician and escape artist, but today he is best known as the world’s most tireless investigator and demystifier of paranormal and pseudoscientific claims. Randi has pursued “psychic” spoon-benders, exposed the dirty tricks of faith healers, investigated homeopathic water “with a memory,” and generally been a thorn in the sides of those who try to pull the wool over the public’s eyes in the name of the supernatural.

He has written 10 books and received numerous awards and recognitions, including a Fellowship from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in 1986 for his work in investigating claims of the supernatural, occult, and paranormal powers — in particular his exposures of TV evangelist/healers and of "psychics" such as Uri Geller. He hosted *The Randi Show* on WOR Radio in New York City, was a frequent guest on *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson*, and has appeared on numerous TV series and specials throughout the world. He has taught at New York University and at Brookdale Community College in New Jersey and lectured at other universities and institutions around the world. In 1996, The James Randi Educational Foundation was established to further Randi's work. Randi's long-standing challenge to psychics now stands as a \$1,000,000 prize administered by the foundation.



Credit: Justin Weinstein

Justin Weinstein (Director/Producer) is a Brooklyn-based former scientist whose work includes documentary feature films and broadcast journalism. He is an executive producer of *Bronx Obama*, a documentary directed by Ryan Murdoch now available on Showtime and iTunes. He co-wrote and edited *Being Elmo: A Puppeteer's Journey*, which won the Special Jury Prize at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival, premiered on Independent Lens, and was nominated for The Humanitas Prize. Prior to that, Weinstein produced numerous projects for ABC News, "Peter Jennings Reporting," and PBS, including "Hot Politics" for FRONTLINE and the ABC News primetime special "Last Days on Earth."



Credit: Tom Kubik

Lois Vossen (Founder and Executive Producer of *Independent Lens*) is responsible for commissioning new work, curating the series, and working closely with ITVS and *Independent Lens*-funded filmmakers to provide creative feedback and editorial support related to broadcast standards. *Independent Lens* films have received 10 News & Documentary Emmy Awards, two Primetime Emmys, 15 George Foster Peabody Awards, five Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Journalism Awards, and seven Academy Award nominations, and the series is the 2015 winner of the IDA Award for Best Continuing Series — its third consecutive win. Previously, Vossen was associate managing director of the Sundance Film Festival and Sundance Labs. She serves on the Documentary Peer Panel for the Television

Academy, and has been a juror at SXSW, DOC New Zealand, Toronto International, New Orleans, and Palm Springs International film festivals, among others.

