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Biographical Profile

Benjamin Lehmann is an inspiring and creative Producer with vast and varied experience in children's television, feature film production & development, music videos and commercials. A visual thinker and storyteller, Lehmann is adept at identifying media trends, recognizing emerging talent and working collaboratively in a fast-paced, creative environment. He excels at working with children and creating compelling & educational content for them.

WORK EXPERIENCE:

July 2007 - Today	<p>SESAME WORKSHOP / SESAME STREET PRODUCTION Producer <i>New York</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oversee script, child casting & muppet casting departments (4 full time direct reports). ▪ Oversee writing schedule, assign all due dates and work with writers. Participate in creative script review; facilitate inclusion of research concerns into show scripts. ▪ Assign shows to Directors and number of directing days. ▪ Oversee all members of scheduling team during studio taping (Associate Producer, Associate Director, Stage Manager, Production Stage Manager). ▪ Make day of decisions on all timing & taping related issues (cutting segments, taping contingency material, booking celebrities, etc...). ▪ Act as Executive Producer's back-up creative representative on studio floor. ▪ Write, produce & direct short live action films for Sesame Street. Over 15 films produced, several currently on air and all in the international Sesame Street library (used in co-productions around the world).
2003 - 2007	<p>SESAME WORKSHOP / SESAME STREET PRODUCTION Associate Producer & Associate Director <i>New York</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with Muppet Captain to determine all muppet casting assignments. ▪ Responsible for show scheduling: break down scripts, create taping schedules. ▪ Schedule shoot days, issue call times and point person for all muppet cast. Oversee daily shooting schedule content, creation, publishing, distribution. ▪ Work w/ post production in casting kids for voice-overs. Direct recording sessions. ▪ Creative Consultant for French co-production of Sesame Street. Participate in script review & give creative guidance to French Writers. Participate in training of French Puppeteers & production crew. ▪ Associate direct during studio taping. Work with Directors to assign their shots to camera people, ready cameras during takes and run control room. AD edit sessions.
2001 – 2003	<p>SESAME WORKSHOP / SESAME STREET PRODUCTION Production Associate <i>New York</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Control room PA / Script Supervisor. ▪ Record and supervise shot and take selection; prepare edit notes and Medialog for edit to reflect Director's decisions. Ensure all segments and coverage is taped. Attend and oversee edit sessions. ▪ Format thematically coherent hour-long show (using new segments and library material).
2000 - 2001	<p>SESAME WORKSHOP / INTERNATIONAL SESAME STREET Assistant To The Executive Producer <i>New York</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assisted production executive overseeing 8 active international co-productions, large team of Producers and a full development slate.

1997 - 2000	FIREFLY FILMS <i>Producer, Director, Screenwriter</i>	New York
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Founder and owner of independent production company. ▪ Produced and directed feature film: East Side, music videos and corporate films. ▪ Screened and marketed feature at the Independent Film Market in New York, 1998 and Cannes Film Market, 1999. Oversaw entire marketing and press campaigns. ▪ New business development for company. Found projects & secured investors for feature film. 	
1994 - 2000	FREELANCE Cinematographer*	Los-Angeles, New York, Paris
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interpret script visually: create filmed images collaborating with directors and designers. ▪ Hire & Manage electric, grip and camera crews. ▪ 2 feature films, 6 music videos, multiple commercials and industrials. 	
1991 - 2000	FREELANCE Camera Assistant*	Los-Angeles, New York, Paris
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Focus puller and 2nd assistant on 17 feature films, many commercials and music videos. 	
1989 - 1991	FREELANCE Editor*	Los-Angeles, New York
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Editor: 14 music videos, TV series, industrials, and other projects. 	

EDUCATION:

1985 – 1986	CORNELL UNIVERSITY (Ithaca, NY) School Of Architecture, Art & Planning.	
1986 - 1989	COLORADO UNIVERSITY (Boulder, Colorado) Major: French literature, minor: film history.	Bachelor of Arts

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

GUILDS & GROUPS	Director's Guild Of America, Producer's Guild Of America, National Academy of Television Arts & Science.
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OTHER SKILLS:

LANGUAGES:	French and English –Bilingual, native language level in both: Excellent Writing and Translation Skills. <i>Translated TV scripts from French to English and vice versa and worked as an on-set translator for Franco-American productions.</i>
COMPUTER:	Windows and Macintosh operating systems. Word, Power Point, Excel, Avid (Editing), Final Cut (Editing) and Final Draft (Screenwriting).

RECENT COURSES:

COURSES:	Intensive screenwriting: New School (1996); Screenwriting Workshop: Gotham Writer's Workshop (2000); Commercial Directing (2004); PitchXchange: Script Pitching (2004); Final Cut Editing Intensive (2005).
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*Partial List of Freelance Projects available at: <http://imdb.com/name/nm0499673/>