



Charise@LotusGirlFilms.com
www.LotusGirlFilms.com



In 2007, Charise decided she wanted to learn the production side of the business firsthand, and set her sights on working with Martin Chase Productions, headed up by Debra Martin Chase. After hearing Debra speak at a Black Women Lawyers event in Chicago, and learning that Debra had helped nurture another Chicago talent by the name of Shonda Rhimes, Charise knew she had found the right place. Thus began her weekly commute between Chicago and Los Angeles.

The next step occurred in 2008 when Charise was accepted into the USC/Warner Brothers Directing & Producing Summer Program at the University of Southern California. She finished up the summer by directing her first independent film, *The Hands*.

Before all of this, Charise attended the University of Wisconsin, majoring in Journalism. She went on to explore her writing in public relations, politics, newspapers, and law, before returning to the creative side of writing, and attending DePaul University's Masters in Writing Program. After a brief stint of teaching freshman English, Charise realized that screenwriting and short stories were her chosen path. Soon she had her first story published, "Same Old Mess" in the book *Jane's Stories*. She attended a summer screenwriting program at the Iowa Writer's Workshop, and was on her way to discovering how to connect her love of writing with her love of film.

Currently, Charise is working on two television drama pilots, and a full-length feature political thriller. She is also in pre-production on two dramatic film shorts, "MyBody. MySpace" and "Illusions: Portrait of a Modern Marriage". She is also collaborating with four other women writers on a book of essays/poems/short fiction.

CHARISE M. STUDEVILLE



HONORS

- 2005 Best Screenplay, African American Women in Cinema 8th Annual Film Festival
- 2006 Feature Screenplay Gaia Award, Moondance International Film Festival
- Finalist–2006 Monterey Film Commission’s 11th Annual Screenwriting Contest (top 5%)
- Finalist–2007 Independent Black Film Festival/Final Draft Screenplay Competition
- Finalist–2007 Tribeca All-Access
- Finalist–2007 American Gem Short Script Contest

EDUCATION

- B.A., Journalism, University of Wisconsin
- Attended Northwestern University Law School
- M.A., Writing, DePaul University
- University of Iowa Writer’s Workshop–Summer Program/Screenwriting Seminars with Elaine Holliman
- Workshops in screenwriting, producing, and directing/ various film festivals
- Warner Brothers/USC Directing/Producing Program (2008)

EMPLOYMENT

- Intern/Assistant, Martin Chase Productions, Burbank, CA
- Fundraiser/Officer, various local non-profit agencies
- Consultant/Owner, CULTURESPRINTS, consulting with schools and corporations on issues of cross-cultural sensitivity
- English Teacher, DePaul University
- Runway/Print Model, various agencies
- Legislative Aide, Wisconsin State Rep. Spencer Coggs
- Sears Congressional Intern, Capitol Hill office of U.S. Sen. Howard Metzenbaum
- Assembly Page, Wisconsin State Legislature

PUBLISHED

- The Cardinal/Badger Herald–student newspapers
- The Beloit Daily News
- *Jane’s Stories: An Anthology of Work by Midwestern Women*, Wild Dove Studio and Press, Inc.

FILM

- Writer/Director, *The Hands* (2008)
- Executive Producer, *Kwame* (2008)



CHARISE M. STUDESVILLE