

# KING

## PRESS KIT



Photography by Tom Panasiak

A HALF-HOUR DOCUMENTARY

Prepared by:

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35 MINUTES | HISTORICAL DOCUMENTARY | © 2009 WANTED MEDIA CORPORATION

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## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

More than a year of work and many hours later, a unique film has been produced. It was an ambitious objective to achieve. We had to create a film that breaks free of the standard Canadian historical documentary format.

The experience was unbelievable. Never in a million years did I fathom working with a teacher and her students on a project of this nature. Fearful of the task at hand, my worries melted away by the pleasant and sometimes astounding minds of the “AIM” students of Kettleby Public School.

These students represent the future. I wanted to know what their views were on heritage and what they liked and disliked about their surroundings. When the film was pieced together in the editing room, I realized its true power.

The past is something we cannot take for granted. It is a tool that we should use to measure progress and prevent mistakes. In a hundred years time, when I am long gone, I hope my films can be used to examine the world of today and what it must have been like to live in the twenty first century.

Take a look at this press kit, observe its content and if any questions are left unanswered, I would be happy to answer them.

Mark Magro

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Director



## SYNOPSIS

*King* is a documentary that tells the story of historically important locations throughout King Township in Ontario, Canada.

The students are explorers. From political upheavals to environmental policies, they relate the past to the present and tackle complex and sometimes controversial issues.

When one travels past an old building or abandoned field, the question that might come to mind is, "what happened here?" A narrator, acting as a traditional storyteller, provides a general overview of how this area evolved over time.

The students and narrator leave opened ended questions for the viewers to read between the lines. Acknowledging that any record, textbook and newspaper article has an element of bias, the film strives to create an atmosphere of debate.

King City, Ansnorveldt, Schomberg, Kettleby, Laskay, Lloydtown, Pottageville and Nobleton are important communities which are examined. Eaton Hall, Mary Lake and Carrying Place are specific locations which were chosen for their architectural and social significance.

The end result is a film that provides viewers a chronological overview of King Township with the students giving their reflections of their observations.



## PRODUCTION NOTES

*King* started with an idea that Elaine Roberson had for over twenty five years. A teacher and former chair of the King Township Heritage Committee, she was responsible for creating the “AIM” enrichment program at the Kettleby Public School.

*Mark Magro with Brent Tremain, filming in King Township*



“AIM” stands for achievement, initiative and mentorship. Elaine, over the course of several years, taught a select group of students a different way of learning.

In November 2008, Mark Magro attended a Heritage Committee meeting at the King Township Museum where Sally Drummond, Resource Officer of the Town of Caledon was guest speaker.

Sally had worked closely with Mark on his first film, *Cedar Mains Farm: A Forgotten Landscape*. Elaine, who was Chair of the meeting, approached Mark. A conversation followed in which she shared her idea of a film about students exploring their environments in general and specifically, the history of that environment. After a brief conversation, the idea sprouted into an exciting collaboration.

The project was presented to the Township of King Heritage Committee and to the King Township Council. Funding was approved and development began.

Between December 2008 and April 2009 a treatment was developed. Mark worked with the students to teach them the basics of film and Elaine created the logistics in scheduling.

Much time was spent scouting locations and obtaining permissions. All this was confirmed by the end of April 2009. Mark and Elaine worked with the King Township Museum and the King Township Archives to finalize the treatment, shot list and preparations necessary to start production.



*Mark Magro with Elaine Roberson  
at Eaton Hall*

The entire month of May and the first two weeks of June were dedicated to filming and recording the student's voice-over. Scheduling and preparing props and costumes was a nightmare but the filming, which was completed by the middle of June, was a complete success.

The summer and fall of 2009 was spent doing post-production. Finalizing the narrations and piecing together 960 hours of footage was no easy feat. Music was compiled and after many revisions a final cut was completed in December 2009.

The journey was long but we achieved something memorable. This film will be enjoyed by generations to come.



## CREW BIOGRAPHIES

### MARK MAGRO

Mark Magro has been passionate about film from a young age. He has produced films with friends as a hobby for years. Mark is a graduate of York University where he obtained a B.A. in History and Film and Centennial College where he obtained a diploma in Computer Networking. He also attended the Toronto Film School, where he met his future crew for the documentaries and films he produced with his production company Wanted Media. Mark is an artist striving to put his thoughts, dreams and experiences in the format of film. He is continually searching for new projects.



### BRENT TREMAIN

Naturally artistic from an early age, Brent dabbled in fine arts as a painter. His subsequent training and experience gained while attending Toronto Film School gave him the much needed technical ability to further pursue his aspirations as a film maker. Brent's dream is to spend a lifetime capturing beautiful images, to tell intriguing stories and do it all through the lens of the camera.



### TOM PANASIAK

Tom graduated from York University with a B.A. in Fine Arts and Art History. He also has a diploma in Building Restoration from George Brown College. Photography has always been his passion. To him, it's not just about taking pictures, it is also the need to capture the overall atmosphere and feeling of the place and people being photographed.





## IN COLLABOATION WITH

### ELAINE ROBERTSON

Elaine is a graduate of the Nova Scotia Teacher's College and York University where she received a B.A. in Canadian Studies. She has taught in Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario. An enthusiastic and innovative teacher, she has designed programs for Enrichment Groups including "Adventures in Art", which was a collaboration with the McMichael Art Gallery in Klienburg. She is the former Chair of King Township Heritage Committee, President of the York Pioneer and Historical Society and sits on the Board of Directors for the Arts Society of King. Elaine is passionate about bringing history alive though film.







## PUBLICATIONS

# TAPESTRY

A MAGAZINE OF QUALITY LIVING IN KING TOWNSHIP

"King ~ A unique exploration of a township and its people"

King Tapestry

Fall 2009



Lights, camera...

*Heritage documentary filmed in King*

June 24, 2009

## PREVIOUS WORK

**Cedar Mains Farm: A Forgotten Landscape (2007)**

- Premiered at Empire Theatres in Bolton, Ontario, Canada
- Financed by Heritage Caledon

**Nonquon Island (2008)**

- Premiered at the 2008 Canoe the Nonquon Film Festival in Port Perry, Ontario, Canada
- Winner of the 2008 Scugog Heritage Media Award
- Premiered at the 2009 ReelHeART International Film Festival in Toronto
- Financed by the Mississauga First Nations of Scugog & the Township of Scugog

**The Story of Uxbridge Station (2008)**

- Premiered at Uxbridge Music Hall in Uxbridge, Ontario, Canada
- Showcased at the Fine Arts University in Warsaw, Poland
- Premiered at the 2009 ReelHeART International Film Festival in Toronto
- Financed by the Township of Uxbridge



## CREDITS

**Director**

Mark Magro

**Producer**

Mark Magro

**Editor**

Mark Magro

**Production Manager**

Elaine Robertson

**Director of Photography**

Brent Tremain

**Photography**

Tom Panasiak

**Writer**

Mark Magro

**Researchers**

Mark Magro

Elaine Robertson

Kathleen Fry

Heather Massey

**Sound Technician**

Alan Hardiman

**Narrator**

Andrew Marshall

**Narration Revisions**

Elaine Robertson

Andrew Marshall

**Post-Production Services**

Wanted Media Inc.

**Executive Producer**

Township of King Heritage Committee

**Transportation**

Elaine Robertson

Arlene Crest

Elaine Sperduti

Cheryl Teasdale

Sue Jones

Karen Dudek

**Costume Designer**

Elaine Robertson

**Costume and Props**

Elaine Robertson

Kathleen Fry

Gavin Watt

Jamie Robertson

Jonathan Thompson

Elizabeth Nicholas

Arlene Cress

AIM Students of Kettleby Public School