

The class that taught the directors of *Snatch*, *Memento* and *Shawn of the Dead* how to make great films on limited budgets returns to Toronto

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**After 15 years infusing the British film with new vitality, world indie cinema advocate and educator, producer Elliot Grove, returns to Toronto to teach his much heralded low-budget filmmaking production class and to offer a week of evening classes at Ryerson University!!**

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**Elliot will teach his famed Lo-To-No Budget Masterclass on October 21 & 22 at Ryerson University (School of Image Arts)  
October 17 Pitching Skills Class followed of "Live!Ammunition!"  
October 18 Marketing & Selling your Film at Ryerson University  
October 19 Creating a Business Plan at Ryerson University  
On October 17 Elliot Grove will officially launch Raindance Canada at the Second Canadian date of the *Live! Ammunition!* live pitch event!**

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**TORONTO** - On October 21 and October 22 Elliot Grove, founder and director of both the Raindance Film Festival and the British Independent Film Awards will teach his much heralded two-day, low-budget filmmaking boot camp – Lo-To-No Budget Filmmaking.

**Prior to teaching this groundbreaking course, Elliot will officially launch Raindance Canada, bringing all of Raindance UK's indie filmmaking courses and initiatives to Toronto and then the reach of the country – with an unprecedented live film pitch event – *Live! Ammunition!* on October 17 at Revival on College Street.**

The *Live! Ammunition!* Live pitch event, already a success in cities across Europe, is an open mike pitch for writers, producers, directors, giving them 2-min to pitch their movie idea to a distinguished panel of film professionals. The Toronto panel has so far confirmed Searchlight Managing Partner **Daniel Weinzwieg**, Odeon Films' President **Bryan Gliserman**, ThinkFilm Head of Distribution **Michael Baker**, Maple's Co-President **Brad Pelman** and award-winning Director/Writer **Michael Sparaga** (*Sidekick*). More panellists to be confirmed in the coming days.

The first Canadian *Live! Ammunition!* pitch will include a musical performance by local artist **Joshua Bartholomew**, and panel discussion on what makes a great pitch moderated by Elliot Grove (including clips form panellists films) and then the open mike live pitch – in which participants can throw \$5 in a hat for a chance at 2-min to pitch the panellists, get feedback on their pitch, and be heard by industry executives in attendance. Previous attendees of this exciting Raindance event include **Academy Award winner Gavin Hood, director of *Totsi***.

Originally from Toronto where he worked on 68 features and over 700 commercials in his beloved Toronto, Elliot became increasingly disenchanted with financial wastage on high-budget sets. Elliot moved to London during the 1980's a time when British cinematic production was at an all time low. Fourteen years ago, Elliot launched the Raindance Film Festival, which initially catered to American independents who

demonstrated the values of creative innovation and pioneering spirit that Elliot believed would help to invigorate the industry in the UK. This year, Raindance Film Festival line-up will feature **70 independent features and 150 short films from over 40 countries.**

After launching Raindance, a festival that has become one of the most important film events in the Europe, Elliot also founded and still directs the prestigious **British Independent Film Awards**, now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year. Raindance itself has evolved from a small indie festival into a major organization with both festival and training branches, as well as operating an active film production company. Many in the UK credit Grove with having resuscitated and reinvigorated the UK film scene. Most recently, Elliot has been producing an intensive roster of film projects including *The Living and the Dead*, a critical-hit at this year's Rotterdam Film Festival.

“Raindance and Elliot Grove have rejuvenated the British film industry - Roger Corman  
“Raindance and the BIFA awards have become two of the most important film events in Britain” – Chris Smith, former Minister for Film

The two-day course, **Lo-To-No Budget Filmmaking**, covers issues of creative pre-production planning for low-budget films, creative financing models, mining new investor areas and pitching them, pitching distributors, and the needs of on-set and long-term marketing and publicity goals. It is the same course that **Guy Ritchie** took, and where he met his production partner for *Snatch*, and also has been taken by the directors of *Batman Begins* and *Shawn of the Dead*.

October 2006 courses details:

**Lo-to-no-Budget Filmmaking with Elliot Grove**

Saturday and Sunday October 21 and 22, 2006

9:30am-6:00pm

Ryerson University - School of Image Arts

122 Bond Street – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Register at [www.raindancecanada.com](http://www.raindancecanada.com)

**Pitching Skills Class followed of "Live!Ammunition!" with Elliot Grove**

Tuesday October 17, 2006

6:00pm – 10:00pm

Revival Bar – Stone Lounge

783 College Street

Register at [www.raindancecanada.com](http://www.raindancecanada.com)

**Marketing and Selling your Film with Elliot Grove**

Wednesday October 18, 2006

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Ryerson University - School of Image Arts

122 Bond Street – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Register at [www.raindancecanada.com](http://www.raindancecanada.com)

**Creating a Business Plan with Elliot Grove**

Thursday October 19, 2006

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Ryerson University - School of Image Arts  
122 Bond Street – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Register at [www.raindancecanada.com](http://www.raindancecanada.com)

Media contact:

For more information on Raindance Canada and their upcoming events, visit [www.raindancecanada.com](http://www.raindancecanada.com) or call 416-961-6627.

Notes to editors:

Raindance is dedicated to fostering and promoting independent film in the UK and around the world. Raindance combines its high-profile annual film festival with an extensive range of training courses taught by industry experts, along with a production arm and the prestigious British Independent Film Awards. Raindance spans the full spectrum of the art, craft and business of independent movies, from guerilla-style low or no-budget productions to big budget indie blockbusters.