



Evolution

TELOS Productions was founded by Emmy Award-winning producer and director Tom Ball and is widely recognized for its artistically driven, expert storytelling in documentary and commercial film projects.

Founded in 1984, the company has created more than a thousand programs for an extraordinarily diverse clientele. TELOS specializes in documentary-style programming for arts organizations, architects and museums; however, we also have extensive experience with programming for national sports franchises, business-to-business communications, development, marketing, corporate image programming, news magazines, video news releases, and television commercials.

Our goal is to create programming that engages the viewer both emotionally and intellectually, through expertly shot and edited productions which tell a story and are filled with ideas.

TELOS puts ideas on film.

Profile of Tom Ball



photo by Gillian Gordon

Tom Ball's interest in film and video production took him to New York University where he planned to major in Film. After changing his academic major to India Studies, Tom moved back to Cleveland and apprenticed himself to a Cleveland-based filmmaker. He graduated from The College of Wooster, with additional course work at Case Western Reserve University, The University of Wisconsin, and The University of Chicago. During his junior year abroad at Banares University in India, he made a film as his independent fieldwork project. The film, *Vishnu's Maya*, was subsequently awarded with a postproduction grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Ultimately, the film became a finalist in the New York Film Festival and launched his career.

As a prolific documentary film maker he has said, "The best part about my job is interviewing fascinating world-class achievers at the height of their powers and trying to capture — in their own words — what makes them tick."

He has interviewed business giants Peter B. Lewis, George Soros, Frederick C. Crawford, and Thomas Watson Jr.; contemporary architects Frank O. Gehry and Philip Johnson; Supreme Court Justice, Sandra Day O'Connor; NBA Basketball stars, Brad Dougherty & Mark Price; Activists, Ralph Nader and Karl Rove; Principal Flute of the Cleveland Orchestra, Josh Smith, and Oboe soloist John Mack, Heart Surgeon, Delos M. Cosgrove, and Parisian Couturier, Christian LaCroix. Narrators for his productions have included the award-winning actors, Mason Adams, Dana Ivey, Peter Strauss, Joel Grey, Ed Asner, Edward Herrmann, Jeremy Irons and Wentworth Miller.

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Among Tom's major works are, *Theatre de la Mode*, his one-hour historical documentary on the revival of the French fashion industry following the liberation of Paris. This film served as exhibition support at the **Fashion Museum of the Louvre** and the **Metropolitan Museum of Art**. Shot mostly in Paris, the project was awarded both a first place Muse Award from the **American Association of Museums** and an Emmy Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences — Midwest region.

Another of Tom's major projects documents the creative process of world-renowned architect, Frank O. Gehry. The Montreal International Festival of Fine Arts awarded, *A Constructive Madness*, the prestigious *Prix du Leilleur Repartage Hotel XiX Siecle Award* — **Best Documentary 2004**. The film, Narrated by Jeremy Irons played in Festivals around the world

The **Washington Post** said, "A *Constructive Madness* excels at conveying the messy creative process in Gehry's Santa Monica, California office. Model-makers and assistants struggle to keep up with a master who draws inspiration from the entire span of art history. By the end of the project, Gehry is draping waxed red cloth inspired by Old Master paintings. The forms suggest structures so exotic that one can only hope there will be a sequel." **The Melbourne Film Festival** called it, "an architectural thriller!"

Tom also directed a related architecture documentary for **Princeton University**. This program juxtaposes the construction of the Frank Gehry designed, Peter B. Lewis Science Library with a new Collegiate Gothic style dormitory designed by Demetri Porphyrios (which was funded by Meg Whitman of eBay). The program is called *Extreme Visions* and explores the concept of creativity in business, in architecture and in higher education.

Working with PBS/WVIZ Ideastream, Tom directed the nationally televised *Artistic Choice*, a mini-documentary on civic-based funding for the Arts. He also recently completed a broadcast documentary, *Enduring Trust – The History and Aspirations of The Cleveland Foundation* to celebrate the foundation's 100th anniversary. Both of these projects won regional Emmys.

About TELOS

Since 1984, TELOS has earned more than 250 international, national and regional awards as well as numerous grants, prestigious commissions and honorariums. See *Awards* for a more complete listing.

A documentary on a post-war Parisian couturier exhibition, *Theatre de la Mode*, won a regional **Emmy Award** and a **First Place Muse Award** from the American Museums Association.

An **International Monitor Award** was given to Telos for its documentary series on adolescent substance abuse, *Not My Child*.

The North American Lottery Commission recognized our TV spots featuring Ohio's *Million Dollar Winners* as, "The Best on the Continent," by bestowing the coveted **Gold Batchy Award**.

A regional **Emmy Award** and **Best of Show** from the Ohio Museums Association were given to *Showplace of America*, a documentary on 19th century Cleveland and its "street of dreams" known as *Millionaire's Row*.

A regional **Emmy Award** and A **Silver Telly** (their highest honor) was awarded to Telos' documentary *All For One – The Story of Cleveland Clinic*.

Telos was honored with several Emmy nominations and a **Gold WorldMedal** at the New York TV & Film Festivals for its documentary, *Nurtured by Love, the Life and Work of Shinichi Suzuki*.

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TELOS distributes a number of arts and historical programs. For example, a series of educational videos, featuring Vogue fashion illustrator, Stephen Stipelman, are available through industry journals. This series has enjoyed widespread popularity at the collegiate level and has become required course material for fashion schools throughout the United States. The TELOS documentary, *Nurtured by Love*, on the life of internationally renowned music educator, Dr. Shinichi Suzuki is distributed internationally by The Suzuki Association of the Americas. Available in English, Japanese, and Spanish, the program has been distributed to Suzuki students on every continent and in more than 20 countries.

Over the years, the company has created programming for some of the most prestigious medical organizations in the world. TELOS, in association with Baxter International and The WorldCare Foundation, produced a series of CME accredited programs for the International TeleSymposium on Minimally Invasive Direct Access Valve Surgery hosted by the **Cleveland Clinic**. Broadcast live to 4,000 medical centers around the world, the symposium was an interactive event, incorporating live panel analysis, Internet discussions, and live surgical procedures performed by world-renowned cardiovascular surgeon, Delos M. Cosgrove, MD.

In June of 2007, **Cleveland Clinic** held a black tie premier at Severance Hall for TELOS' production of *All For One — The Story of Cleveland Clinic*, which documents the institution's 85 year history. Co-written with Davis Dyer from the Winthrop Group in Boston, the program is narrated by Tony and Emmy Award-winning actor, Edward Herrmann. The documentary-style program features the Pastoral Symphony by Ralph Vaughan Williams. The primary purpose of the program is to capture and communicate the prestigious history of the institution for its 43,000 employees.

TELOS' highly acclaimed production, *Reaching Out for Liberty and Light*, is a 90-minute documentary on Ohio's first Congresswoman, Frances Payne Bolton. The program was produced in collaboration with History Enterprises. Interviewees appearing in the documentary include congressional colleagues, former President Gerald R. Ford, historians, academics, and representatives from the many humanitarian, civic, and cultural institutions associated with Mrs. Bolton's philanthropy and interests. The program features the music of Bizet and is narrated by Broadway and Film star Dana Ivy, who was recently inducted into the American Theatre Hall of Fame.

In 2004–2006 TELOS was commissioned by the **Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage** to create all of the motion picture presentations for the museum. Daunting in scope, the programs delve into myriad aspects of Jewish life and culture, focusing on how Jewish and American traditions are intertwined. Among the more intriguing topics addressed include: *Hate* — its psychology and persistent threat, *Jewish Entertainment* and its contribution to American popular culture, *Sacred Occasions* — a humanist view of Jewish civilization as revealed through religious ceremony and celebration, and *Holocaust Survivors* — from man's inhumanity to rebirth. The programs are narrated by film and theatre legend, Joel Grey, as well as television star and Golden Globe winner, Peter Strauss.

One of TELOS' most prestigious long term clients is the International law firm, **Jones Day**. Over the past twenty five years, TELOS has created not only a centennial history for the Firm, but also video stories about their offices and practices, and programs for their recruitment, Pro Bono and diversity initiatives. Jones Day is one of the largest law firms in the world with over 2500 attorneys in more than 40 offices from Washington D.C. to Shanghai.

Working for the **Embroidery Guild of America** TELOS created an international history of the art form with its documentary, *Embroidery — The Legacy of Needlearts*. Shot in America and in Europe, the program features extraordinary examples of embroidery from museum collections such as Hampton Court Palace and the Bayeux Tapestry Museum. The program includes a sequence shot in the Parisian embroidery house of *Brocard*, where they recreated the sumptuous red velvet and gold thread embroidered coronation robes of Napoleon. *Brocard* seamstresses had stitched the original robes in 1804.