

## **Brief bio and resume:**

**Y. Robert Tymstra**

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## **The short version:**

Dabbler in anything good that life has to offer. Among my various and sundry activities: feature filmmaking (cinematographer/screenwriter), still photography, writing, expedition travel and ornithological research, sailing, canoeing, playing classical/flamenco guitar, lighting theatrical sets. Some of this year's activities: birding expedition in southeast Brazil, breeding bird survey by canoe on Attawapiskat River, Northern Ontario, building cottage on Pelee Island.

## **The longer version:**

### **Photo/Journalism Training:**

- *Advanced Screenwriting*: UCLA mentor: Helen Kantor, 2003.
- *Directing with a Vision*: Cdn. Screen Training Centre: Leon Marr. 2003.
- *Screenwriting Workshop*: Global Film School/UCLA: Helen Kantor, 2002
- *Screenwriting Concepts*: Hal Croasmun. 2002
- *Feature Prod. Workshop*: Cdn. Screen Training Centre. Helen Du Toit, 2002
- *Producing for Television*: Cdn. Screen Training: Maria Armstrong, 2002
- *Feature Film Screenwriting*: Donald Martin. Summer Inst. Film & Television, Ottawa, 2002.
- *Great Screenwriting Series*: Hal Croasmun. On-line course. 2002
- *HDTV Workshop*: Ryerson University, Toronto. 2001
- *Digital Cinematography Workshop, HDTV/24p*. Santa Fe, New Mexico, 2001
- *Directing Film & Television Workshop*. Chicago, 2001
- *Audio Workshop*. Canadian Society of Cinematographers. Toronto, 2001
- *Lighting Workshop* Canadian Society of Cinematographers. Toronto, 2001
- *Director's Round Robin Workshop: Patricia Rozema*. WIFT. Toronto, 2001
- *Camera Assist.*: Ryerson University: Advanced Cinematography Series 2000
- *Feature Film Lighting*: Maine International Film Workshops, 2000. Rob Draper, ACS. Instructor.
- *Steadicam Operator*: Paul Taylor Instructor. Port Elgin, Ontario. Canadian Broadcasting Corp. On Course, 1999
- *Videomaker Workshops*: Burbank, California, 1999
- *Expedition Documentary Filmmaking*: Maine International Film Workshops 1998. David Conover, Instructor
- *EFP Training TV6 Cogeco Public Access Cable Television*, Sarnia 1998
- *Bachelor's Degree*: Environmental Studies, University of Waterloo
- Diploma: *Professional Photography*: New York Institute of Photography
- Diploma: *News Journalism*: Newspaper Institute of America

- Diploma: *Writing for Children and Teenagers*. Inst. of Children's Literature.
- Diploma. *Novel Writing Workshop*. Writer's Digest School.

### **Filmmaking Related Skills:**

- **Film Camera:** Operator: 16mm Arri SR2, SR3, Bolex EL, 16RX, Éclair NPR  
Loader: 35mm: Arri III, BL4, 435, 535, Moviecam  
Owner-operator: Éclair NPR package.
- **Video Camera:** Sony DSR500WS, Panasonic DVCPRO, DV, Sony VX-1000  
Mini-DV, S-VHS, Hi-8. Owner-operator VX-1000 package.  
Panasonic DVX-100 24P
- **HDTV Camera:** Sony F900PsF- 24P
- **Still Camera:** 25 yrs+ still photography, Nikon 35mm & medium formats:  
100's images published in textbooks, magazines, calendars.  
Represented by Valan Photos, stock agency. Green Book  
1994 (directory of established Nature History and General  
Stock Photographers): wildlife, travel stock photography.
- **Sound Recording:** Nature sound field recording, shotgun mike, multi-track  
music recording, session guitarist on CD, foley sounds
- **Non-Linear Editing:** Adobe Premiere 5.1, FAST
- **Webpage Creation:** <http://www2.ebtech.net/~birdman/>  
'James Bay Islands Bird Survey'
- **Other skills/interests:** Private aircraft pilot, equestrian, sailing,  
canoeing, kayak, classical and flamenco guitar. Trekking, camping  
in remote areas. Expert naturalist, outdoorsman, birder.
- **Travel:** Visited 50+ countries, 6 continents.
- **Languages:** Fluent English, proficient in Spanish and Dutch
- **Writer:** Published several magazine articles (environmental topics) and  
scientific papers in ornithological journals.
- **Memberships:** Associate: Canadian Society of Cinematographers  
Fellow International: Explorers Club

### **Feature Film/Shorts Experience:**

- **Farmer Brown:** Director of Photography, Camera Operator. 402 Films.  
Director Mark McNabb. 24p feature. Sarnia, Ontario. 2003.
- **The Raft:** Writer/Producer/Director of Photography: Far Weltered  
Films/Avolution Multimedia. Feature in pre-production.
- **Love Wine:** Director of Photography, Camera Operator. Rigtown Pictures.  
Director Mark McNabb. High-Def Feature, 24p Sony. Pelee Island, 2001
- **Seven Ages:** Director of Photography, Camera Operator. Degra Productions.  
Director Megan Ing. MiniDV Short. Toronto, 2001
- **Killing Book:** Director of Photography, Camera Operator. Rigtown Pictures.  
Director Mark McNabb. DV-Widescreen. Sarnia, Ontario. 2001

- **Memory of Mother:** Director of Photography, Camera Operator. Rigtown Pictures, Stick People Ink. Director M. McNabb. Ottawa. Super16 ArriSR3. 25' film short, 2000.
- **Jocotoco:** Director/Director of Photography/Camera Operator. Far Weltered Films. Director Rob Tymstra. Sarnia, ON. Mini DV Feature, 2000. Premiered, Imperial Theatre, Sept.2002
- **Six Days to Redemption:** Director of Photography/Location Scouting/Music Scoring. Rigtown Pix: Director M. McNabb. Ontario. DVCPRO Feature, 1999
- **Stalkers:** Camera/Steadicam Operator. TeePee Productions: Director Josey Beintema. Strathroy, Ontario. DVCPRO Pilot, 1999
- **The Core:** Director of Photography / 2<sup>nd</sup> Unit Director. Stick People Ink, Rigtown Pictures. Dir. M. McNabb. Petrolia, ON. DVCPRO Feature 1999
- **Ordeals of Love on the Great Lakes:** Sound Engineer /Gaffer/ Grip/ Snake Wrangler. Decadence Films. Director Alec Kinnear. Lake Muskoka, Ontario. DVCPRO50 16:9 Feature, 1999

#### Documentaries/Music Videos:

- **Create:** Music Video, *Cup of Trembling*. 16mm. Cam. Op. Wingham, 2002.
- **Flightpath:** Contributed video footage and starred in episode segment on homebuilt aircraft, first aired January 1996, Discovery Channel. 8mm/Hi8mm
- **Run:** Music video, *Phantom Black*. DP/Operator. Mini-DV. Rigtown Pictures: Director Mark McNabb. Sarnia, 2000.
- **It Took You Forever:** *David Deacon*. Grip. 35mm. Decadence Films: Director Alec Kinnear. Toronto, 2000.
- **Hit and Miss:** *Jamie Lee Jackson Band*. DP/Camera Operator. 16mm. Director Mark McNabb. Sarnia, 2000.
- Numerous video shorts, news segments Cable TV, industrial safety videos, commercials and in-house productions (Pt. Edward Charity Casino, Holiday Inn, Bluewater Duty Free, Sarnia-Lambton Tourism)

#### Theatrical Productions:

- **Nightingale Chorus Christmas:** Lighting design and operator. Sarnia, 2001, 2002, 2003. Imperial Theatre.
- **Les Miserables:** Lighting Design. Sarnia production 2003, Imperial Theatre.

#### Publications :Popular Articles: \

- Aah, Sweet Sewage! **Canadian Geographic**, Feb. 1989. On the ecological importance of sewage treatment ponds to a wide variety of wildlife.
- Middle Island's Hidden Treasures. **Seasons**, Fall, 1992. Article and photos depicting flora and fauna of an uninhabited island in Lake Erie.
- In Search of Sclater's Monal. Dec.1994. **Birders Journal**
- Lake Rana, Buru Island. Dec. 1995. **Birders Journal**

#### Publications: Scientific Papers:

- Richards, James. T. White, Y.R. Tymstra. 2001 Checklist of the Birds of Nunavut. **Birders Journal** Feb. 2002
- Tymstra, Y.R., 1993. Some bird observations from the Lower Apsuwa, East Nepal. **Forktail** 8 (1993): pp.53-64
- Tymstra, Y.R., 1992. White-winged Tern: New to Ontario. **Ontario Birds** 10:3. pp.81-86.
- Tymstra, Y.R., 1993. Some bird observations from Pulau Buru, Indonesia. Indonesian Ornithological Society. qq, **A Guide to the Birds of Wallacea**, 1997.
- McRae, R.D., Y.R. Tymstra, and S. Scholten, 1993. Notes on Birds Observed at Netitishee Point, Southern James Bay. **Ontario Birds** 11:1. pp.11-17
- Tymstra, Y.R., 1995. Bird Observations from Trodely Island, James Bay, NWT. April, 1996, **Ontario Birds** 14:1 pp 10-14
- Tymstra, Y.R. 1996. Some bird observations from Central Bhutan, May 1994. **Forktail** 12 (1996): 49-60.
- Tymstra, Y.R. 1997 Bird Observations from some Southeastern James Bay Islands, N.W.T. **Ontario Birds** 15:3. pp.108-115