

## **MAUREEN GOSLING**

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### **Producer/Director**

MAUREEN GOSLING has been a documentary filmmaker for more than thirty years and is best known for her twenty-year collaboration with acclaimed independent director, Les Blank. Gosling has also been sought after as an editor, working with such directors as Jed Riffe, Tom Weidlinger, Amie Williams, Shakti Butler (*The Way Home*), Ashley James (*Bomba: Dancing the Drum*) and Pam Rorke Levy (*San Francisco's Neighborhoods: The Mission District*). Her work has often focused on themes of people and their cultural values, music as cultural expression and the changing gender roles of men and women. Her films have been seen in countless film festivals around the world, on national public and cable television, on television in Europe, Australia and Asia, and have been distributed widely to educational institutions.

Gosling's own film, *Blossoms of Fire*, a feature documentary filmed and edited completely on 16mm, represents her debut as a Producer/Director. The film is a celebratory tribute to the Isthmus Zapotec people of southern Oaxaca, Mexico. *Blossoms of Fire*, an Intrépidas Productions release, has garnered rave reviews, charming audiences from San Diego to Marseille. The film won the Coral Award for Best Documentary by a Non-Latino Director at the Havana International Film Festival and was broadcast on HBO Latino.

As a director/producer, Maureen Gosling is developing two new film projects. *Bamako Chic, The Women Cloth Dyers of Mali*, co-produced with Maxine Downs, explores through the stories of five women, the cultural significance of textiles and cloth to West Africans and the impact that global economic policies, such as micro-credit programs, have on Malian women's lives. *No Mouse Music: The Story of Chris Strachwitz and Arhoolie Records* is being co-produced with Chris Simon. It tells the immigrant success story of record producer Chris Strachwitz who fulfilled his dream of recording the vibrant, authentic regional musical traditions of the United States.

As an editor, Gosling is currently one of four editors on the four-part U.S. public television series to be released in 2006, *California and the American Dream*, produced by Jed Riffe and three other producers. Her program, entitled *California's "Lost" Tribes* focuses on the controversial rise of Indian casinos and its impact on the lives of Native Americans and the state of California.

Gosling edited three films directed by Tom Weidlinger: *Heart of Congo*, a new one-hour film on the challenges faced by a health aid organization working in Congo; *Boys Will Be Men*, a one-hour film on the socialization of boys in the United States, broadcast on public television; and the feature documentary *A Dream in Hanoi*, on a unique US-Vietnamese production of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in Vietnam. She edited *Fallon: Deadly Oasis*, directed by Amie Williams, on the town of Fallon, Nevada, which has been suffering a rash of childhood leukemia cases. The film was recently on PBS' POV Series.

Previously Gosling was a partner in Flower Films with Les Blank, as co-filmmaker on a dozen of the twenty 16mm films they made together. She was editor and/or sound recordist on their films on Cajun and Zydeco music, Polish American polka culture, Serbian-American music, New Orleans Mardi Gras and parade traditions, Cuban music in Cuba and New York, Texas-Mexican border music, the delights of garlic and more. *Burden of Dreams* (on the tribulations of German director Werner Herzog shooting his feature *Fitzcarraldo* in the Peruvian Amazon), the team's best known film, received a British Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 1983; was broadcast nationwide on P.B.S.; and was on 12 U.S. critics' Top Ten List of the Best Films of 1982. Gosling was nominated for Best Editing by The American Cinema Editors for *Burden of Dreams*.

Gosling's films with Les Blank have been shown:

- On Television

National and local PBS in the United States, as well as BRAVO, the Learning Channel and The Discovery Channel cable stations. The BBC and Channel 4 in Britain have broadcast all of the films. Most of the films have been aired in Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Finland, France, Korea, Australia, China, the Netherlands.

- In the Following Retrospectives

1995 Tribute at the San Francisco International Film Festival.  
1992 Monica Theatre, Santa Monica, California; Vienna Film Festival, Austria.  
1991 Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla, California.  
1990 Augsburg Independent Film Days, Augsburg, Germany.  
1989 Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla, California.  
1986 Cinemathèque Française, Paris.  
1985 Univ. of California, Los Angeles; Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.  
1984 Honolulu Academy of Arts; Cineteca Nacional, Mexico City.  
1983 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; University of Kansas; Cinemateca Uruguayo, Montevideo; Cinemateca Nacional, Quito, Ecuador; Cineteca Distrital, Bogotá, Colombia  
1979 Museum of Modern Art, New York; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

In 1996 Gosling was an Editing Instructor in the Cinema Department at San Francisco State University, Fall Semester. She taught Editing and Filmmaking workshops at Film Arts Foundation and the Independent Feature Project in 1998, 1992 and 1990. She served on the Board of Cine Acción, a Latino film organization from 1996-2002. She received a BA in Social Anthropology from the University of Michigan in 1972.