

BALCONY RELEASING PRESENTS
A PAT AND PAT PRODUCTION

FINDING JOE

A FILM BY PATRICK TAKAYA SOLOMON

BASED ON THE TEACHINGS OF JOSEPH CAMPBELL

(USA, 2011, 80min)

www.findingjoethemovie.com

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FINDING JOE SHORT SYNOPSIS

FINDING JOE is an exploration of famed Mythologist Joseph Campbell's studies and their continuing impact on our culture. Through interviews with visionaries from a variety of fields interwoven with enactments of classic tales by a sweet and motley group of kids, the film navigates the stages of what Campbell dubbed The Hero's Journey: the challenges, the fears, the dragons, the battles, and the return home as a changed person. Rooted in deeply personal accounts and timeless stories, **FINDING JOE** shows how Campbell's work is relevant and essential in today's world and how it provides a narrative for how to live a fully realized life—or as Campbell would simply state, how to “follow your bliss”.

ABOUT JOSEPH CAMPBELL

While studying myths, and writing on the human experience, Joseph Campbell was a professor at Sarah Lawrence College for 38 years. His seminal work, “A Hero with a Thousand Faces” was published in 1949 and greatly influenced generations of artists and writers, including Bob Dylan, Jim Morrison, Stanley Kubrick, George Lucas, Jerry Garcia and others.

ABOUT *FINDING JOE*

A first-year law student drops out of school, discovers a passion for coaching Little League, then goes on to build a successful company that builds websites for amateur sports teams. An overweight young man smacks his head on the ice, has an epiphany about the reason for his weight gain and resolves to get his life back on track. An 11-year-old boy survives a plane crash that kills his father, then years later turns the painful memories into a best-selling book. Random life events? Or steps in a unique journey that cuts across the boundaries of time, race and culture and in which each of us is the hero—if we can just wake up to this realization?

FINDING JOE is a rich and inspiring exploration of famed mythologist Joseph Campbell's (1904–1987) pioneering studies into what he dubbed “the hero's journey” and its continuing impact on our lives and culture. Directed by Patrick Takaya Solomon, the documentary spotlights Campbell and his hugely influential work through interviews with a who's who of writers, artists, entrepreneurs and visionaries including author and public speaker Deepak Chopra, Academy Award®-winning screenwriter Akiva Goldsman (*A Beautiful Mind*), director Catherine Hardwicke (*Twilight*) and surfing legend Laird Hamilton.

Interwoven with the interviews are delightful enactments of classic tales by a troupe of kids, and clips of movies as varied as *Star Wars*, *The Matrix* and *Rocky* that map the hero's journey—the essential pattern or “monomyth” Campbell saw at the heart of the world's numerous myths and narratives. The film itself is structured around the different stages of the hero's journey—the challenges, fears, dragons, battles and the all-important return home as a changed person with a gift to share with the larger community.

For example, philosopher and entrepreneur Brian Johnson recalls a traumatic time in his life when he realized he did not want to work in the corporate world. He dropped out of law school, burned his

résumé, ended a five-year relationship, and moved back in with his mom. After months of languishing, he took up coaching Little League—a passion he'd always wanted to pursue. From there, riding the Internet wave, he hatched an idea to serve families and amateur sports leagues by creating a company that today builds websites for millions of teams. “Magical things happen that we couldn't have imagined,” says Johnson, who has since created a string of successful companies. In Campbell's terms, he had answered “the call to adventure”—a key stage of the hero's journey.

Screenwriter Akiva Goldsman (*A Beautiful Mind*) tells of the anguish he suffered as a result of being abused as a child, but also of the wisdom that came from facing that dragon. “From that most difficult thing also came a kind of understanding,” he says. “It's not what happens to us; it's what we do with it.” And Fleetwood Mac founder Mick Fleetwood tells how he left school to pursue his love of drumming. “It's not about being successful, it's not about feeding your family,” he says. Rather, to use a beloved Campbell axiom explored in the film, it's about “following your bliss.”

What blossoms over the course of **FINDING JOE** is an awareness that Campbell's work is as relevant and essential in today's world as ever. More than a tool for dissecting myths and stories, it provides a narrative for how to live a fully realized life. And one need not take extraordinary risks or experience dramatic physical adventures to benefit from it. Says another of the film's interviewees, philosopher and world-famous Tai Chi master Chungliang Al Huang: “It doesn't have to be high and mighty and fantastic. You can have a very simple life and still go through a similar pattern.”

The film also features interviews with actress Rashida Jones (“The Office”), Joseph Campbell Foundation president Robert Walter, author and educator Sir Ken Robinson ([Out of Our Minds: Learning to be Creative](#)), author Robin Sharma ([The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari](#)), author and playwright Lynne Kaufman ([The Couch](#)), author Alan Cohen ([The Dragon Doesn't Live Here Anymore](#)), author Joseph Marshall III ([To You We Shall Return: Lessons About our Planet from the Lakota](#)), the Reverend Rebecca Armstrong, Syracuse University professor of religion David L. Miller, Zen Master David Loy and author Norman Ollestad ([Crazy for the Storm: A Memoir of Survival](#)).

Producer and director Patrick Takaya Solomon says Campbell's book The Hero with a Thousand Faces has affected him both personally and professionally. "Joseph Campbell's work has influenced every major turning point in my life, including my decision to become a director," he says.

Solomon credits the popular PBS series "The Power of Myth," a collaboration between Campbell and Bill Moyers, with inspiring him to make the film. "I wanted to share Campbell's work with a broad audience and felt that the material in the series would be easier for audiences to grasp if it was told more visually—for example, with story re-enactments or simple visual icons that related more to modern life. Once I came to that realization, I felt compelled to make the film."

Solomon began his career shooting action sports films on snowboarding, motocross and skateboarding, including *Totally Board* and *Crusty Demons of Dirt*. He has spent the past 12 years directing commercials and began work on **FINDING JOE** in February 2009.

INTERVIEW SUBJECTS

Deepak Chopra M.D.

Best Selling Author/ Co-Founder: Chopra Center for Well Being

Co-founder of the Chopra Center for Wellbeing, Deepak Chopra is a world-renowned authority in the field of mind-body healing, a best-selling author, and the founder of the Chopra Center for Wellbeing. Heralded by *Time Magazine* as the "poet-prophet of alternative medicine," he is also the host of the popular weekly Wellness Radio program on Sirius/XM Stars. A global force in the field of human empowerment, Dr. Chopra is the prolific author of more than fifty-five books, including fourteen bestsellers on mind-body health, quantum mechanics, spirituality, and peace. Dr. Chopra's books have been published in more than eighty-five languages.

Mick Fleetwood

Founder, Fleetwood Mac

Co-founder of the enormously successful band Fleetwood Mac, Mick Fleetwood has played on some of the most successful rock albums of all time through his turbulent career. Fleetwood started as a drummer in John Mayall's Bluesbreakers. In 1967, with fellow Bluesbreakers John McVie and Peter Green, he formed Fleetwood Mac, who gained a reputation as one of England's finest blues groups. The band soon hired English singer Christine Perfect and Californian singer-songwriters (and couple) Lindsay Buckingham and Stevie Nicks. Soon, they were back on form, with a more commercial sound. Their 1975 album, *Fleetwood Mac* was big, but nothing compared to its 1977 follow-up, *Rumours*. Containing the classics *Don't Stop*, *Go Your Own Way* and *Dreams*, it shot the band into superstardom. His band's record became, and remained, one of the biggest albums ever. Fleetwood's solo career began with *The Visitor* in 1981 and *Its Not Me* in 1983. In 1992, Bill Clinton hailed Fleetwood Mac as his favorite band, and, after using *Don't Stop* as his campaign song, the band preformed for Clinton's inauguration.

Tony Hawk

Professional Skateboarder

According to *Newsweek* magazine, Tony Hawk is the "most famous skateboarder, like, ever." In the 1980s and 1990s, Hawk almost single-handedly transformed skateboarding from a kids' parking-lot pastime into a respected sport. He won virtually every skateboarding competition he entered, and before he was twenty, he was considered to be the number one vertical skateboarder in the world. Hawk was equally talented off the ramp. His business ventures and product endorsements have made him a very wealthy man, and have also kept him in the spotlight. As skateboarding icon Stacy Peralta told *Sports Illustrated*, "Tony is the first skateboarder who has given the world a face to put on the sport. He has become a part of American pop culture."

Rashida Jones

Actress/Screenwriter

Rashida Jones is an actress, writer and director. Her talent and intelligence, combined with being the attractive daughter of composer Quincy Jones and actress Peggy Lipton, contributed to her establishment in the industry. Jones' film credits include *Now You Know* (2002), *Death of a Dynasty* (2003), *Little Black Book* (2004), *The Ten* (2007), *Brief Interviews with Hideous Men* (2009), and *Life in Flight* (2009). In addition to playing Zooey in *I Love You, Man* (2009) and *The Social Network* (2010). Television appearances include *Freaks and Geeks* (2000), *Chappelle's Show* (2003-2004), *NY-LON* (2004), *Unhitched* (2008), and *Parks and Recreation* (2009). She also played saleswoman Karen Filipelli in NBC's *The Office*.

Laird Hamilton

Professional Athlete

One of today's best-known big wave surfers, Laird Hamilton made an unusual entrance into the world. He was born underwater in an experimental tank called a "bathysphere." He grew up in Hawaii, learning to surf at an early age. While he avoided surfing competitively, he became well regarded in the sport for taking on monster waves, some as high as 80 feet tall and for performing ground-breaking stunts, like aerial 360s. In 1992, Hamilton helped develop the method of using jet skis and other personal watercrafts to allow a surfer to tow in to bigger and faster waves—waves that he or she could not catch by paddling alone. Later he created foil surfing, which involves adding the keel from a hydrofoil to a surfboard for surfing in the deep ocean.

Robert Walter

President, Joseph Campbell Foundation

In 1979—after over a decade as an arts educator and production manager, director, and playwright on Broadway, off-Broadway, and in major regional theaters—Bob "retired" from the professional theater to serve as editorial director of renowned mythologist Joseph Campbell's *Historical Atlas of World Mythology*. At Campbell's death (1987), Bob was named his literary executor, completing unfinished portions of that opus and supervising the posthumous publication of Volume I (two books) and Volume II (three). In 1991, Bob and Campbell's widow, Jean Erdman, founded the Joseph Campbell Foundation, and Bob was named its executive director. As executive editor of the *Collected Works of Joseph Campbell*—in print, audio, and video—he continues to oversee publication of Campbell's oeuvre. He was appointed President of the Joseph Campbell Foundation in 1998.

Robin Sharma

Best Selling Author/ Founder: Sharma Leadership International

Robin Sharma is the globally celebrated author of 11 international bestselling books on leadership including *The Leader Who Had No Title*, the phenomenal #1 blockbuster that is inspiring a movement around the idea that “Now, anyone - in any organization - can show Leadership”. His work has been published in over 60 countries and in nearly 70 languages, making him one of the most widely read authors in the world. He shot to fame with *The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari*, which has topped international bestseller lists and sold millions of copies. Robin is the founder of Sharma Leadership International Inc., a global consultancy that helps people in organizations Lead Without a Title. Clients comprise of many of the FORTUNE 500 including Microsoft, GE, NIKE, FedEx and IBM. Organizations such as NASA, IMD Business School, Yale University and The Young President's Organization are also SLI clients. Robin is a former litigation lawyer who holds two law degrees including a Masters of Law (Dalhousie Law School).

Catherine Hardwicke

Director, *Twilight*

A prolific art director and production designer in the 1980s and 1990s, Catherine Hardwicke made an impressive leap to the director's chair with 2003's harrowing *Thirteen*. Inspired by the turbulent life of an ex-boyfriend's teenage daughter, the indie drama about a young girl's descent into a dangerous lifestyle was widely praised by critics and audiences alike for its gritty honesty. Hardwicke followed this with *Lords of Dogtown* (2005), an unsentimental look at teen skateboarders in the early eighties. In 2008, she tackled the biggest project of her directorial career with *Twilight* a Gothic romance about a schoolgirl's budding relationship with a young, brooding vampire. Despite the fantastical nature of the subject matter, Hardwicke brought her trademark realism to the project; a combination that was the key to her status as one of Hollywood's most challenging and independent-minded directors.

Sir Ken Robinson Ph.D.

Best Selling Author/Educator

Sir Ken Robinson is an internationally recognized leader in the development of education, creativity and innovation. He works with governments, international agencies, Fortune 500 companies and some of the world's leading cultural organizations. In 1998, he led a national commission on creativity, education and the economy for the UK Government. *All Our Futures: Creativity, Culture and Education* (The Robinson Report) was published to wide acclaim in 1999. He was the central figure in developing a strategy for creative and economic development as part of the Peace Process in Northern Ireland. He was been honored with the Athena Award of the Rhode Island School of Design for services to the arts and education; the Peabody Medal for contributions to the arts and culture in the United States, the LEGO Prize for international achievement in education, and the Benjamin Franklin Medal of the Royal Society of Arts for outstanding contributions to cultural relations between the United Kingdom and the United States. In 2005, he was named as one of *Time/Fortune/CNN's* 'Principal Voices'. In 2003, he received a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II for his services to the arts.

Akiva Goldsman

Producer/Academy Award Winning Screenwriter

Screenwriter Akiva Goldsman was born in Brooklyn, NY, where his mother and father were both child psychologists. Goldsman graduated from Wesleyan University in 1983, where one of his classmates was Paul Schiff; they lived together in a student house where the misadventures of the residents helped to inspire the campus comedy *P.C.U.*, which Schiff produced. After graduating from Wesleyan, Goldsman studied creative writing at New York University and later took up screenwriting. Goldsman's first screenplay to be produced was for the comedy-drama *Indian Summer*, his experiences with his parents helped to inform his second produced screenplay, *Silent Fall*, which concerned a psychologist dealing with an autistic child who witnessed a crime. Goldsman adaptations for screen include *The Client*, *A Time to Kill*, *Batman Forever* and *Batman & Robin*. In 2001, Goldsman won both a Golden Globe and an Oscar for his screenplay for the film *A Beautiful Mind*, based on the biography of John Nash written by Sylvia Nasar.

Chungliang Ai Huang

Founder-President, Living Tao Foundation/Tai Chi Master

Chungliang Ai Huang is Founder/President of Living Tao Foundation. He has been called “a master in the arts of living” and “a sage for the modern age. Huang uses a wide range of tools to inspire his students: brush calligraphy, music, poetry, mythic story telling, and more. Fundamental to his work are the Five Elements, Tao Te Ching, I Ching and other classics in Taoist, Zen Buddhist and Confucian studies. If you spend any time at all with Chungliang, you immediately understand why so many people around the world choose to study with him. His passion, charm, intelligence, tireless energy, and child-like enthusiasm are infectious.

Rebecca Armstrong

Reverend

Dr. Rebecca Armstrong is a minister in the liberal religious tradition, dedicated to the free and conscious search for truth. She is a graduate of the University of Chicago Divinity School, Meadville-Lombard Unitarian Seminary and The Chicago Theological Seminary. She is ordained and has practiced as a Humanist Minister since 1992. After serving several Chicago area churches she chose to establish herself as a consulting minister in private practice, serving the spiritual needs of those without church affiliation. Most of her clients describe themselves as “spiritual but not religious.” Reverend Rebecca works with individuals, couples and families as a spiritual counselor to create specialized rituals of transformation for healing, overcoming grief, house blessings, transitions into death, life review and spiritual legacies.

David L. Miller Ph.D.**Watson-Ledden Professor of Religion, Emeritus, Syracuse U.**

David L. Miller, Ph.D., is the Watson-Ledden Professor of Religion, Emeritus, at Syracuse University and is a retired core faculty member at Pacifica Graduate Institute in Santa Barbara. Since 1963, David has worked at the intersections of religions and mythologies, literature and literary theory, and depth psychology. A multi-award winning teacher, David has shared his brilliance and humor with learners ranging from undergraduate students to professional psychologists as a teacher and guest speaker throughout the US, Europe, and Asia. From 1975 until 1988 he was a member of the Eranos Circle in Switzerland and he lectured at the Eranos Conference nine times during that period.

Norman Ollestad**Best Selling Author**

Norman Ollestad is an American author of contemporary fiction and non-fiction. Ollestad is also an avid surfer and skier. At the age of eleven, he was the only survivor of a plane crash that claimed the life of his father. He wrote about the tragedy in his 2009 New York Times Bestseller *Crazy For The Storm: A Memoir Of Survival*. Optioned by Warner Brothers the film adaptation is in preproduction. Ollestad is currently working on a new book.

Joseph Marshall III**Author**

Born and raised on the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation, Joseph Marshall III is an enrolled member of the Sicangu Lakota (Rosebud Sioux) tribe, and his first language is Lakota. It was in that environment that he learned the ancient tradition of oral storytelling. Joseph writes full time, having published nine nonfiction works, including the best selling, *The Lakota Way*. He was a technical advisor and narrator for the Turner Network Television (TNT) and Dreamworks Television six-part mini-series *Into the West*, as well as playing the on-screen role of "Loved by the Buffalo" a Lakota medicine man. He is also a practitioner of primitive Lakota archery, having learned from his maternal grandfather the art of hand crafting bows and arrows. As a speaker and lecturer he has appeared in many venues throughout the United States and in countries such as France, Sweden and Siberia.

Brian Johnson

Creator, Philosophersnotes.com

Brian is the Philosopher & CEO of en*theos--a company that creates cool stuff to help people live optimally. Projects include The en*theos Academy for Optimal Living, PhilosophersNotes and Blissitations. He is also the author of *A Philosopher's Notes* and his Big Ideas column runs in every issue of *Experience Life* magazine. In his past lives, Brian raised over \$8 million to create two leading social networking sites: eteamz (sold to The Active Network (NYSE: ACTV) in 2000) & Zaadz (sold to Gaiam (Nasdaq: GAIA) in 2007). He graduated with Phi Beta Kappa honors from UCLA.

Alan Cohen

Best Selling Author

Alan Cohen is the author of 24 popular inspirational books and CD's, including the best-selling *The Dragon Doesn't Live Here Anymore*, the award-winning *A Deep Breath of Life*, and the classic *Are You as Happy as Your Dog?* He is a contributing writer for the *New York Times* #1 bestselling series *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, and his books have been translated into 24 foreign languages. His work has been featured on Oprah.com and in *USA Today*, *The Washington Post* and *101 Top Experts*. Alan's radio program *Get Real* is broadcast weekly on Hay House Radio, and his monthly column *From the Heart* is featured in magazines internationally.

Gay Hendricks Ph.D.

Best Selling Author/Co-Founder of the Hendricks Institute

Gay Hendricks, Ph.D., has served for more than 35 years as one of the major contributors to the fields of relationship transformation and body-mind therapies. Along with his wife, Dr. Kathlyn Hendricks, Gay is the co-author of many bestsellers, including *Conscious Loving* and *Five Wishes*. He is the author of 33 books, including *The Corporate Mystic*, *Conscious Living* and *The Big Leap*. Dr. Hendricks received his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Stanford in 1974. After a twenty-one-year career as a professor of Counseling Psychology at University Colorado, he and Kathlyn founded The Hendricks Institute, which is based in Ojai, California and offers seminars worldwide. He has appeared on more than 500 radio and television shows, including OPRAH, CNN, CNBC, 48 HOURS and others.

Lynne Kaufman

Award Winning Playwright

Lynne Kaufman is the author of eleven full-length plays which have been produced in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington D.C. and Louisville at such theatres as The Magic Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville and Theatreworks. Her plays have won many awards including the NEA/Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays and Theatreworks Best New Play in California. Her short stories have appeared in *Cosmopolitan*, *Redbook*, and *McCalls*.

David Loy Ph.D.

Author/Philosopher/Zen Master

David Robert Loy is a professor, writer, and Zen teacher in the Sanbo Kyodan tradition of Japanese Zen Buddhism. He is a prolific author, whose essays and books have been translated into many languages. His articles appear regularly in the pages of major journals such as *Tikkun* and Buddhist magazines including *Tricycle*, *Turning Wheel*, *Shambhala Sun* and *Buddhadharma*, as well as in a variety of scholarly journals. David lectures nationally and internationally on various topics, focusing primarily on the encounter between Buddhism and modernity: what each can learn from the other. From 1990 until 2005 he was professor in the Faculty of International Studies, Bunkyo University, Chigasaki, Japan. In January 2006 he became the Besl Family Chair Professor of Ethics/Religion and Society with Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, a visiting position that ended in September 2010. From January to August 2009 he was a research scholar with the Institute for Advanced Study, the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. From September through December 2011 he is in residence at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado, with a Lenz Fellowship.

FINDING JOE
Cast

Interviews

Deepak Chopra
Mick Fleetwood
Tony Hawk
Rashida Jones
Laird Hamilton
Robert Walter
Robin Sharma
Catherine Hardwicke
Sir Ken Robinson
Akiva Goldsman
Chungliang Al Huang
Rebecca Armstrong
David L. Miller
Brian Johnson
Norman Ollestad
Joseph Marshall III
Alan Cohen
Gay Hendricks
Lynne Kaufman
David Loy

The Finding Joe Theatre Troupe

Declan Solomon
Austin Wilson
Thomas Green
Ava Lancaster
Noah Ollestad
Benjamin Green
Coltrane Marcus
Benjamin Andrews
Sam Andrews
Carter Begel
Mason White
Jordan Wilson
Luca Gallo

FINDING JOE
Production Credits

Executive Producers
Patricia Frazier and Patrick Solomon

Written, Produced, and Directed by
Patrick Takaya Solomon

Consulting Producer
Kate Churchill

Editor
Paul Forte

Director of Photography
Ezra Migel

Additional Cinematography
Christopher Gallo

Music Composed by
Isaac Spiritis

Additional Cinematography
Matt Goodman, Shawn Hiatt,
Tom Derry, Hector Mata

Camera Assistants
Paul Saunders, Wayne Goring,
Robert Pittman, Micah Bisagni

Grip
Joe Lara

Bali Producer
iah Puspusari

Jerusalem Producer
Sharon Shaveet

Jerusalem Camera Assist
Yaniv Zada

Jerusalem Driver
Mustafa Nabusi
Additional Editing
Charles Lee

On line Editor
Russell August Anderson

Digital Effects
Russell August Anderson

Digital Color Artist
Marshal Plante

Graphic Design
Suzanne Kiley

Assistant Editors
Alexandria Zech
Daniel Guevara

Re-Recording Artist
Greg Conway

Music Supervisor
Greg Danylyshyn
Go Big Entertainment
Lori Vincent

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Footage of Tony Hawk Provided By 900 Films

Additional Footage of Tony Hawk Provided By
Jamie Mosberg/ Digital Action Sports Network

Footage of Laird Hamilton Provided By
Bam Man Productions

Legal
Mark Vega
Michael Donaldson
Donaldson and Callif

SPECIAL THANKS
The Joseph Campbell Foundation
Stephen Geringer
David Kudler
Gerald McDermott
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Geoff Mclean
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Jessica Thomas
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