for November 18, 2020
Looking Good, San Diego
News 8 Throwback: Lights, Camera, Action!
The history of film and television production in San Diego

SAN DIEGO — America’s Finest City may not boast the bright lights of Hollywood, but we’ve been home to our fair share of movie and television productions over the years. San Diego’s beautiful scenery and practically perfect climate have made it an ideal backdrop for everything from feature films to TV series. Our archives boast some of our moments in the spotlight and interviews with the stars and crew who made them happen.

From the ‘Squeaky Wheel’ desk
WASHINGTON—The Small Business Administration will begin forgiving loans granted to small-business owners under the Paycheck Protection Program, the Treasury Department said, following banks’ and borrowers’ complaints that the process had been bogged down.

Since it launched an online portal for loan forgiveness in early August, the Small Business Administration has received more than 96,000 applications from businesses seeking to have their loans forgiven—but none had been approved, William Manger, SBA’s chief of staff and associate administrator, told House lawmakers.

More than 100 trade groups, including the American Bankers Association, the Independent Community Bankers of America and the Consumer Bankers Association, sent a letter to lawmakers on Sept. 17 urging automatic forgiveness for PPP loans of $150,000 or less.
“We’ve sprung a leak.”
Prop 22 passes in California, exempting Uber and Lyft from classifying drivers as employees

(CNN) In a major win for gig economy companies, California voters have passed a ballot measure to exempt firms like Uber and Lyft from having to classify their gig workers in the state as employees rather than as independent contractors.

"California has spoken and millions of voters joined their voices with the hundreds of thousands of drivers who want independence plus benefits," the Yes on 22 campaign said. "Prop 22 will protect drivers' preference to be independent contractors with the flexibility to work when, where, and how long they want."
What does this mean for AB5?

Not much yet, but the dam may be cracking a bit. According to CNBC:

*Independent contractors across the country might breathe a sigh of relief in that California voters sent a message to the state’s legislators that AB 5, the law which was enacted to classify freelancers as employees, is widely unpopular. Other states, including New Jersey, Massachusetts, New York and Illinois, have been among those considering crafting legislation to force companies to deem freelancers as employees. Now those states can more clearly see the risks, experts say.*

Stay Vigilant
‘Chicago Fire’ Suspends Production For 2 Weeks After Positive COVID-19 Tests

Chicago Fire has shut down production following positive COVID-19 tests, ET has learned. The news comes just weeks after the show's spin-off, Chicago Med, halted filming due to a positive COVID-19 test.

Several members of the Chicago Fire production team tested positive for the coronavirus as part of the show's regular safety protocol. Filming of season nine has subsequently been paused for 14 days.

ET has learned production was halted out of an abundance of caution, due to the infected crew members interacting with cast and fellow crew members.
Hollywood has a Disability
On screen and on stage, disability continues to be depicted in outdated, cliched ways

The #MeToo and Black Lives Matter movements have forced Hollywood and other artists and filmmakers to rethink their subject matter and casting practices. However, despite an increased sensitivity to gender and race representation in popular culture, disabled Americans are still awaiting their national (and international) movement.

“Disability drag” – casting able-bodied actors in the roles of characters with disabilities – has been hard to dislodge from its Oscar-worthy appeal. Since 1947, out of 59 nominations for disabled characters, 27 won an Academy Award – about a 50% win rate.
On screen and on stage, disability continues to be depicted in outdated, cliched ways

Typically, the disabled characters are limited to four types:

“magical cripple,” - Marvel’s “Daredevil” character
“evil cripple,” – Mini-Me from “Austin Powers”
“inspirational cripple” – Stephen Hawkings “Theory of Everything”
“redemptive cripple.” – Billy Kwan “The Year of Living Dangerously,”

Strides are being made – “Peanut Butter Falcon,” and “Breaking Bad” but more complex, more sophisticated stories and representations need to replace the simplistic, outdated and cliched tropes that have been consistently rewarded at the Oscars.
TVs Likely to Lead 8K Content Push
SMPTE 2020 panel recommends content creators shoot in 8K now

Even though 4K is still establishing itself with consumers, the 8K revolution is coming, with TV the likely avenue for most viewers to get their first taste of it. This was one of the key takeaways from the 8K Association panel “The Creative Perspective on 8K” during SMPTE2020.

When 8K distribution and display technology is widely available, audiences are going to demand content that can take full advantage of the available resolution. If you shoot in 4K or even 2K now, that will be more difficult to upconvert to 8K later on.

As Bruce Markoe, senior vice president of post-production/operations and DMR at IMAX, puts it, “skimping on resolution doesn’t serve you well downstream.”
Aimee, what you gonna do?
Aimee la Jolie knows a lot of SH*T (and we love it!)

Go to Google and enter this search string:

aimee la joie Sh*t videos

Here you will find a listing of all her very funny and spot-on takes on the stuff people across our industry say.

It’s a great way to be entertained while you’re stuck on a Zoom call!