Symposium
Filmmaking, Property Rights, and Public Policy

Join award-winning filmmaker and producer of the feature film Little Pink House

Ted Balaker, co-founder, Korchula Productions

in a discussion and conversation about the making of Little Pink House, Hollywood, the future of making “movies that matter,” and the policy implications of one of the most significant U.S. Supreme Court decisions of the last thirty years.

When: Tuesday, February 4, 2020
Where: Askew Student Life Cinema, Florida State University, Tallahassee
Times: 4:30 pm, “Making Movies That Matter: A Dialogue and Conversation with Award-Winning Film Producer and Director Ted Balaker” (APA CM event 1.25)
6:00 pm, movie screening: Little Pink House (APA CM 1.75)
9:00 pm, reception

Little Pink House is a narrative film featuring the story of Susette Kelo, the woman behind one of the most influential property rights cases of the 20th century. Kelo fought to prevent her home from being seized by her local government to clear a path for redevelopment in what would become a precedent setting decision by the U.S. Supreme Court in Kelo v. City of New London.

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DeVoe L. Moore Center (FSU)
The James Madison Institute
FSU College of Social Sciences & Public Policy
Federalist Society (FSU Law School)
The past decade has seen a significant rise in the number of feature films explicitly focused on promoting social change through visual storytelling. These movies have been produced by major and independent studios and focus on narratives intended to raise awareness about social issues, motivate the public to take action, and sometimes promote specific policy objectives. How has this trend influenced the filmmaking process? What tensions are created between the development of the story and the facts on which the story may be grounded? How have these films fared in the marketplace? Does the industry itself favor certain types of films and values? These questions and more will be the focus of this conversation with award-winning film producer and director Ted Balaker, the co-founder of Korchula Productions, “a film and new media production company devoted to making important ideas entertaining.” Learn about the film development, production, and distribution process, how the values of producers, screenwriters, directors influence the movies they make, how filmmakers resolve potential conflicts between different interests, and what audiences should understand and know about movie making when they watch them in the theater or while streaming from on-line platforms. Opportunity for Q&A from the audience is built into the program.

Moderator, Samuel R. Staley, PhD., economist, urban policy expert, and author of 13 nonfiction and fiction books, including Contemporary Film and Economics (Routledge 2018).

Keynote, Ted Balaker, Founding Partner, Korchula Productions, Culver City, California
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Movie Screening: *Little Pink House*

February 4, 2020, 6:00 pm to 7:45 pm
Askew Student Life Center Cinema, Florida State University

**Professional development:**
American Planning Association, #9194061, CM 1.75
Florida Bar Association, CLE pending

**Background:** *Kelo v. City of New London* (2005) was one of the significant cases decided by the U.S. Supreme Court in recent decades and has become essential reading in law schools across the country. The case involved a homeowner, Susette Kelo, who resisted the attempts by her local government to seize her home and property through eminent domain in order to clear the way for private economic development. Eminent domain is a power given to government through the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. and state Constitutions to “take” private property for public use. The Supreme Court ruled (5-4) in favor of the city, arguing that economic development was a public purpose that justified seizing Kelo’s home and the homes of others in her neighborhood. The ruling triggered a nationwide movement to rein in eminent domain laws, including Florida.

*Little Pink House* is a dramatization of Susette Kelo’s fight based on the book of the same name. Written and directed by Courtney Moorehead Balaker, the *Village Voice* called the movie “like Erin Brockovich for eminent domain.” Patrick Hipes, writing in *Deadline Hollywood*, says academy award nominee “Catherine Keener nails the combination of anger, grace and attitude that made Susette Kelo a nationally known crusader against eminent domain abuse.” Stephen Farber says “The bloom line -- it hits a nerve” in *The Hollywood Reporter*, bringing “unmistakable timeliness,” “excellent performances,” and an “urgency to a fascinating, underexplored theme.”

“A wonderfully acted story of regular guys battling political and corporate giants, *Little Pink House* is the sort of must-see movie that is rarely made in Hollywood’s current blockbuster-or-bust environment. And it’s all the more important not to miss by offering outstanding creative skill while speaking truth to power. It’s a crime thriller of sorts for grown-ups, and it’s all true….” Colin Covert, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*

An expert panel consisting of planners, attorneys, and urban policy experts will discuss the legacy and impact of the case immediately following the screening.

February 4, 2020, 7:45 pm to 9:00 pm
Askew Student Life Center Cinema, Florida State University

Professional development:
American Planning Association, #9194062, CM 1.25, L 1.25
Florida Bar Association, CLE pending

*Kelo v. City of New London* may be one of the most significant property rights cases to be taken up and decided by the U.S. Supreme Court over the last several decades. In the case, Susette Kelo attempted to prevent the City of New London from seizing her home for private development through eminent domain, the process by which governments take private property for public use. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of the City of New London. The ruling triggered a rare public backlash that spurred eminent domain law reform in 40 states, including Florida. What triggered this grassroots revolt? How have these reforms impact urban redevelopment and private property rights protections? What specific elements did the *Kelo* case bring to the public discussion that prompted such significant public response? What lessons, if any, can be drawn from this case about the limits of local government power, legislative responses, and the future of private property rights at the federal and state levels? This highly interactive panel will explore these questions and include time for questions and answers from the audience.

**Moderator:** Sal Nuzzo, Vice President for Policy and Research, James Madison Institute

**Keynote:** Ted Balaker, Founding Partner, Korchula Productions

**Panelists**
- Mark Seidenfeld, JD, Patricia A. Dore Professor of Administrative Law, Florida State University College of Law
- Gary Van Landingham, PhD, Professor, Reubin O’ Askew Senior Practitioner in Residence, Askew School of Public Administration, Florida State University.
- Kenneth Metcalf, AICP, Director of Planning, Stearns Weaver Miller
Participant Bios (Alphabetical Order)

Ted Balaker is an award-winning filmmaker, journalist, and founding partner of Korchula Productions. Ted directed and produced the feature documentary *Can We Take a Joke?,* which examines the clash between comedy and outrage culture and features comedians such as Gilbert Gottfried and Penn Jillette. The film appeared on the iTunes “Top Docs” list for 10 months. It’s been lauded by the likes of *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Hollywood Reporter,* and inspired an episode of the hit FOX comedy *Family Guy.* Ted produced the feature film *Little Pink House* starring two-time Academy Award nominee Catherine Keener (*Get Out, Being John Malkovich, The 40-Year-Old Virgin*) and Emmy nominee Jeanne Tripplehorn (*Big Love, The Firm, Grey Gardens*). The film has been lauded by outlets like *The Hollywood Reporter, The San Francisco Chronicle,* and *Variety.* It has won 10 awards, and was the subject of a bipartisan congressional screening, the first of its kind since Steven Spielberg’s *Lincoln.* Ted is a founding producer of Reason TV, which received the Templeton Foundation’s “Innovative Media Award” during his tenure, and is co-creator of The Drew Carey Project, a series of documentary shorts hosted by Drew Carey. Ted is an executive producer on the feature documentary *Honor Flight,* which broke the Guinness World Record for largest film screening when it attracted an audience of more than 28,000 to its premiere. Ted began his media career with ABC Network News producing long-form specials on topics ranging from free speech to addiction. His written work has appeared in many publications including *The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, USA Today,* and *The Washington Post.*

Gary Van Landingham, PhD, is Professor, MPA Program Director, and the Reuben Askew Senior Practitioner in Residence with the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy at the Florida State University. Previously, he was the founding Director of the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative, which works in over 30 U.S. states and local governments to build their capacity to use rigorous evidence and economic analysis to direct resources to evidence-based programs. Before joining Pew, he served as Director of the Florida Legislature’s Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. He has over 35 years of experience in policy analysis and program evaluation at the state and local government levels.

Ken Metcalf joined Stearns Weaver Miller as the law firm’s Planning Director in 2014 following ten years as Planning Director for Greenberg Traurig. He holds a Masters Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from...
Florida State University and is a certified land planner with 35 years of professional experience, including 16 years with the Florida Department of Community Affairs. During his tenure with DCA he served as the Area of Critical State Concern Administrator at the Florida Keys field office and later served as Regional Administrator for the South Florida region where he directed each of the Department’s growth management programs, including comprehensive planning, Developments of Regional Impact, Areas of Critical State Concern, Federal Coastal Zone Consistency and specialized programs including multimodal transportation planning, hurricane evacuation modeling, manatee protection strategies and marina siting. Ken was actively involved in formulating growth management strategies and in administrative rulemaking, and served as the Department’s chief expert witness on complex compliance cases and on behalf of the Administration Commission in rulemaking challenges. He currently works with private and public sector clients on transactions, development projects, feasibility analysis, policy evaluation, and coastal redevelopment. His diverse practice ranges from planning and entitling some of Florida’s largest New Town developments, to working at the neighborhood level on infill and redevelopment sites, including CRA projects. Ken has served as an expert witness in more than 40 administrative and circuit court proceedings involving a variety of planning subjects, including takings, vested rights, s. 163.3215, consistency challenges, comprehensive plan compliance, DRI mitigation, aerial photograph interpretation and assessment of development impacts.

Sal Nuzzo is Vice President of Policy and Director of the Center for Economic Prosperity at the James Madison Institute in Tallahassee, Florida. A native of Connecticut, Sal has spent his career engaged in the public arena – as a consultant, business executive, and non-profit administrator. For more than a decade, he served in policy consulting roles with MGT of America and Evergreen Solutions, working on issues such as education delivery systems, public employee pensions, and public safety collective bargaining. Sal was Chief of Staff with The Florida State University’s Alumni Association, directing the operations and administration for FSU’s 300,000-plus strong alumni enterprise. Immediately prior to joining JMI, Sal directed the Chamber Foundation’s efforts as their Research and Public Policy Manager for the Florida Chamber Foundation, a division of the Florida Chamber of Commerce. Sal earned his B.S. in economics with a concentration in Public Policy from Florida State University while serving as an assistant legislative analyst with the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA).

Mark Seidenfeld, J.D., is the Patricia A. Dore Professor of Administrative Law at Florida State University’s College of Law. He is one of the country’s leading scholars on federal administrative law and author of one the most cited administrative law articles: “A Civic Republican Justification for
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the Bureaucratic State” (Harvard Law Review). He has also written specifically on Kelo vs. City of New London in the Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law (2008). Professor Seidenfeld focuses on how administrative law might be structured to facilitate agencies implementing deliberative democracy, with special attention to the law’s effect on the behavior and accountability of government institutions. He also has written about issues of constitutional law and legislation that bear on the interactions between the president, the executive branch generally, Congress and the courts. He has taught Administrative Law, Constitutional Law (Structure of Government), Legislation & Regulation, various courses on particular areas of regulation, including Regulation of Electric Power, Health Law & Policy, and Environmental Law, and Law & Economics. Professor Seidenfeld holds a JD from Stanford University, where he was a senior law review editor and was elected to the Order of the Coif. He also has an MA in theoretical physics from Brandeis University and a BA in physics from Reed College.

Samuel R. Staley, PhD, is director of the DeVoe Moore Center in the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy at Florida State University. He is also a film critic at the Independent Institute, a think tank with an international platform based in Oakland, California. Sam’s academic and professional expertise includes urban urban policy, economic development and redevelopment, social entrepreneurship, land use, and regulation. He has contributed as an economist to “friend of the court” briefs on several occasions, including the precedent setting eminent domain cases Kelo v New London and City of Norwood v Horney. As an independent consultant, his expertise on local economic development, land use, and regulation has been tapped by legal teams working in Arizona, Indiana, Ohio, New Jersey, Wisconsin, and Maryland. Prior to joining Florida State, Dr. Staley was the Robert W. Galvin Fellow at Reason Foundation, an internationally recognized public policy think tank based in Los Angeles where he worked on issues such as transportation systems management and performance, public private partnerships, growth management, and regulatory reform. He has more than 30 years of experience in urban policy and is the author, co-author, or editor of seven books on public policy and popular culture, including Contemporary Film and Economics (Routledge, 2018) and the forthcoming The Beatles and Economics: Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and the Making of a Cultural Revolution (Routledge 2020). His academic and professional work has appeared in leading academic journals, including the Journal of the American Planning Association, Housing Policy Debate, Town Planning Review, Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice, and the Journal of Transportation Engineering. He earned his PhD in public administration (urban planning and public finance concentrations) from The Ohio State University, his MS in applied economics from Wright State University, and his BA in economics & public policy from Colby College.