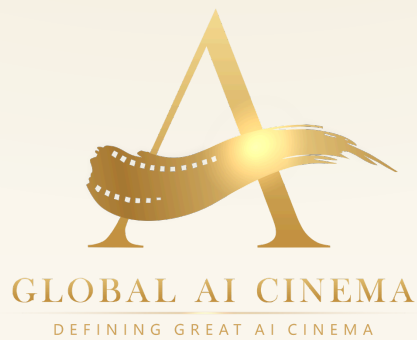




GLOBAL AI CINEMA

Founding Advisors

An international council of pioneers advancing excellence, integrity, and human values in AI Cinema.

Every great institution begins with great minds. The nine Founding Advisors of Global AI Cinema are leaders of their fields — drawn from the world's great universities, the Hollywood studio system, national science laboratories, and the creative frontier of AI. Each commands a different dimension: film history, industry strategy, AI aesthetics, frontier science, AI-native storytelling, AI-native creativity, professional selection, technical evaluation, and creator development. Together, they lay the intellectual and artistic foundations of an institution built for the century ahead.

Defining Cinema in the Age of AI



PROFESSOR

Rob King

FOUNDING ADVISOR, FILM HISTORY & MEDIA STUDIES

Columbia University · School of the Arts

Professor Rob King is Director of Undergraduate Studies in Film and Media Studies at the School of the Arts, Columbia University. A distinguished film historian and media scholar, his research explores the evolution of cinema, media technologies, and popular culture across periods of major technological and cultural transformation. His scholarship provides essential historical perspectives on how innovation reshapes storytelling, audiences, and cultural institutions.

King is the author of the award-winning *The Fun Factory: The Keystone Film Company and the Emergence of Mass Culture* (2009), which examines how Keystone filmmakers pioneered new forms of slapstick comedy for the emerging mass audiences of the 1910s. His subsequent book, *Hokum! The Early Sound Slapstick Short and Depression-Era Mass Culture* (2017), challenges the conventional view that synchronized sound brought an end to the slapstick tradition. His most recent work, *Man of Taste: The Erotic Cinema of Radley Metzger* (Columbia University Press, 2025), is a critical biography of the influential filmmaker Radley Metzger.

He is also the co-editor of *Early Cinema and the National* (2008), *Slapstick Comedy* (2010), *Beyond the Screen: Institutions, Networks, and Publics of Early Cinema* (2012), *Cornell Woolrich and Transmedia Noir* (2023), and *The Oxford Handbook of Silent Cinema* (2024). He is currently conducting research on a media archaeology of computational humor, examining the historical relationship between computation, technology, and humor.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

As a Founding Advisor of Global AI Cinema (GAC), Professor King contributes historical and scholarly perspectives on the evolution of cinema, helping situate AI-native filmmaking within the broader trajectory of film history. His expertise supports GAC's mission to define meaningful standards for cinema in the age of AI by connecting technological innovation with the enduring artistic, cultural, and humanistic traditions of filmmaking.

"As cinema enters the AI era, Professor Rob King helps ensure that its future is informed by a deep understanding of its past."



Michael Fisk

FOUNDING STRATEGIC ADVISOR

Member, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS)

Michael Fisk is an entertainment executive, producer, entrepreneur, and AI media strategist with over two decades of experience spanning Hollywood studios, global film marketing, independent production, and generative AI infrastructure.

He has led worldwide marketing and distribution campaigns for some of the most successful film franchises in history — including *James Bond*, *Spider-Man*, *Harry Potter*, *Godzilla*, *The Smurfs*, *Angry Birds*, and *Pokémon: Detective Pikachu* — working with major studios including Amazon MGM Studios, Sony Pictures, Warner Bros., and Lionsgate.

As an independent producer, he has contributed to projects including *Ferrari* (directed by Michael Mann), the sci-fi horror feature *ICK*, and the animated feature *ANTTO*, while continuing to develop creator-driven film and media ventures.

Beyond commercial entertainment, he is Co-Founder of The Business of Creating Institute, a U.S. 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the creative industries through education and professional development. The institute has partnered with organizations including the Writers Guild Foundation and LA Film School, producing more than 40 industry programs serving over 3,000 entertainment professionals.

He is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) and holds dual U.S. and German citizenship.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

One of the few international entertainment leaders combining Hollywood studio experience, global distribution, generative AI media infrastructure, digital rights management, and media commercialization, Michael Fisk supports GAC as Founding Strategic Advisor in building an international film evaluation framework and industry partnership ecosystem for the AI era.



PRESIDENTIAL PROFESSOR

Lev Manovich

FOUNDING ADVISOR, AI AESTHETICS & DIGITAL CULTURE

The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY)

Professor Lev Manovich is an artist, writer, and one of the world's most influential theorists of digital art, media, and culture. He is Presidential Professor of Computer Science at the Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY). Over the past three decades, he has played a pioneering role in establishing several influential fields of research, including new media and digital culture, software studies, cultural analytics, and AI aesthetics.

His scholarly work includes more than 228 academic publications, widely cited across multiple disciplines and translated into 45 languages. He is the author and editor of 17 books and exhibition catalogues, including *Artificial Aesthetics*, *Cultural Analytics*, *Instagram and Contemporary Image*, *Software Takes Command*, and the landmark *The Language of New Media*, widely regarded as one of the most influential works in digital media studies.

As both a theorist and practicing digital artist, Professor Manovich has explored the intersection of computation, visual culture, and cinema for over three decades. His artworks have been presented in 14 solo exhibitions and more than 126 international group exhibitions at leading institutions including the Centre Pompidou, the Institute of Contemporary Arts (London), and the Shanghai Biennale. His pioneering interactive project *Soft Cinema*, which reimagined cinema for the algorithmic age, was commissioned by ZKM and later published by MIT Press.

In 2007, he co-founded the Software Studies Initiative, later renamed the Cultural Analytics Lab, which pioneered computational analysis and visualization of large-scale cultural datasets. The lab has collaborated with leading institutions including the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), the Getty Research Institute, the Austrian Film Museum, and the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision.

His latest book, *Artificial Aesthetics: Generative AI, Art and Visual Media* (2024), explores how generative AI is transforming artistic creation, visual culture, and aesthetic theory.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

As a Founding Advisor for Global AI Cinema (GAC), Professor Lev Manovich contributes pioneering scholarship in AI aesthetics, digital culture, and computational media. His work provides an important theoretical foundation for GAC's exploration of artistic expression, aesthetic value, and the evolving language of cinema in the age of AI.



D R .

John Zhiyu Jiang

FOUNDING TECHNOLOGY ADVISOR · AI INFRASTRUCTURE & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Founder & CEO, Vision Technology · Silicon Valley

Dr. Zhiyu Jiang is a Silicon Valley technology strategist, scientist, and enterprise innovation leader with decades of experience spanning scientific research, artificial intelligence, cloud computing, digital transformation, and large-scale enterprise technology.

Originally trained as a high-energy physicist, Dr. Jiang studied at the University of Science and Technology of China, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the State University of New York at Stony Brook, followed by postdoctoral research at Stanford University. During his scientific career, he served as a senior researcher at multiple U.S. national laboratories, including Brookhaven National Laboratory (NSLS), Fermilab (FNAL), and the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, where he contributed to frontier research in free-electron lasers, next-generation particle accelerators, high-performance computing, and particle physics.

Transitioning from scientific research to industry, Dr. Jiang has held senior technology leadership and enterprise architecture roles across some of the world's leading organizations, including NASA Ames Research Center, Lockheed Martin, IBM Global Business Services, Dell Technologies, Hitachi America, BMC Software, VeriSign, PeopleSoft, BroadVision, and other Silicon Valley technology companies. His work has focused on helping governments and Fortune 500 enterprises harness emerging technologies to drive digital transformation, innovation, and intelligent infrastructure.

Today, Dr. Jiang is Founder and CEO of Vision Technology, a Silicon Valley-based consulting and innovation firm specializing in artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), big data, cloud computing, enterprise architecture, and digital transformation. Under his leadership, the company has supported technology strategy and innovation initiatives for organizations including Walmart, Boeing, Intel, Schneider Electric, Vanguard, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Google Cloud, and numerous enterprises across manufacturing, healthcare, finance, retail, communications, transportation, and smart infrastructure.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

Dr. Jiang's interdisciplinary expertise bridges advanced science, enterprise AI, and societal innovation. At Global AI Cinema, he contributes strategic guidance on the intersection of artificial intelligence, digital transformation, and the future of human-centered storytelling, helping connect technological innovation with cultural and creative advancement in the age of AI.



Mark Holmes

FOUNDING ADVISOR, AI-NATIVE STORYTELLING & CREATIVE EVALUATION

Former Art Director & Production Designer, Pixar Animation Studios · Creator of the Creative Decision Thinking (CDT) framework

Mark Holmes is an award-winning creative leader; former Pixar artist, art director, and production designer; and AI creative strategist with more than 30 years of experience spanning feature animation, games, emerging technology, and AI-assisted creative production. During sixteen years at Pixar Animation Studios, he contributed to acclaimed films including *WALL·E*, *Ratatouille*, *Up*, *Toy Story 3*, *The Incredibles*, and *Monsters, Inc.*, before leading creative work at Electronic Arts, Maxis, Facebook, Alphabet, and independent studios.

His work explores one fundamental question: Why do some creative decisions consistently create stronger audience experiences than others? Through his Creative Decision Thinking (CDT) framework, Mark demonstrates how structured human creative judgment can guide generative AI toward producing work with greater clarity, emotional impact, and meaning.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

As a Founding Advisor of Global AI Cinema, Mark contributes to the development of trusted evaluation principles for AI-native storytelling. His expertise helps advance GAC's mission to move beyond measuring technical quality alone by establishing frameworks that assess audience experience, emotional resonance, narrative effectiveness, and human creativity in the age of AI.

"AI can generate almost anything. The real competitive advantage is knowing why one creative decision produces a better audience experience than another — and how to systematically improve it." — Mark Holmes



Zhao Hanqing

FOUNDING ADVISOR, AI NATIVE CREATIVITY & DIGITAL IP

Founder, AI.TALK · Creator of Yuri

Zhao Hanqing graduated from the Academy of Arts & Design, Tsinghua University, and has 18 years of experience in internet product design, technology R&D, and user growth management. He previously served as Senior Director of JD Group's User Center and worked at major global and Chinese internet companies including eBay and Alibaba. His long-term work spans user experience, product management, platform-level user systems, and cross-functional organization management. As Senior Director of JD's User Center, he was responsible for product R&D, market branding, and user growth for consumer-facing users.

In 2023, he founded AI.TALK and has continued to explore AI digital personality and character construction through formats including AI-native idols, AI digital humans, AI interviews, AI video, and AI music. He is among the first practitioners of AIGC-driven art and a key explorer and promoter in the field of AI digital human IP. His representative project Yuri builds personality, music, visuals, interaction, and commercial collaboration paths in an AI-native way. In 2026, Yuri received the first AI digital human identity certificate issued by the Chinese government, continued to build commercial partnerships with leading brands such as L'Oréal, vivo, and Huawei, and appeared at major platforms and events including TEDx, the 2026 Boao Forum, and CCTV. Yuri has become the first major case in China's AI-native virtual idol and AI singer field, and is currently the most influential AI digital human IP.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

As Founding Advisor, AI Native Creativity & Digital IP, Zhao Hanqing contributes pioneering expertise in AI-native creativity, digital human IP, and emerging forms of AI-powered storytelling. His experience in building AI-native characters, virtual identities, and creator ecosystems provides valuable industry insights for GAC as it explores new creative paradigms and evolving forms of cinematic expression in the age of AI.



DIRECTOR

Roy Chin

FOUNDING FILM SELECTION ADVISOR

Golden Horse Awards Jury Member · China Television Drama Directors Committee

Roy Chin is a renowned Chinese film director and screenwriter, a Golden Horse Awards jury member, and a member of the China Television Drama Directors Committee. With decades of experience in film and television, he has long been active in Chinese-language cinema and television. He previously studied and worked in film in the United States and graduated from the San Francisco Art Institute.

In the 1990s, he formally entered the film industry after co-producing with Shanghai Film Studio one of the first films adapted from a bestselling online novel. He directed *The Yellow Story* in 1987 and, in 2000, directed *The First Intimate Contact*, adapted from the novel of the same name by Cai Zhiheng. He later directed a number of film and television works, including *Women of Persimmon Valley*, *The Legend and the Hero*, *Milk Fashion*, *The Mystery of Shangqing Temple*, and *Tianma: Warning Record*, accumulating extensive experience in directing, screen storytelling, and artistic creation.

As a Golden Horse Awards jury member, Director Chin has participated in professional film evaluation and brings deep understanding of cinematic art, directing, and film assessment systems. In 2024, he became one of the first resident directors of the China Film Tianqian Directors Creative Exchange Base, continuing to support film creation and director exchange.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

As Founding Film Selection Advisor of Global AI Cinema (GAC), Director Chin contributes his extensive directing experience and professional jury practice to provide guidance on cinematic evaluation, directing, and selection standards. His expertise supports GAC's exploration of a film evaluation framework for the AI era that integrates artistic value, humanistic spirit, and professional selection mechanisms.



Aria Li

FOUNDING ADVISOR, AI EVALUATION & TECHNICAL STANDARDS

AI Research Engineer, Netflix

Aria Li is currently an AI Research Engineer at Netflix, where she develops production AI systems that power personalized user experiences through foundation models, semantic representations, and large-scale machine learning. Prior to Netflix, she was a Senior Machine Learning Engineer at PlayStation, where she built the company's first real-time recommendation re-ranking system for game personalization. Earlier in her career at PayPal, she led multiple machine learning initiatives spanning recommendation systems, merchant growth, customer value prediction, reinforcement learning, and generative AI applications.

Throughout her career, Aria has designed and deployed production AI systems serving millions of users across entertainment, gaming, fintech, and digital platforms. Her technical expertise includes recommendation systems, learning-to-rank, retrieval and semantic search, large language models (LLMs), retrieval-augmented generation (RAG), causal machine learning, reinforcement learning, AI infrastructure, and foundation-model applications. She is also an inventor on multiple patents in machine learning and generative AI.

Aria is a frequent speaker on artificial intelligence, recommendation systems, and AI-powered media innovation. She is passionate about bridging cutting-edge AI research with real-world creative applications, helping creators and organizations navigate the next generation of AI-native content creation. Her mission is to build technologies — and communities — that empower human creativity through responsible and meaningful applications of artificial intelligence.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

At GAC, she helps bridge cutting-edge artificial intelligence with the future of cinematic evaluation, ensuring that emerging AI-native storytelling can be assessed through technically rigorous, transparent, and human-centered frameworks.

Li Donglin

FOUNDING ADVISOR, CROSS-CULTURAL STORYTELLING & CREATOR DEVELOPMENT

Vice President, Guangdong Film Industry Association

Li Donglin is a veteran film and television producer, director, and media executive with more than four decades of experience in China's film and television industry.

He studied at South China Adult Institute of Arts and completed graduate-level studies in Film at the Beijing Film Academy. From 1985 to 2006, he served at Guangdong Television, where he worked as a cinematographer, director, and supervising producer for a wide range of television productions. During this period, he directed television films featuring actors including Daniel Wu and Ren Qian and participated in the development of nationally adopted film and television educational materials commissioned by China's National Radio and Television Administration.

In 2009, Li served as Supervising Producer for a theatrical feature film starring Sammo Hung. He was also appointed Visiting Professor at Guangzhou University, where he taught Film Directing.

Throughout his career, productions under his leadership have received more than twenty prestigious national honors, including the Feitian Awards, Xingguang Awards, Golden Eagle Awards, and Junma Awards. He was also recognized as one of China's "Top 100 Television Artists."

Beyond filmmaking, Li has held numerous leadership positions across media, cultural, and industry organizations. He serves as General Manager of Guangzhou Forward Vision Advertising Co., Executive Station Director of Hong Kong Asia-Pacific Business Network Television, Vice President of the Macau Small and Medium Enterprises Association, Vice President of the Guangdong Film Industry Association, Vice President of the Guangdong E-Commerce Chamber of Commerce, Advisor to the Guangdong Brand Research Association, and is a member of both the China Television Artists Association and the China Musicians Association.

AT GLOBAL AI CINEMA

As a Founding Advisor of Global AI Cinema (GAC), Li contributes his extensive expertise in film directing, television production, industry development, and professional evaluation, helping bridge traditional cinematic excellence with the emerging era of AI-native storytelling.



Defining Cinema in the Age of AI

AI Generates Content, Humanity Defines Value.

Our Contact: Founder@globalaicinema.org

WWW.GLOBALAICINEMA.ORG

© 2026 GLOBAL AI CINEMA · FOUNDING ADVISORY BOARD