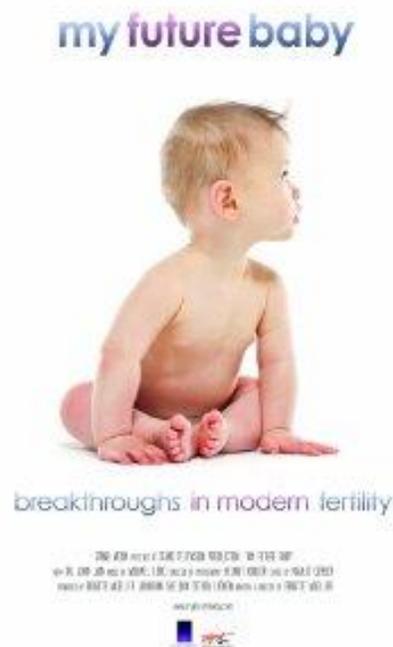


## ITVfest / PopConLA - FILMMAKER INTERVIEWS

A Q&A with Brigitte Mueller from the Documentary/Alternative “My Future Baby”



**So, Brigitte, your background, where are you from and what motivated you to do a Documentary/Alternative?:**

I am originally from Switzerland, but I grew up in United States. I have worked in the film industry in Los Angeles for almost 20 years. I was compelled to make "My Future Baby", a film on infertility struggles and medical breakthroughs, after two of my sisters used IVF to conceive their children and after deciding to freeze my own eggs to preserve my chances of pursuing later motherhood. There were no documentaries or educational films available when I went through my own treatment. It would have been so helpful to get that education before going through such a difficult process. I saw there was a need to educate the 7.3 million Americans that struggle with infertility.

**And your role with in “My Future Baby” ?**

I am the director, producer and writer of the film.

**How would you best describe your Documentary/Alternative?**

"My Future Baby" is a (1) hour television special that was made for a public television audience. We show the emotional and heartfelt stories of our featured patients to help illustrate the medical breakthroughs in the reproductive field. The viewer meets women and couples currently undergoing fertility treatment in hopes of getting pregnant or preserving their fertility for the future. We show advanced scientific procedures in modern fertility, and their likelihood of success based on age and other health factors. We also feature stunning 4D animations of inside the human body, and micro-lens close-ups from the medical procedures themselves.

### **What was the best moment, for you in creating “My Future Baby”?**

It's amazing to film a couple going through the process as personal as creating a life. The film team and I felt like we were on the journey with them. When a couple fails an IVF cycle, we all felt it. It's emotional. And it's even more emotional when they find out they are pregnant because you think, WOW, that embryo we filmed being transferred is going to be a baby!

### **And the worst moment?**

Making any film is hard, hands down. Making a documentary can be even more challenging because you want to keep filming until the ending reveals itself. In our case, the main couple we were following failed cycle after cycle of IVF so our shooting schedule went over by a year. It was hard to watch them go through it and it was hard to figure out how to keep filming - but in the end, it was all worth it.

### **If you had one message to get across to the WORLD with “My Future Baby”– What would that message be?**

When it comes to getting pregnant, it's not always as easy as we think. 15% of those at the reproductive age are have trouble conceiving. In fact, in November of 2009, the World Health Organization classified infertility as a **disease**. Getting the right information and education can help those struggling with infertility get through it. There are many options available and knowing them as you start down the path can really make the difference.

### **Everyone that enters a Festival wants to win an Award, What about your project makes it stand out?**

I think "My Future Baby" stands out because we did a film on a truly important subject matter...building a family and the struggle that many people go through to get there. We filmed for (2) years capturing major arcs in our patients' stories. We feature the top experts in the reproductive field along with stunning 4-D animations from inside the human body and close-ups of medical procedures that all beautifully explain in detail the modern breakthroughs in fertility. With 7.3 million Americans and 186 million people worldwide currently struggling with fertility issues, the need for this documentary is very real.

**and What is next for you?**

We are building a fertility awareness brand around "My Future Baby". So in addition to promoting our September 2012 broadcast on PBS stations nationwide and managing our publicity campaign, we are building a support website ([www.myfuturebaby.com](http://www.myfuturebaby.com)) and creating additional educational media. The next film will focus on genetics and how reproductive medicine may be able to eradicate disease from a family tree.

**Thank You, Brigitte Mueller**

**Any last words or something I forgotten to ask you?**

We are excited to be considered by ITV Fest. We have been looking for a premiere film and television festival that would support our film! We hope to be able to premiere at ITV Fest and we look forward to your reply.

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**What are the credits for My Future Baby?**

Cast: Dr. Jain, Dr. Gibbons (too many doctors to list), Kim & Trevor, Brandy & Jay, Diana & Tim, Monica & Erica, Joe & Eric, Julie.

Produced by:

Brigitte Mueller, Jonathan Sheldon, Steven Lathem

Creators/Directors:

Brigitte Mueller

Cameras:

Helmut Kobler

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**\*\*\*– Where and When is “My Future Baby”?**

My Future Baby will air on PBS affiliates nationwide in September, 2012.  
Vegas PBS is our presenting station.

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/MyFutureBabyMedia>

Web Site: <http://myfuturebaby.com/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/MyFutureBaby>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/StandMedia>