

Tu Hwnt Ffiniau

# CWRS

Cambrian Worldwide Releasing Service

“Beyond Borders”



[Pictured above: **The Untold Story of America's Industrial Age Melting Pot:** An abandoned facility of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, owner of the Jeanette Blast Furnace, "Jenny" in the 1995, made famous by the Bruce Springsteen song entitled, *"Youngstown"*. The song is about the decline of Youngstown as an industrial city. While many of the area's early settlers came from Connecticut, Youngstown attracted a significant number of Scots-Irish settlers from neighboring Pennsylvania. The community's burgeoning coal industry drew hundreds of immigrants from Wales, Germany, and Ireland. With the establishment of steel mills in the late 19th century, Youngstown became a popular destination for immigrants from Eastern Europe, Italy, and Greece.]

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CAMBRIAN WORLDWIDE RELEASING SERVICE

**Cambrian Worldwide Releasing Service (CWRS)** is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to the production and marketing of print, broadcast and digital media products of forgotten ethnic neighborhoods and communities in the United States and Canada, and of other small nations and minority language islands, regions and enclaves in North America and abroad.

**Our international mission has two parts:**

- I. On an international basis, CWRS develops, finances, co-produces and distributes print, broadcast, film and multi-platform digital products that promote the culture, history, language and traditions of these ethnically-defined regions in international markets and forums.
- II. CWRS collaborates with foreign producers, in order to assist these producers to bring their culturally diverse content to the American marketplace. CWRS does this by:
  - a. Securing non-repayable state and federal grants and other funding
  - b. Providing accurate and accountable administration of all funding disbursements
  - c. Managing the strategic distribution of this content to public television broadcasting groups, cable television and other outlets



**[Pictured above:** The Cyfarthfa Ironworks in 1894 (now abandoned) was a major 18th century and 19th century ironworks located in Cyfarthfa, on the northwestern edge of Merthyr Tydfil, in South Wales. The works continued to play an enormous role in providing high-quality iron to fuel the voracious appetite of the Industrial Revolution, with the Tsar of Russia sending a representative to view the production of iron rail. During this time, the Cyfarthfa works lost its position as the leading ironworks in Merthyr Tydfil to its longtime rival, the Dowlais Ironworks. The failure of the works was a devastating blow to the local community as it had depended heavily on the works for its economic livelihood. The story of the resulting social displacement and the impact on languages groups, families and communities has yet to be heard by wider audiences.]



[**Pictured above:** Cuban men playing dominos in Little Havana's famous Máximo Gómez Park. Dominos is a popular game in Cuban culture, and the park is famous for its many domino players who meet daily in the park. Originally a lower middle class Southern and a thriving Jewish neighborhood in the 1930s. The name "Little Havana" emerged in the 1960s as the concentration of Cubans in the area grew sharply.]

**Our local and regional mission across the United States of America is multi-faceted:**

- I. **PRODUCTION:** CWRS also develops, finances, co-produces and distributes print, broadcast, film and multi-platform digital products that promote and preserve the culture, history, language and traditions of these socially, economically and ethnically-defined neighborhoods and regions in the United States, Canada and Latin America.
- II. **FINANCE:** CWRS engages in a broad variety of activities to meet these goals and is funded by grants, gifts, donors and planning giving, as well as putting back into the operation a percentage of any profits earned from services, content rights or product sales and distribution.
- III. **MARGINAL VOICES FOR BROADER AUDIENCES:** The North American activities of CWRS are all aimed at giving an expanded and enduring voice to marginalized and forgotten rural and urban communities across the rich landscape of America's rich past, including overlooked recent history, minority views and popular culture.



- IV. **PEER-REVIEWED RESEARCH:** CWRS accomplishes this service by supporting the research and study of these communities and by then assisting in the archiving and dissemination of new, critical research in popular formats, in both print, film, broadcast and online or digital media.
- V. **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES:** CWRS is dedicated to a better understanding of the diverse and complicated social character of New World settlements, including both indigenous, native and immigrant communities.
- VI. **HISTORICAL PRESERVATION:** CWRS also supports the research and study and historical preservation and content promotion and marketing of conceptual and virtual communities, and their relation to traditional communities.
- VII. **TRANSMEDIA EXCELLENCE:** All the content and products marketed by CWRS are produced to the highest broadcast and publishing standards with a commitment to ethical, scholarly and aesthetic excellence.

**LEGAL STATUS:** *CWRS is a Florida non-profit company with U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Educational non-profit tax status. All donations to CWRS are tax-exempt. The CWRS headquarters are located in Miami's historic Upper East Side Mimo Architectural District at 565 NE 66th Street, Miami, Florida 33138-5648 / Tel. 001 305 600 0798.*



[**Pictured above:** Pre-Columbian Taíno sculpture, courtesy the Alfred Carrada Collection, photography by Mauro Phillip Conti: The Taíno were an Arawak people who were one of the major indigenous peoples of the Caribbean. At the time of European contact in the late 15th century, they were the principal inhabitants of most of Cuba, Jamaica, Hispaniola (presently Haiti and the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico in the Greater Antilles, the northern Lesser Antilles, and the Bahamas, where they were known as the Lucayans. They spoke the Taíno language, one of the Arawakan languages.]





**About CWRS:** CWRS is the brainchild of **Dr. Mark Woods**, a native of Youngstown, Ohio and longtime resident of Miami Beach, Florida.

The son of immigrant coal miners, farmers and steel and iron mill workers in what has become the so-called 'Rust Belt' of America's recent industrial age, Dr. Woods grew up immersed in a multi-ethnic, multilingual and economically diverse South Side neighborhoods of Youngstown, once famous for the iron and steel that built the skyscrapers of Chicago and New York City, but which over the past 35 years has suffered high-profile infamy as America's 'poster child' for economic and social decline.

Many of the immediate ancestors of Dr. Woods were deeply pious, religious and fiercely nationalistic Welsh-speaking coal miners who came left the Welsh Valleys to come to Ohio in 1860, finally settling in Ohio and Western Pennsylvania for among other reasons (like escaping the cholera epidemics in Wales) they also came for purpose of making improved iron cannon balls for the Union effort during the U.S. Civil War. His Welsh-speaking, great-great grandfather, William J. Williams, was a *puddler* whose father worked at the Dowlais Ironworks in Wales, and who later brought Welsh iron-making secrets to Youngstown, Ohio, where the Williams Family settled in 1860.

In 1981, Dr. Woods became part of the dislocated Florida 'Snow Bird' community, fleeing Northeast Ohio, along with hundreds of thousands of other Ohioans in search of work, after the mass closing of Ohio mines and steel mills that began in 1977.

As such, Dr. Woods considers himself part of the real and virtual 'Youngstown Steel Town Diaspora' community, whose church members, neighbors, families and ethno-linguistic groupings were shattered by economic upheaval and then scattered across America.

**In the period from 1995-2003:** Dr. Woods studied filmmaking at the Miami School of Entertainment Technologies, and then for most of the next decade worked his way up across the industry, as a feature film crew member, independent producer, film sales agent and film festival promoter.

For ten years, Dr. Woods held Board member appointments on numerous popular, ethnic and cult film festivals and societies, and while completing his studies at Florida International University, he researched and wrote about the social, minority language and ethnic communities found in South Florida, including Jewish and LGBT film festivals, Latino TV, Haitian music and art, the Lake Worth Finnish community and the *Cinéma Québécois* and print media and TV of French-Canadian seasonal residents.

In 2003 Dr. Woods won a 3-yr. UK-AHRC doctoral research grant to launch and complete a comprehensive study of all copyrighted visual entertainment products and content created in the British nation of Wales from 1967-2007. He holds an L.L.M. in Intellectual & Industrial Property Law and a Graduate Diploma in Law, with several published, peer-reviewed articles in film history and entertainment law.



**CWRS** was formed when Dr. Woods and his friend Mr. Robert ‘Bob’ Powers decided to form a non-profit service whose remit it is to preserve the culture and history of overlooked communities and to produce media content about these communities for wider audiences.

The four current and primary research and marketing initiatives of CRWS at this time are: 1) “WELSH CULTURE ABROAD” 2) *Communitas*: “Preserving the stories of Miami’s Historic Pioneer Founders” 3) *Communitas* Latino: “Preserving the stories of Miami’s Spanish-speaking communities” and 4) “Steel Town USA: The Story of the Diaspora Community of Youngtown, Ohio.”

Robert ‘Bob’ Powers has long been an active resident of Miami, having held key leadership positions with a number of prestigious city-based organizations. He is a member of the Miami Bay Forum, and was recently appointed by City of Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado to serve on the Bond

Oversight Board.

Mr. Powers is a Trustee of the Miami Bayside. Since becoming a Trustee, the Miami Bayside Foundation with Mr. Powers has established a million dollar endowed Minority Students Scholarship Fund for the Business School of Miami Dade College and similar annually endowed Minority Student Scholarship Funds for two hundred thousand dollars for Florida International University and for two hundred thousand dollars for Florida Memorial University, to assist marginalized ethnic and gender minority students to attend and complete university courses.

Mr. Powers is a founding member and former vice president of operations for the MiMo Biscayne Association, which represents the historic district along Biscayne Boulevard from NE 50 Street to NE 70 Street. He has served as a board member on the Bayfront Park Management Trust and Citizens Transportation Advisory Board.

While serving on the Trust, Mr. Powers was responsible for locating and procuring the funds needed to assist the City of Miami to purchase and restore the historic Manatee Bend Park, located in the historic Miami neighborhood called Palm Grove.

During his successful tenure on the Board, Mr. Powers also identified two million dollars from the ½-cent gasoline tax bond monies and directed these funds toward the repaving of the historic Miami Palm Grove Neighborhood, then under restoration.

Mr. Powers served as Supervising Producer for numerous feature films produced by Active Fox Productions, LLC. of Los Angeles, California, on matters of finance, development, production and distribution to international markets. In this film production capacity, he has attended film and television markets around the world, including the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, Sundance, Cannes, Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival and Miami International Film Festival.