



**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CIRCLE AWARD RECIPIENT**



## **GREGORY WEIMERSKIRCH '90, MFA**

### ***Motion-Picture Art Director and Production Designer***

After graduating from La Roche College with a bachelor's degree in interior design, Pittsburgh native Greg Weimerskirch '90 went on to become an architect and motion-picture art director, and contribute his work to several notable Hollywood films.

Mr. Weimerskirch has art directed the movies "Fences," "The Fault in Our Stars," "Southpaw," "Unstoppable" and "Jack Reacher" among others. His work in film involves

the supervision and coordination of many technicians and craftspeople, as well as the selection of filming locations, set design, graphic design, set construction, visual effects and budgeting.

"My appreciation for collaboration was keenly developed during my early film career in Los Angeles," he explained. "The ability to listen and compromise with many creative people helped me to understand the importance of teamwork. Likewise, while working in architecture, I honed my research skills, including developing an appreciation for the history of a place and especially its people. This would heavily influence my work in film. Films that I have been involved with, such as 'Fences,' 'American Pastoral' and 'Star Wars' were each enriched by this understanding and experience."

Mr. Weimerskirch was recently nominated for Excellence in Production Design for "Fences" from the Art Directors Guild and was previously nominated for the TV series "Seven Days." He obtained his Master of Fine Arts in production design from the American Film Institute in 1996 and his architectural license certificate from the University of Southern California in 1997. Since then his career has spanned nearly 25 years and includes noteworthy projects in architecture, urban design and motion-picture production design.

"There's no question that La Roche gave me an excellent foundation, both in terms of technical skill—the ability to research, draft, design and execute a given idea—along with a strong and honest work ethic. Even though I never worked in interior design, those skills provided the foundation for work in architecture and motion pictures. I still use the skill set I learned more than 30 years ago," he said.

