

BILL MEGALOS

1366 Morningside Way, Venice, CA 90291

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER/CAMERAMAN

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BILL MEGALOS began working professionally in the theater in New York in 1972 as a stagehand at the Metropolitan Opera House. He became a lighting designer and stage manager, eventually stage managing the national tours of "Godspell" and "Ain't Misbehavin'" as well as the Eliot Feld Ballet company and Nikolais Dance Theatre. As a concert lighting designer he worked with artists as diverse as Duke Ellington, Aretha Franklin, Bob Dylan, Aerosmith and The Beach Boys. In the early 1990's he designed the architectural and entertainment lighting for the 43 acre amusement park ASIAN VILLAGE in Singapore.

Since 1976, he has been involved in all aspects of film and television production, from producing the comedy feature "Mutants in Paradise" to directing music videos. He apprenticed with renowned Greek director Theo Angelopoulos on his film "O Megalexandros" ("Alexander the Great") which won the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival in 1980. Megalos was cameraman on numerous documentaries, including "Aretha," "Paris is Burning," and the Emmy Award-winning "W. Eugene Smith" with Peter Riegert for American Masters, "A Night in Havana-Dizzy Gillespie in Cuba," the PBS series "Quest for the Killers" and "Legendary Trails," as well as the Academy Award-winning "Down and Out in America," directed by Lee Grant.

Megalos' work as a director ranges from commercials and music videos to dramatic films. His biography of Jack Benny for HBO was awarded the Cine Golden Eagle Award. His series of distinctive network promos for CBS ran throughout the year of 1996. As a director or cameraman, Megalos filmed over 30 full-length documentaries for PBS, BBC and Channel 4 (UK) in more than 20 countries. His series of family planning mini-dramas in Bengali won the World Health Organization's Global Award for Media Excellence in Beijing in 1985. He produced and directed the ground-breaking half-hour infomercial that funded Jerry Brown's 1992 Presidential campaign. In 2004 he was a director on the DVD for the extended edition of "Return of the King," the final Lord of the Rings film. For the past ten years, he has been making social documentaries and working as a media consultant for the Asian Development Bank, a large N.G.O. whose aim is the reduction and elimination of poverty in Asia. He spent two years traveling with Muhammad Yunus, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, for a feature documentary on microfinance, "To Catch A Dollar," which premiered at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival.

Megalos has a B.A. in anthropology and comparative literature from Columbia University where he studied with Margaret Mead. He also assisted Alan Lomax at that time. He was awarded an M.F.A. from Columbia as well and taught theater there at the graduate School of the Arts. He taught film at the School of Visual Arts in New York City for four years and is currently on the faculty of the University of Southern California and the Maine Media Workshops (formerly the International Film and Television Workshops) in Rockport, Maine. He was the Vice President of Production and Director of Programming at The Recovery Network, a cable television, internet, and radio network, from its inception in May of 1996 until December of 1998. In his time there, he created six television series and produced 120 hours of programming. He created the company logo and the network look and was involved in the creation of the company's website. In the early 1970's he worked as a gold miner at the Homestake Mine in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

JACK BENNY: COMEDY IN BLOOM (HBO) Director
ULTIMATE CHALLENGE (Fox)
CBS Network I.D.s (45 spots)
S.T.A.N.D. (FX) PSA Campaign (28 spots)
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (8 international PSAs)
THE NEW YORKER POCKET REVUE (PBS)
THE WHITE ROOM (Playboy) Dramatic
CYBILL SHEPHERD LIVE IN LA
MOVING PICTURES (BBC Series)
TAKE BACK AMERICA (Jerry Brown for President 1992)
LEADERSHIP '92 (Eugene McCarthy campaign film 1992)
VOODOO DAWN (Feature) Second Unit Director
CARAVAN OF DREAMS
REBUILDING AFGHANISTAN
KOREA: A PORTRAIT OF SUCCESS
BLUE SKIES, CLEAN WATER
ASIA: BEYOND THE MIRACLE
ENERGY, EMPLOYMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT
SPOTLIGHT AWARDS (Los Angeles Music Center)
BUILDING INSPIRATION (Los Angeles Philharmonic)
THE ARTFUL TRAVELER Pilot for cable series
RHYTHM AND FOOD Pilot for cable series
SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT Documentary series for DirecTV

DIRECTOR/CAMERAMAN

Music Videos

D.R.I. (longform)
KATE AND ANNA McGARRIGLE
REMBRANDTS
HOUSE OF PAIN
JASON FALKNER
DIANNE REEVES
A.C. BLACK
REBEL PEBBLES
RUTH ANN SWENSON (Opera)
PRINCE, STEVIE RAY VAUGHAN, GEORGE CLINTON, RAMONES,
SUICIDAL TENDENCIES, GEORGIA SATELLITES (D.P)

Commercials/PSAs

ALPO
BROADWAY BOUND
RHINO RECORDS NEW WAVE HITS OF THE 80'S
SIERRA CLUB ENERGY CONSERVATION
YES on SIX (4 spots)

RED CROSS WATER SAFETY PSA
FAMILY PLANNING IN BANGLADESH (9 spots)

Other Broadcast and Industrials

EMERGING ASIA: Asian Development Bank
FAMILY PORTRAIT: Hewlett Packard
MR. MISTER IN CHILE: MTV
INTO THE WOODS: Video press release
THE SECRET GARDEN: Video press release
ST.LUKE'S HOSPITAL: Fundraising film with Tony Randall

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY/CAMERAMAN

PARIS IS BURNING Theatrical documentary
YIPPEE! Theatrical documentary, Paul Mazursky, director
TO CATCH A DOLLAR: MUHAMMAD YUNUS BANKS ON AMERICA
Theatrical documentary
A NIGHT IN HAVANA: DIZZY GILLESPIE IN CUBA
KEITH RICHARDS: LIVE AT THE HOLLYWOOD PALLADIUM
LILY TOMLIN: SEARCH FOR SIGNS
SONDHEIM'S FOLLIES (BBC and PBS)
THE INCENSE TRAIL (BBC and PBS)
THE ROAD TO SANTIAGO (BBC and PBS)
QUEST FOR THE KILLERS (BBC and PBS)
THE ONE, THE ONLY...GROUCHO (HBO)
THE MOVIE SHOW (HBO) series
ALL ABOUT BETTE: starring Jodie Foster TNT
THE DIVINE GARBO: starring Glenn Close TNT
CRAZY ABOUT THE MOVIES:NATALIE WOOD Cinemax
TALL, DARK & HANDSOME: ROCK HUDSON Cinemax
STRANGE TURF 35mm feature dramatic film
WIN OR DIE 35mm feature dramatic film
SEA LIFE 35mm dramatic Sundance 1994
THE DRESS 35mm dramatic
THE CAMPUS WARS (PBS)
DOWN AND OUT IN AMERICA (Academy Award, 1987)
CHANGING OUR MINDS (Academy Award nomination, 1993)
ARETHA (American Masters)
W. EUGENE SMITH (American Masters) (Emmy 1990)
TEENAGE PAPAARAZZO (HBO) Adrian Grenier, director Sundance 2010
HISTORY DETECTIVES (PBS)
MAKERS: THE WOMEN WHO MAKE AMERICA (PBS)

ONE HOUR DOCUMENTARIES FOR THE BBC AND CHANNEL 4 (UK)

OMNIBUS: DINO DE LAURENTIIS
OMNIBUS: BAZ LUHRMANN
OMNIBUS: STEVE MARTIN
OMNIBUS: ANTHONY HOPKINS
OMNIBUS: MY FAIR LADY
OMNIBUS: ROBERT ALTMAN

OMNIBUS: RIDLEY SCOTT
IMAGINE: MEL BROOKS
IMAGINE: MAVERICKS
HORIZON: MORALITY
WALK ON BY: THE HISTORY OF THE POPULAR SONG
A PERSONAL HISTORY OF BRITISH CINEMA BY STEPHEN FREARS
PANORAMA "THE POPE AND THE PREDATORS"
CORRESPONDENT: THE EURO
MUSIC AND MOVIES: HOLLYWOOD COMPOSERS
HUMAN SENSES
GENIUS
ROCK FAMILY TREES: BIRMINGHAM
QUINCY JONES
THE THIRD MAN
HAPPY VALLEY
LAST MAN STANDING
HAND OF GOD
EVERYMAN: A LIFE ON TRIAL
CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'
ELVIS IN VEGAS
SEE HEAR
THE VOICE
SOUL BRITANNIA
REGGAE BRITANNIA
KEN HOM'S HOT WOK
THE BIG QUESTION
IT'LL NEVER WORK
TOMORROW'S WORLD

PRODUCER

MUTANTS IN PARADISE Dramatic feature
AGENT ORANGE: A REQUIEM winner Mainichi award
YIPPEE! Theatrical feature, Paul Mazursky, director

Teaching positions

1983–1987 School of Visual Arts, New York City– Film Production
1990–Present Maine Media Workshops, Rockport Maine–Workshop Instructor
1993–2001 Guest Instructor at the American Film Institute, Los Angeles
2006–Present School of Cinematic Arts, University of Southern California, Los Angeles–
Film Production, undergraduate and graduate level
Fall 2011 Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, undergraduate cinematography course

BA, Columbia College, Columbia University, 1977
MFA, School of the Arts, Columbia University, 1981

Representative university courses I have taught:

University of Southern California, School of Cinematic Arts

Graduate courses

CTPR 507 Production I (4 units), which brings together students from other School of Cinematic Arts divisions, introduces the fundamental principles of motion picture production, emphasizing visual and auditory communication. Projects are shot using digital cameras and edited on non-linear systems.

CTPR 508 Production II (6 units), students produce short films in small crews. The primary goal is to communicate effectively through sound/image relationships. Most equipment and materials are provided by the school

CTPR 546 Advanced Production Workshop (Fiction): production students form crews of 12 persons to produce a synchronous sound project in one semester. Each student is responsible for a specific aspect of the production: director, line producer, assistant director, cinematographer, editor or sound.

Undergraduate courses

CTPR 241/290 Introductory production courses.

CTPR 241 is an experiential course dealing with the technical and aesthetic principles of producing, directing, cinematography, editing, sound and the development of ideas through a cinematic vocabulary. In CTPR 290 each student makes four digital video movies, executing all the creative roles personally, and takes a crew position on a group project. Exploration of personal expression and diverse genres is encouraged, with emphasis on visual and sound patterns, with limited dialogue.

CTPR 480 Advanced Production Workshop: production students form crews of 12 persons to produce a synchronous sound project in one semester. Each student is responsible for a specific aspect of the production: director, line producer, assistant director, cinematographer, editor or sound.

Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA
Cinematography (undergrad)

Workshops classes at Maine Media Workshops (formerly known as the International Film and Television Workshops)

The 16mm Camera
Introductory Film Production
Location Lighting
Intermediate Cinematography
Advanced Cinematography
The Personal Documentary
The DV Journalist
The New DV Filmmaker
Producing the Advocacy Documentary

International workshops taught:

Oaxaca, Mexico–Documentary Filmmaking (2 times)

Mexico City, Mexico– Documentary Filmmaking and Media Training

Manila, Philippines– Media Training and non–fiction video production

Solon, Himachal Pradesh, India– Documentary Filmmaking and Creating a Cultural Archive (2 times)

Kampala, Uganda– Telling The World’s Stories: Non–fiction Filmmaking for NGO Creators and Executives (3 times)

Nigeria, Kenya–Documentary Filmmaking for NGOs and Microfinance

Khobar, Saudi Arabia: Documentary Filmmaking– Training teachers and observing and mentoring them as they taught. 6 weeks

Vientiane, Laos– as US State Department Arts Envoy “Making Messages” training Laotian filmmakers in making Public Service Announcements on the topic of maternal and infant nutrition

Articles:

Crossing Borders With HDV – Studio Daily

Subtitle Tutorial – Studio Daily

Guest lecturer, “Gallery Talk” Getty Museum, Los Angeles

Consultant to Witness.org for their Video Advocacy Institute

Consultant, UCLA’s Institute for Democracy, Education and Access, 2001

Speaker at Iowa DTV Symposium (Iowa Public Television) 2004, 2006, 2008

Speaker at the National Software Conference and Competition 2012 of the Institute of Software Practitioners of Nigeria in Tinapa, Nigeria

Panelist at Silicon Beach Fest 2012, Venice CA
“Silicon Beach: A Creative Inspiration”