

# MARC SHAFFER

## DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER

---

1431 Trestle Glen Road, Oakland, CA 94610

510.468.4610 • [marcashaffer@comcast.net](mailto:marcashaffer@comcast.net)

[www.insideoutmedia.org](http://www.insideoutmedia.org)

## BIOGRAPHY

I have a passion for moving pictures to tell great stories. For more than two decades I have made acclaimed documentary films distributed worldwide on PBS, National Geographic, Netflix, Al Jazeera, CBS News, in theaters and online. My films have received three national Emmy nominations among dozens of other honors, and were named among the top ten films of 2013 and top ten TV programs of 2000 by the San Francisco Chronicle. For National Geographic's Emmy winning *Can the Gulf Survive* I was the lone journalist and filmmaker inside BP headquarters when the Deepwater Horizon oil spill was capped. I directed the most watched documentary in the history of the Al Jazeera English language networks. I've made more than twenty award-winning documentaries on subjects ranging from medical marijuana to deporting gang members, American healthcare to the interrogation of Saddam Hussein.

## FILMOGRAPHY

### **EXPOSING MUYBRIDGE**

**Director, Producer, Writer**

Inside Out Media, in development

- Feature length documentary tells the remarkable story of 19<sup>th</sup> century photographer Eadweard Muybridge, who froze speed in a camera and changed our world forever. Financial support provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities. [www.muybridgethemovie.com](http://www.muybridgethemovie.com)

### **BROKEN DREAMS: THE BOEING 787**

**Director, Senior Producer, Writer**

Al Jazeera Worldwide Media Networks, 2014

- Multi-award winning film traces a trail of problems with the Boeing 787 Dreamliner to a flawed management fixated on generating returns for investors and exposes fresh quality concerns. The most-watched documentary in the history of Al Jazeera English.

### **AMERICAN JERUSALEM: JEWS AND THE MAKING OF SAN FRANCISCO**

**Director and Writer**

Theatrical and PBS, Switchback Films and Actual Films, 2013

- The story of the pioneering Jews of San Francisco, a people who came for gold and stayed to help build San Francisco. Sold out screenings at the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, more than 1000 PBS broadcasts nationwide. Played in theaters and film festivals worldwide. Named one of the ten best films of the year by the San Francisco Chronicle.

### **MARIJUANA GOLD RUSH**

**Director, Producer and Writer**

National Geographic Explorer, Inside Out Media with National Geographic Television, 2011

- Emmy-nominated look at the new *ganjapreneurs* cashing in on medical cannabis.

## **GANG WAR USA**

### **Director, Producer and Writer**

National Geographic Explorer, Inside Out Media with National Geographic Television, 2011

- The trail of a murder in North Carolina leads to the MS-13 gang in El Salvador and reveals flaws in the U.S. system of deporting transnational gang members.

## **SUBURBAN SURVEILLANCE**

### **Co-Producer**

National Geographic Channel, Winton-duPont Films with National Geographic Television, 2011

- An investigation into two controversial FBI counter-terrorism cases. Were the targets terrorists or innocent victims of anti-Muslim hysteria?

## **CAN THE GULF SURVIVE?**

### **Co-Producer**

National Geographic Explorer, National Geographic Television, 2010

- An Emmy winning look at the scramble to protect the Gulf of Mexico in the immediate wake of the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Lone journalist to film inside BP headquarters when the well was finally capped.

## **INTERROGATING SADDAM**

### **Director, Producer and Writer**

National Geographic Channel, Winton-duPont Films with National Geographic, 2010

- The inside story of the FBI interrogation of Saddam Hussein featuring exclusive, first person interviews with lead interrogator George Piro and other key figures involved in the interrogation.

## **BLUEPRINT AMERICA: ROAD TO THE FUTURE**

### **Director, Producer and Writer**

WNET/PBS, 2009

- A look at the damaging effects of America's love affair with automobiles and suburban sprawl. Centerpiece documentary of multi-million, trans-media national PBS project.

## **POISONED WATERS**

### **Producer**

PBS FRONTLINE, Hedrick Smith Productions, 2009

- Journalist Hedrick Smith investigates the destruction of America's waterways, with a special focus on the Chesapeake Bay and Puget Sound.

## **REMAKING AMERICAN MEDICINE**

### **Series Producer, Director, Producer and Writer**

PBS, Crosskeys Media, 2006

- Multi-million dollar, four-part documentary series explores the urgent efforts underway to improve U.S. health care, including reducing medical errors and hospital-acquired infections. Major PBS rollout including weekly primetime national broadcast. Top-selling PBS DVD following broadcast.

**BIGGER THAN ENRON****Director, Producer and Co-Writer**

PBS FRONTLINE, Hedrick Smith Productions, 2002

- Journalist Hedrick Smith investigates the accounting scandals at Enron and other U.S. corporations.

**ROLLOVER: THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF THE SUV****Co-Director, Producer and Writer**

PBS FRONTLINE, 2002

- An investigation of the Ford-Firestone scandal reveals failure of auto industry and government to regulate SUV safety and environmental dangers going back decades.

**CRITICAL CONDITION****Director, Producer and Writer**

PBS, Hedrick Smith Productions, 2000

- Emmy nominated four-part series on the troubled American health care system. Produced documentaries on health care quality and Kaiser Permanente HMO. National primetime broadcast on PBS.

**SEEKING SOLUTIONS****Director, Producer and Writer**

PBS, Hedrick Smith Productions, 1999

- Primetime PBS documentary and town hall series profiling community responses to crime.

**SURVIVING THE BOTTOM LINE: RUNNING WITH THE BULLS****Director, Producer and Writer**

PBS, Hedrick Smith Productions, 1998

- Four-hour series examining the New Economy. Produced lead documentary on Wall Street's power over corporate America and effects on American middle class.

**THE GREENING OF THE FRESHMAN CLASS****Co-Producer and Writer**

PBS, The MacNeil-Lehrer NewsHour, Hedrick Smith Productions, 1997

- Profile of the 1994 freshmen Republican class, insurgents who became insiders.

**THE PEOPLE AND THE POWER GAME****Field Producer and Writer**

PBS, Hedrick Smith Productions, 1996

- An in-depth look at how lobbies and the news media are undermining democracy.

**TELEVISION PROGRAMS****EXPOSÉ: AMERICA'S INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS****Director, Producer and Writer**

WNET/PBS, 2006-2008

- Produced six documentaries, including one national Emmy nominee, profiling the work of leading investigative reporters for this national series airing on PBS and as part of the Bill Moyers Journal.

## CALIFORNIA-CONNECTED

### Staff Producer and Writer

PBS, 2004

- Produced award-winning stories on a range of issues for this primetime broadcast airing on California PBS stations.

## CBS NEWS

### Associate Producer

1988-1995

- Produced investigative pieces and feature stories for **EYE TO EYE**, **STREET STORIES**, and **48 HOURS**. Produced interviews and discussion segments for **NIGHTWATCH** with Charlie Rose.

## HONORS

Gold World Medal, New York Festivals International Television and Film Awards, 2016

Silver World Medal, New York Festivals International Television and Film Awards, 2016

Special Jury Award, Houston Worldfest Film Festival, 2015

AIB Award, International Current Affairs Documentary, Association for International Broadcasting, 2015

Nominee, Golden Nymph Award, Current Affairs Documentary, Monte Carlo Television Festival, 2015

Nominee, Royal Television Society Award: Current Affairs International, 2014

Finalist, Investigative Reporters and Editors Award, 2014

Finalist, Hillman Prize, 2014

Cine Golden Eagle, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2007, 2003, 1998

Nominee, National Emmy Award, Outstanding Business and Economic Reporting - Long Form, 2012

National Council on Crime and Delinquency PASS Award, 2112, 2004, 1999

Grantham Prize Award of Special Merit for environmental reporting, 2010

Cine Special Jury Award, 2008

Nominee, National Emmy Award, Outstanding Documentary on a Business Topic, 2007

First Place, Association of Health Care Journalists Award, 2007

Columbus International Film and Video Festival Honorable Mention, 2007

National Mental Health Association Media Award, 2005

Southern California Journalism Award for Investigative Reporting, 2004

Education Writers Association National Award for Education Reporting, 2004

International Labor Communications Association Media Award, 2004

Nominee, Writers Guild of America, Best Documentary Script, 2003

Nominee, National Emmy Award, Outstanding Investigative Journalism - Program, 2001

U.S. International Film and Video Festival Silver Screen Award, 2001

Columbus International Film and Video Festival Bronze Plaque, 2000, 1997

Society of Professional Journalists Sigma Delta Chi Award, 1999

Houston FilmFest Gold Medal, 1999

U.S. International Film and Video Festival Award for Creative Excellence,

1999 Worldfest Flagstaff Bronze Award, 1998

Houston FilmFest Silver Medal, 1997