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Meet Frank Weysos



LOCAL STORIES



Today we'd like to introduce you to Frank Weysos.

Frank, let's start with your story. We'd love to hear how you got started and how the journey has been so far.

I was fascinated with film at a very young age and by the time I was fourteen, I'd decided I would be a filmmaker. But when the time came, I realized that coming from a single-parent home meant that footing the \$75k bill for film school wasn't really an option. So, despite never having been on an airplane or out of the state of Texas, I packed my bags and moved to NYC with a fake resume in hand. I'd always heard that one route to success was to "fake it till you make it," and so my journey began. During my time in NYC, I worked on Woody Allen's *Melinda and Melinda* and Michael Moore's now-classic *Fahrenheit 9/11* as well as some super bowl commercials.

As grateful as I was for those opportunities, I soon realized that working sixteen hours a day, six days a week, left little to no time for me to work on my own projects. So, taking all I had learned in my time in NYC, I made my way back to Texas. Since then, I've directed several dozen music videos as well as a bunch of short films. I'm currently in the process of directing my first feature film, which is no simple task during a pandemic, but I knew this journey was never going to be easy.

Overall, has it been relatively smooth? If not, what were some of the struggles along the way?

Filmmaking is always going to be about challenges. How do you land the gig? Where do you get the money? The location fell through. The house is on fire. The camera's gone missing, etc. It's able to slow time down in the midst of chaos to find the solutions that make a good director. You're the spiritual leader on set, everyone is looking to you to solve all the problems, and to do so with confidence and love. Gotta always be loving. When a director starts yelling or pouting or, hell, even crying, the machine breaks down. No one wants to help the jerk out, but when you're kind and grateful for your crew, they will go to the ends of the earth to make your project see the light of day.

We'd love to hear more about your work.

Our main focus is on music videos. We've done some industrials and commercial work, but really, our hearts are in working with other artists. We've been fortunate to work so many artists like Grace Potter, Dr. Dog, Heartless Bastards, Scott Biram, Black Pistol Fire and many more. We've traveled all over this country to get the job done and that's a great perk to our job, travel. I always get a sense of pride when I see a video we've made gets press in an outlet like Rolling Stone, Paste Magazine, Wall Street Journal or USA Today. It's just a little reassurance that we're doing something cool, and that we are doing it well.

What is "success" or "successful" for you?

Success is many things. It's happy, it has the financial freedom to work on projects, it's creating art you're proud of. But ultimately, for me, if I can go eat sushi whenever I want or if I'm free to travel and I can pay my mom's bills, well heck, I think that's pretty dang successful and I'll take it.