



FILMMOVEMENT

A Film by Kristian Fraga

ANYTOWN, USA



United States, Running Time: 93 minutes

Distributor Contact

Josh Levin

Film Movement Series

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SYNOPSIS

This award- winning satirical documentary follows the tightly run 2003 mayoral and Borough Council election in a little town of Bogota, New Jersey. When Steven Lonagan, the legally blind Republican mayor incumbent audaciously declares he will run for re-election, the citizens of Bogota, New Jersey go on an aggressive campaign to prevent him from returning for another term. Forced out of retirement, Democrat Fred Pesce enters the race with his questionable health and his questionable methods for politics. This opens the race for the Independent Party who elects another legally blind mayoral candidate, local football hero Dave Musikant. Beyond displaying the only mayoral race in the nation to have two legally blind candidates and the over the top machinations of former Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura's campaign manager, Anytown USA eludes to the charades of partisan politics in our increasingly polarized nation.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

CAST

Doug Friedline	Himself
Steve Lonagan	Himself
Dave Musikant	Himself
Mrs. Musikant	Herself
Fred Pesce	Himself

CREW

Director/Executive Producer	Kristian Fraga
Executive Producer	Marc Perez
Executive Producer	Douglas Tirola
Producer	Michael Bridenstine
Producer	Juan Dominguez
Producer	John L. Sikes
Associate Producer	Susan Bedusa
Associate Producer	Costa Michalaksis
Cinematographer	Jonathan Wolff

ABOUT THE CREW

Kristian Fraga (Director)

Kristian is a graduate of the prestigious film program at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. His senior thesis film, "The Mind's Eye", was the first digitally shot student film at NYU. Kristian wrote, produced, and directed the award winning PBS documentary, "The Inside Reel: Digital Filmmaking". He currently serves as producer on the television series, "The Inside Reel", which is now in its 7th season and is also writing, directing, and producing "Severe Clear", a feature documentary about one soldier's experience during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

John L. Sikes (Producer)

In addition to working as the associate producer on the award winning documentary entitled "The Inside Reel: Digital Filmmaking", John worked as a consultant for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on several health education programs and media projects dealing with issues of HIV education, domestic violence and child abuse. John recently completed producing and directing a short film titled "Feed back".

Juan Dominguez (Producer)

Juan Dominguez is an independent producer and partner of XMark Monkey Entertainment. Juan began his career in 1989 as an officer in the United States Army and led an Infantry platoon during the Gulf War. After leaving the service, he worked as a financial consultant for Merrill Lynch and Co., was a Managing Director of the Investor Relations Group, and directed Investor Relations at the Xmark Funds. He is a former Bogota, NJ councilman and also served as a commissioner on the Bergen County Utilities Authority.

He is a former Bogota, NJ councilman and also served as a commissioner on the Bergen County Utilities Authority. Juan received his M.S. in management from Troy State University in Alabama.

Michael Bridenstine (Producer)

Michael is an award-winning Writer/Producer/Director whose work has been broadcast in primetime on the networks, sold on the shelves of Blockbuster and distributed in the halls of major corporations. His experience includes reality ("Help Wanted", "The Apprentice"), feature-length docs ("Anytown, USA"), comic DVDs (Sandra Bernhard's "I'm Still Here...Damn It!"), daytime ("Design Invasion", "Lifetime Now"), talk ("Montel Williams") and countless corporate pieces (Waterhouse Securities, Harley Davidson, Island Records, etc.) In addition, Michael has been creating and performing comic material for over 20 years, having been featured in The New York Times, Time Out New York and The Village Voice. He continues to foster relationships with cutting-edge production companies such as Sirk Productions and X-Mark Monkey Entertainment in an effort to create original, dynamic programming.

Marc Perez (Executive Producer)

Marc is a graduate of New York University's Stern School of Business with majors in finance, marketing and economics. He has worked at Republic National Bank in the Precious Metals Trading Department, handling over 300 million dollars in gold and silver

transactions on a daily basis. He then moved to Brunswick Warburg, a division of SBC Warburg, one of the largest banks in the world. Working in Russian Equities, he helped streamline the risky and inefficient operations of equities trading in the former communist state. In late 1998 he left Brunswick Warburg to work full time at Sirk Productions, LLC. where he produced most of Sirk's television show, films and commercials. Marc is also an editor and graphic designer. Marc is based in the NYC office.

Douglas Tirola (Executive Producer)

Doug made his directorial debut as a writer and filmmaker with the critically acclaimed film "A Reason To Believe", which was released nationally by Lions Gate in 1996 and will be released on DVD in the Winter of 2004. He has since written screenplays for and set up projects as a director and producer at Paramount Pictures, New Line Cinema, Nickelodeon Movies and Twentieth Century Fox.

Doug has worked on the production of over twenty-five movies in roles including producer, location manager, and production coordinator for Universal, Paramount, Columbia, Warner Brothers, New Line and MGM. Some of these movies include, "A League of Their Own", "Searching for Bobby Fischer", "Money Train", the digital feature film "Twelve", and "Killing Time", which was an Official Selection of the 2002 Sundance Film Festival.

Doug recently served as a partner at Emerging Pictures as the Head of Production and Development. Under that banner, Doug was Executive Producer on the digital feature, The "Lucky Ones" (Tribeca Film Festival 2003) and set up a series he created, "Cheerleaders," with producer Ed Pressman.

Doug is currently President of 4th Row Films where he continues to produce, write and direct films. He has also created a division of the company, which utilizes independent filmmakers to produce commercials as well as marketing and branding films. He has produced and directed over 150 of these films.

Most recently, Doug's screenplay, "Victor in December", which he will also direct, was optioned by the Academy Award nominated producer of "Gosford Park", Bob Balaban. Victor in December won a Writer's Guild Award for best-unproduced screenplay.

Doug is a graduate of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, with a degree in Philosophy. He also has a Masters of Fine Arts from Columbia University in New York City. He is represented by the William Morris Agency.

Robert Greene (Editor)

Robert Greene has directed and edited films, videos, documentaries and experimental works that have received many awards and played in several festivals. Most recently, his film "Ye Are the Light of the World (Don't Stare into the Sun)" was selected to screen at the 2003 New York Underground Film Festival. His 16mm narrative short "Cut-Out" played at the 1999 Hi Mom Film Festival. His thesis video, the experimental

documentary "God is Not Silent Down South" screened at the Cityvisions festival in May, 2002. In December, 2002, Robert received his first one-person show of new work at the Millennium Film Center in New York.

FESTIVAL AWARDS & HISTORY

Minneapolis St. Paul Film Festival - **WINNER**- Best Documentary
St. Paul Film Festival

Trenton Film Festival - **WINNER**- Best Director

Long Island Film Festival - **WINNER**- Jury Prize for Best Documentary

Newport Beach Film Festival – **OFFICIAL SELECTION**

Utah Freedom Festival – **OFFICIAL SELECTION**

Atlanta Film Festival – **OFFICIAL SELECTION**

REVIEWS

“A campaign for mayor that takes unexpected, and heartbreaking, twists and turns.”
–*The New York Times*

“3.5 Stars! More twists than an episode of *Lost*... ANYTOWN is more than a snapshot of local politics. It's a nail-biting drama” *Newark Star-Ledger*

“Has the impact of a blockbuster drama that keeps you guessing right up to the end.”
–*The Times of Trenton, N.J.*

“Hilarious and endlessly quirky... ‘ANYTOWN, USA’ mixes the humor of the best Christopher Guest films with both the scrutiny and pathos of a political satire.”
–Steve Snyder, *Minnesota Daily*

ABOUT FILM MOVEMENT

Film Movement is an innovative new film distribution company, created as a solution for millions of consumers across the nation whose access to outstanding film is limited by geography, lifestyle or lack of information. Film Movement has members in over 50 states and 1200 cities. Film Movement acquires award winning independent films from the world's top festivals, which they then release each month of the year to members on DVD through a subscription service, and theatrically through The Film Movement Series. Participating filmmakers are able to reach under-served film fans everywhere through Film Movement.

The Film Movement Series is a new theatrical film series featuring some of the best in original world cinema. Created by the team that invented the groundbreaking Shooting Gallery Film Series, Film Movement will release 6 of its 12 films per year in leading independent cinemas in major US cities to help outstanding filmmakers find the audience they deserve. All films are available to members exclusively on DVD upon theatrical release so that they may participate regardless of where they live.

Film Movement has partnered with some of the leading independent theaters in the country to exhibit the Film Movement Series. The schedule includes the following films:

- Wiebke von Carolsfeld's *Marion Bridge*
- Eric Eason's *Manito*
- Scott Hamilton Kennedy's *OT: our town*
- Donovan Leitch & Rebecca Chaiklin's *The Party's Over*
- Tjebbo Penning's *Morlang*
- Mina Shum's *Long Life, Happiness and Prosperity*
- Vicente Amorim's *The Middle of the World*
- Jacques Doillon's *Raja*
- Tony McNamra's *The Rage in Placid Lake*
- Rolf de Heer's *Alexandra's Project*