

JOHN AINSLIE

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CONTENT CREATION / FILM & TV PROFESSIONAL

Creative Leader • Problem Solver • Innovative Thinker

Dynamic and motivated professional with a proven record of generating, building and managing digital projects from concept to completion. ACADEMY NICHOLL SEMIFINALIST, with films that have played SUNDANCE, SLAMDANCE, AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL among others. Skilled in managing teams, demonstrating exceptional communication skills and critical decisions making under tight deadlines.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Creative Film Services – Writer/Director

2003 - Present

Writer of four produced feature films, Director of two that have been distributed worldwide to both critical and financial success. An **Academy Nicholl Semifinalist** in 2020. Features have screened theatrically as well as streamed on top horror streamer **Shudder** and are available on VOD platforms like **Amazon** and **Apple**. Written and directed for television series that stream on **HBOMax** and **Discovery+**.

Highlights include:

DO NOT DISTURB (feature film) – Austin Film Festival, FrightFest, LA Screamefest. Best Psychological Thriller; Atlanta Horror Film Festival; US Theatrical Distribution

MISSION UNEXPLAINED – Writer: Series exploring paranormal experiences in the military

SOMEONE IS HIDING SOMETHING – Writer: True Crime Series produced by Cineflix Canada

A GHOST RUINED MY LIFE – Writer & Director: Produced by Eli Roth

HAUNTED MUSEUM – Writer: Produced by Eli Roth

THE SUBLET (feature film) - Whistler Film Festival, Razor Reel; sold and screening internationally

SHE CAME KNOCKING (feature script) - 2020 Academy Nicholl Fellowship Semifinalist

TRESPASS (feature script) - 2020 Austin Film Festival Screenplay Contest

JACK BROOKS: MONSTER SLAYER –Distributed by Anchor Bay, Slamdance, Brussels, Fantasia, Sitges:

Best Motion Picture Midnight Express, Calgary Underground Festival: Audience Choice

SHE CAME KNOCKING - Canadian Film Festival: Best Short Film, NSI Online Festival: Best Short

COLD FEET - Fantasia, LA Screamefest, CBC Canadian Reflections, IFC

THE GARAGE - Palm Springs International Film Festival, Calgary International Film Festival

Professional Film Services – Technical & Production Management

2002 - Present

Performed various freelance roles such as Production Manager and Coordinator, overseeing a wide range of projects. Responsibilities included creating detailed budgets and supervising expenditures to ensure financial efficiency. Managed hiring processes, selecting and onboarding skilled crews for various productions. Coordinated international productions by scheduling interviews and organizing logistics, including hiring local crews in multiple cities. Demonstrated strong leadership, strategic planning, and effective communication skills to ensure the successful execution of complex projects. Also served as a cinematographer, managing the crew and responsible for ensuring the quality of the production. Creating and advising on preliminary breakdowns and budgets for projects ranging from \$2 million to \$30 million. Clients included History Channel,

Highlights include:

SK8 LIFE – Sundance, Borsos Prize of Best Cinematographer

WHEN DREAMS TAKE FLIGHT – Canadian Screen Award Best Science or Nature Program

SMART WOMAN SURVIVAL GUIDE

Current Work Includes:

MIKEY THE BUG – Built a preliminary breakdown and budget of \$18M BTL for the production

HELLO DARLING – Served as Cinematographer, Editor and Post Supervisor

ANGEL 3 – Served as Editor

Bookkeeper / Tax Prep

October 2005 – Ongoing

Tracking and reconciling spending for Rechna Varma Productions company. Tax preparation and submission annually.

Contractor – Carpenter & Painter

August 2012 – June 2017

Operated a residential contracting company specializing in kitchen and bathroom renovations. With primary expertise in carpentry and painting. Performed tiling, drywall installation, minor electrical and basic plumbing work. Key responsibilities included securing contracts and sub-contracts from larger companies, managing all facets of the business such as customer relations, bookkeeping, job estimates, and employee management. This role required a blend of technical skills, strategic planning, and effective communication to ensure high-quality project outcomes and customer satisfaction.

True North Hockey - Administrator

June 2013 to June 2017

Administered, organized, and managed men's league hockey teams for a prominent league in the Greater Toronto Area. Coordinated schedules, facilitated team communications, and ensured smooth operations for all games and events. Acted as the primary point of contact for client relations, handling inquiries, resolving conflicts, and managing disciplinary actions for 48 teams. Implemented effective strategies to enhance team performance and league experience, demonstrating strong leadership and organizational skills.

Coyote Films - Project Manager / Editor

August 2002 – June 2005

Delivered on client expectations in relevance to schedule, budget and service quality with professionalism. Primarily performed the role of Video Editor, Assistant Editor and Archivist, but also acted as Production Manager for location shoots and served as client liaison. Researched and implemented new systems to boost productivity and increase efficiency within the technical pipeline.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

Music Business Foundations Certificate

Berklee College of Music 2024

Copyright Law in the Music Business Certificate

Key Skills Acquired: Analyze recording contract provisions & Revenue Streams, Copyright Law,

Cyber Security Professional Bootcamp

University of Miami / Thrive Dx

Cyber Introduction Fundamentals. Introduction to Kali Linux, Log Management, Hardening, Security Frameworks, Penetration Testing, Ethical Hacking.

Intuit Academy Bookkeeping Certificate

Intuit Academy 2023

Assets in Accounting Certificate

Key Skills Acquired: Inventory Costing Methods, Depreciation, PP&E Accounting, Accounts Receivable, Asset Accounting

Liabilities & Equity in Accounting

Key Skills Acquired: Accounting, Accounting for Liability & Equity, Accounts Payable & Payroll, Long-Term Liabilities and Note Payable, Owner's Equity & Draw

Financial Statement Analysis

Key Skills Acquired: Cash Flow, Financial Reports & Analysis, Bank Reconciliation, Financial Statement Analysis

Bookkeeping Basics

Key Skills Acquired: Double Entry Bookkeeping System, Basis of Accounting, Creating Financial Statements, Accounting Software, Accounting Cycle

Screenwriting / Canadian Film Centre

2012-14

The Norman Jewison Film Program is a full-time, professional accelerated program for emerging to mid-level Canadian filmmakers. It is designed to improve narrative storytelling and grow the residents' body of work, creative community and career potential.

Photography / Fanshawe College 1997
Studied the basics of photography and darkroom techniques as well as art history and the history of photography.

Radio & Television Broadcasting Technology / St. Clair College 1995
The basics of running a broadcast floor and live production booth.

INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTIONS

Jury Member for Popcorn Frights Film Festival 2023
Early selection committee member for Canadian Film Centre Director's Lab 2023 & 2024
Served as a creative advisor to the Sundance supported short film "Water"
Programmer for Slamdance Miami 2021
Industry judge for the FilmGate Horror Short Film Festival
Designed and instructed a screenwriting course for FilmGate Miami 2020
Industry judge for the National Screen Institute Short Film Festival 2019

FILMOGRAPHY & FREELANCE

Hello Darling – Cinematographer / Editor Rechna Varma Productions Inc. - Feature Film	Spring 2025
Angel Three - Editor Bunk 11 Pictures/Genco Pictures - Feature Film	Fall 2024
Mission Unexplained - Writer Science Network / Blue Ant Media – TV Series Streaming on HBO Max	April 2023
Do Not Disturb – Writer / Director Bunk 11 Pictures/Rechna Varma Productions Inc. - Feature Film	November 2023
Ventablck – Producer Latefox Pictures – Short Film	September 2022
A Ghost Ruined My Life – Writer / Director Eli Roth Presents / Cream Productions - TV Series Streaming on HBO Max	November 2022
The Haunted Museum - Writer Eli Roth Presents / Cream Productions - TV Series Streaming on Discovery+	October 2022
Queen Of Spades – Writer Bunk 11 Pictures / 1984 Pictures - Feature Film	October 2021
Anniversary Party – Writer / Director Rechna Varma Productions Inc. - Short Film	August 2020
She came knocking – Writer / Director / Producer Latefox Pictures / Tandem - Short Film	November 2018
The Sublet – Writer / Director Breakthrough Entertainment / Black Fawn Films. - Feature Film	December 2017
The Garage – Writer 1984 Pictures - Short Film	August 2015
Cold Feet – Writer Canadian Film Centre - Short Film	August 2015
Bullet in the Head – Writer/Director Rechna Varma Productions Inc. – Short Film	May 2012
Clean Break – Production Coordinator/Locations Liason Grainey Pictures/Gpix for Schick.com - Online branded entertainment series	September 2009
A.D.D. and Loving It! – Production Coordinator Global Currents S & S Productions/Green Media - 1 hr. documentary series on Global	August – November 2008
The Last New Year – Camera Operator / Additional Cinematographer The Nightingale Company – Feature Film	February 2008
Jack Brooks: Monster Slayer – Writer Anchor Bay Entertainment / Brookstreet Pictures – Feature Film	October 2008
The Smart Woman Survival Guide – Special Projects Magee TV Inc./ W Network - Comedy series 30 min x 22 episodes	August 2006 – July 2007
Sk8 Life - Cinematographer Travesty Pictures – Feature Film	March 2006