

Michael Chandler

Michael Chandler is an Academy Award-nominated filmmaker, working in non-fiction and fiction film. His film ***Knee Deep*** is a feature documentary about a Maine farm boy who tries to kill his mother when she sells the family farm. The film won four Best Documentary Awards, including the prestigious Maysles Brothers Award, and aired on PBS *Independent Lens*. One reviewer called it: *A satiric study of rural American values wrapped in an attempted murder mystery. Funny and chilling, beautifully shot, cunningly edited, and eye-opening on every level.* ***Forgotten Fires***, about the burning by Ku Klux Klansmen of Black churches in South Carolina, was broadcast on PBS and won numerous awards, including a Golden Spire at the San Francisco Film Festival. Bill Moyers said about it: *If we wanted a real dialog about race in America, we'd start with this film.* Michael has also produced and directed documentaries for the PBS series *Frontline*, including ***Blackout***, a collaboration with *The New York Times*, ***The Future of War***, a look at the Army's ability to meet emerging military threats, and ***Secrets of the SAT***, which won First Prize in Broadcast Journalism from the Education Writer's Association.

Michael began his career as an editor, and his feature film credits include ***Never Cry Wolf***, ***Mishima***, and ***Amadeus***, for which he was nominated for an Academy Award and won the ACE award for Best Feature Editing. He has written and edited the documentaries ***Freedom on My Mind*** (Academy Nomination, Sundance Grand Jury Prize), ***Yosemite: The Fate of Heaven*** (Emmy Award), and ***Can't It Be Anyone Else?***, for which he received the Christopher Humanitarian Award and the ACE Award for Best Documentary Editing. Michael's editing credits include ***Waldo Salt: A Screenwriter's Journey*** (Academy Nomination), ***The Squires of San Quentin*** (Academy Nomination), ***Xtreme: Sports to Die For*** (HBO, *America Undercover*) and ***Moses Pendleton Presents Moses Pendleton***. Michael served as consulting editor, co-editor and co-writer on the Oscar-nominated ***The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers*** (IDFA Special Jury Award, National Board of Review, Freedom of Expression Award) and consulting editor on ***Archeology of Memory: Villa Grimaldi*** (Audience Award, Mill Valley, Special Jury Award, Mendocino) and ***Trimpin, The Sound of Invention*** (Cinema Eye Spotlight Nomination).

MICHAEL CHANDLER

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Yale University, B.A., Urban Studies
Stanford University, M.A., Communications

Member:

Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences
Writer's Guild of America
Editor's Guild

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR

KNEE DEEP (2007, 81 Mins.)

The Moenkopi Group, Inc. & Ingonish Films

Grand Jury Prize, Best Documentary Feature, Florida Film Festival, Hollywood Film Festival

Maysles Award for Best Documentary, Starz Denver Film Festival

Grand Jury Prize, Best International Documentary, DOCNZ, New Zealand

Official Selection, Full Frame Documentary Film Festival, Mill Valley, Maine, Camden, Woods Hole, Cucalorus, Hot Springs Documentary, Hollywood, and DocFest NY

One of the year's best 'believe it or not' documentaries, Michael Chandler's amazing documentary Knee Deep is a rural Rashomon... This is the rare effort that feels rightfully authentic. One of the best documentaries on closed-off communities and human politics ever mounted....A compelling cinematic experience...Highly Recommended

--Bill Gibron, DVDTalk

A satiric study of rural American values wrapped in an attempted murder mystery. Funny and chilling, beautifully shot, cunningly edited, and eye-opening on every level.

--Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel

Darkly satiric. Chandler, whose Forgotten Fires detailed the KKK's burning of black churches in a small Southern town, is a master at gauging the values of a community in crisis.

--Erin Clements, Timeout New York

Knee Deep, a relentlessly surprising feature by Michael Chandler, plays like a rural film noir directed by Errol Morris...leaving ample room to explore themes of urban development, the rural work ethic, and the curious overlap between truth and mythmaking. It's also hilarious and full of memorable characters.

--Chris Gray, The Phoenix

FORGOTTEN FIRES (1998, 60 min)

Ingonish Films

Best Documentary, Canyonlands FF, Flagstaff FF, Golden Spire, SF Film Festival, Crystal Heart, Heartland FF, Juror's Choice, Charlotte FF, Louisville FF, First Place, New Haven FF, San Luis Obispo FF, Golden Apple, National Educational Media Network

Members of the racially mixed audience were moved by the film, some wiping away tears, others sitting in almost stunned silence.

--Allison Askins, The South Carolina State.

If we wanted a real dialogue about race in America, we'd start with this film. Its strong dose of reality begs for an honest response from a wide audience.

--Bill Moyers

A stunning film, deeply felt, deeply moving, and worthy of repeated viewings.

--Anthony Walton, author of *Mississippi, An American Journey*

Filmmaker Michael Chandler seems genuinely more interested in understanding than blaming.

--John Leonard, *New York Magazine*

BLACKOUT (2001, 60 Min)

PBS Frontline & *The New York Times*

Blackout may not have solved the problem of whether or not deregulation will eventually work; it does make clear, however, that energy brokers like Enron and El Paso are getting filthy rich in the interim...Blackout is another investigative victory for the FRONTLINE crew, helping to make sense out of a complicated public issue.

--Ronnie D. Lankford, Jr., All Movie Guide

THE FUTURE OF WAR (2000, 60min)

PBS Frontline

**Silver Plaque, Chicago Int'l TV Competition, Investigative Reporting
Bronze Award, Worldfest Houston**

"Your hard work and unstinting research were clearly evident throughout this balanced and informative program. The Army staff and all the officers involved in the production thank you.

--Gen. Eric Shinseki, Former Army Chief of Staff

SECRETS OF THE SAT (1999, 60 min)

PBS Frontline

***First Prize, Education Writer's Assn.**

Behind the criticisms of the test, as the documentary makes clear, is a larger debate over the goal of diversity in American society.

--Walter Goodman, *New York Times*

Disarms the worst myths and stereotypes about testing.

--Connie Langland, *Boston Globe*

Pokes gaping holes in the argument that the SAT is an unbiased way of determining who gets into college.

--DeWayne Wickham ,Baltimore Sun

One more nail in the coffin of standardized tests. School districts across the country should engage in some needed reforms

--Clarence Page, Kansas City Star

DIRECTOR

FOOLING WITH NATURE (1999, 60 min)

PBS Frontline/The Center for Investigative Reporting

***Gold Award,Houston FF**

This episode, without becoming shrill or hysterical, makes a case so strong that it lingers long after the program is over.

--David Bianculli, The Fort worth Star-Telegram.

FIGHTING MINISTERS (co-director) (1989, 60 min)

The Catticus Corporation

All these hours later I am still haunted...by what I saw of conviction so powerful it is socially and spiritually explosive.

-- Bill Moyers, Public Affairs Television, Inc.

IN OUR DEFENSE (30 min), ***FACES OF WAR*** (1987,30 min)

Foundation for the Arts of Peace

WRITER & EDITOR

THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN IN AMERICA: DANIEL ELLSBERG AND THE PENTAGON PAPERS (93 min)

Kovno Communications

Directors: Judith Ehrlich & Rick Goldsmith

***IDFA Special Jury Award,**

***National Board of Review, Freedom of Expression Award, Top Six Documentaries**

***Mill Valley, Audience Award**

FREEDOM ON MY MIND (110 min)

Clarity Films

*** Academy Award Nomination, Best Documentary**

*** Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize**

YOSEMITE: THE FATE OF HEAVEN (60 min)

Sundance Institute/Polaroid Corporation

*** Emmy Award**

*** First Place, American Film Festival**

CAN'T IT BE ANYONE ELSE? (60 min)

ABC News Closeup/Korty Films

- *Dupont/ Columbia Journalism Award
- *Christopher Humanitarian Award
- *American Cinema Editors (A.C.E.) Award

EDITOR

Feature Films

AMADEUS

Director: Milos Forman

*Academy Award Nomination: Best Editing

*American Cinema Editors (A.C.E.) Award

MISHIMA

Director: Paul Schrader

NEVER CRY WOLF

Director: Carroll Ballard

EMPIRE RECORDS

Director: Allan Moyle

WIND

Director: Carroll Ballard

DIGGER

Director: Rob Turner

HOWARD THE DUCK

Director: Willard Huyck

JULIA & JULIA

Director: Peter DelMonte

AMAZONAS

Dir: Mika Kaurismaki

Documentary Films

XTREME: SPORTS TO DIE FOR (60 min)

Telling Pictures /HBO

HOT GUNS (60 min)

PBS Frontline/Center for Investigative Reporting

*Emmy Award

WALDO SALT: A SCREENWRITER'S JOURNEY (60 min)

American Masters/The Sundance Institute

*Academy Award Nomination, Best Documentary

THE SQUIRES OF SAN QUENTIN (30 min)

J. Gary Mitchell Films

***Academy Award Nomination, Best Short Film**

MOSES PENDLETON PRESENTS MOSES PENDLETON (60 min)

ABC Arts Channel

***First Place, US Film Festival; Silver Medal, Chicago Film Festival**

FIRE ON THE WATER (60 min)

PBS "Crisis-to-Crisis"

***First Place, US Film Festival**

MY FATHER THE CIRCUS KING (60 min)

NBC Special Projects

WE WERE JUST TOO YOUNG (30 min)

J. Gary Mitchell Films

AMERICAN FARMER (30 min)

Quest Films

CONSULTING EDITOR

THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN IN AMERICA: DANIEL ELLSBERG AND THE PENTAGON PAPERS

<http://www.mostdangerousman.org/>

Kovno Communications

Directors: Judith Ehrlich & Rick Goldsmith

***IDFA Special Jury Award,**

***National Board of Review, Freedom of Expression Award, Top Six Documentaries**

***Mill Valley, Audience Award**

TRIMPIN: THE SOUND OF INVENTION

<http://www.trimpinmovie.com/>

Participant/Observer Productions

Director: Peter Esmonde

SXSW, Silverdocs, Seattle, Nashville, Boston, London, Cinema Eye Spotlight Award Nomination

FROM GHOST TOWN TO HAVANA

PlayTwo Pictures

Director: Gene Corr

Work-In-Progress

ARCHEOLOGY OF MEMORY: VILLA GRIMALDI

(And Editor)

http://www.archeologyofmemory.org/the_film.html

Interfaze Productions

Directors: Quique Cruz, Marilyn Mulford

***Audience Award, Mill Valley FF, *Special Jury Award, Mendocino FF, Vancouver, Ashland**