



AUSTIN NORDELL

Director of Photography

With an undying passion for the art of filmmaking and visual storytelling, Austin Nordell has achieved his experience through hands on work in as many diverse departments behind the camera as possible. His process of experimentation coupled with observation on diverse sets eventually led him to a clear realization that cinematography would be his career of choice, fueling his creativity and passion more than any other form of expression.

Austin's personal goal has always been to achieve a better understanding of the art of storytelling by the practice and application of in-camera techniques and the telling of a visual story while immersing himself in the varied mechanics that go into the production machine. He strives to continually raise the standards of excellence within himself; in the crew he surrounds himself with, and in the projects with which he is associated.

Although specializing in feature films, and experimenting with new ideas and methods in short films, Austin thrives on creativity and collaboration and has a varied list of additional work that he has accomplished successfully over the years. These include music videos, an international documentary set in Viet Nam and Cambodia, a variety of commercials, web content and viral videos for clients such as AOL, Coca-Cola, Maxim Magazine, Atomic Comics, Kaboom Energy Drink, GoDaddy.com, PGA Southwest, 944 Magazine, Verizon Wireless, and the MLB.

In 2004, he was awarded Best Cinematography for *Somerton Storm*, a short film in competition with thirty other films at the A3F.

In 2006, he continued receiving recognition from competitive festivals for his work as a Director of Photography with Best Cinematography awards for *Damn Shame*, *Decaffeinated*, *Sexy Urban Style*, and *Distorted Reality*.

In 2007, Austin received the Best Cinematography award for *Recoil* and then the following year in 2008 for *Crimes Against Man*, both from the Phoenix 48 Film Project.

His work with AOL also garnered some attention. *Cambio Goes Home with Jordin Sparks* received over 1.3 million views in less than two weeks and his viral video for Maxim Magazine was awarded Best College Video.

Each project brings its own challenges and specific needs, with this in mind, Austin has utilized a variety of cameras over the years including RED, Arri 16mm, Canon 5D MkII, Canon 7D, Canon 60D, Rebel T2i, GH-1, Sony HDV, EX series cameras, Panasonic HDV Cameras and Sony Cinealta Cameras.

PHILOSOPHY

Austin's philosophy and approach to each new project is imagine, pursue, create. This applies not only to his creative decision making process, but to his collaboration with every department on set. He has been known to say, *If you can imagine a scene or a shot and have the passion to pursue a way to make it come to life, then you can create it. No exceptions!*

GROWING UP WITH FILM

As a child, Austin would often gather neighborhood kids and classmates together to film short stories with his family's VHS camcorder and then edit them together with two VCRs. Unfortunately, after nonstop use, that camera lived out its life and his family purchased him a small 8mm camcorder to continue his cinematic pursuits. In High School, his first *real job* came at a Blockbuster Video store that gave him the opportunity to watch thousands of films, contemporary and classic alike. He took advantage of this opportunity and immersed himself over his four-year employment. This *job education* allowed him to dissect the Master's work and continue judicious experimentation of his own, weaving new ideas and concepts into his work with the knowledge he gained from these viewings. His skill was sharpened by film school and continues on in his professional career. He loves what he does and is grateful to all who have inspired him.