

SID SANTIAGO ZANFORLIN

DIRECTOR, WRITER & CINEMATOGRAPHER

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Sid Santiago Zanforlin is an award-winning, trilingual (English, Spanish, French) film and television professional with over 25 years of experience in directing, cinematography, editing, and production leadership. A member of the Directors Guild of Canada (DGC) and former IATSE 669 cameraman, he brings a unique LatinX and Québécois perspective to high-caliber content across formats.

Based in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), Sid blends creative vision with deep technical proficiency to lead complex productions from concept through delivery. He has managed features, episodic television, live-streamed events, documentaries, educational programming, and branded content, consistently aligning artistic and marketing goals while overseeing project scheduling, budgeting, equipment procurement, and broadcaster/client communication. Known for his honest leadership, adaptability under pressure, and collaborative spirit, Sid thrives in building diverse teams, mentoring emerging talent, and delivering impactful media that reflects both innovation and purpose.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR & WRITER | FILM AND TELEVISION

1999-Present

- **Written and directed** over 90 episodes of both factual and scripted television, blending narrative vision with an acute understanding of audience engagement.
- **Written and directed** award-winning shorts, music videos, and two indie feature films, consistently praised for creative vision and storytelling strength.
- Expert in collaborating with actors, screenwriters, and cinematographers to deliver content that meets high production values and emotional depth.
- **Shortlisted for a Canadian Screen Award (CSA) nomination** for TV directing, reflecting his commitment to creative excellence in Canadian media.
- **Diverse storytelling:** Blends LatinX, Québécois, and Canadian heritage to craft stories reflecting underrepresented communities

CINEMATOGRAPHER & CAMERAMAN

1995-2005

- Served as cinematographer and IATSE 669 assistant cameraman on a number of series, commercials, shorts, features, and documentaries.
- Designed lighting setups for studio and on-location shoots.
- Captured content across multiple formats (35mm, 16mm, digital) in Canada, the U.S., Mexico, the UK, and France.

SENIOR CREATIVE LEADERSHIP

- 15+ years in senior creative roles, **evaluating and shaping content**. Led hiring, scheduling, budgeting, and union negotiations in collaboration with producers.
- He has **Series Directed** and **Co- Showrun** numerous shows and has an extensive **problem-solving expertise** in the pre-production, production and post production process, capable of diagnosing core issues and presenting both imaginative and technical solutions quickly and effectively.
- Has a deep understanding of **scriptwriting, production techniques, and post-production processes**, enabling him to provide actionable feedback to writers, editors, and producers.

MUSIC INDUSTRY & CREATIVE INFLUENCE

- **Juno-nominated** musician and producer; integrates audio storytelling into visual production with deep understanding of post-audio workflows.

SKILLS / CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Technical Knowledge**. Well versed in Multi-Camera Direction & Live Streaming.
- **Story Analysis & Development**: Expert at analyzing story structure, character arcs, and themes, providing actionable feedback to enhance the quality and appeal of scripts.
- **Creative Problem Solving**: Demonstrated ability to address challenges in narrative structure, casting, technical issues and production design with innovative, effective solutions.
- **Cultural Awareness & Sensitivity**: Strong connection to, and understanding of underrepresented communities in Canada, particularly the LatinX and Québécois diaspora.
- **Team Collaboration**: Proven success in fostering creative partnerships and facilitating negotiations with producers, directors, and editors.
- **Industry Knowledge**: Deep familiarity with Canadian talent, network mandates, and content trends in scripted drama both locally and globally.
- **Communication**: Accomplished at delivering comprehensive feedback, leading workshops, and speaking effectively in public settings like juries and panels.

EDUCATION

Canadian Film Centre

Directors' Lab Graduate

Concordia University

Bachelor of Arts- Film Studies

Professional Development & Contributions

- **Workshops & Panels**: Participated and led BIPOC and other diversity-focused industry workshops, fostering opportunities for underrepresented voices in Canadian media.
 - **Mentorship & Teaching**: Mentored teen filmmakers in creative camps, sharing knowledge of screenwriting, direction, and production. Has taught at Concordia University, Weengushk and numerous ACTRA workshops.
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SELECTED TV & FILM WORK		
Director	The Heiress	Vertical Feature (UFG) - 2025
Director/Writer/Editor	Black Empanadas	11 min Short - 2025
Director/Writer	Creepy Bits (2 episodes)	Hollywood Suite tv series - 2024
Director/Writer	Black Paris	Volume Wall short - 2023
Director (Drama)	Homicide: Hours to Kill (13 episodes)	A&E (Cineflix) -2022
Director (Drama)	Eli Roth's Posessed (2 episodes)	MAX (Cream) - 2022
Director/Writer	They're Here	Short Film (Attraction - 2021)
Director (Drama)	Fear Thy Roommate (8 Episodes)	MAX (CREAM) - 2020-2023
Director (Drama)	Fear Thy Neighbour (6 episodes)	MAX (CREAM) - 2019/2020/2022
Director/Writer	Blood Clots	AMAZON Feature (Horror) 2018
Director/Writer	Minutes Past Midnight	Feature (Horror) 2017
Director (Drama)	Fatal Vows (28 episodes)	Discovery ID 2013-2019
Director (Drama)	Outlaw Tech (5 episodes)	Science Channel 2017
Director (Drama)	National Parks (2 episodes)	Travel Network/2016
Director (Drama)	Natural Born Outlaws (4 episodes)	History Channel/2015
Director/Writer	Never Tear Us Apart	6 min short/2015/HD
Director (Drama)	Home Made (2 episodes)	CBC- Doc Series 2013
Director (Doc)	Boogeymen (3 episodes)	Destination US- Doc Series 2013
Director (Drama)	Strangers in the Home (3 eps)	Discovery ID/2013/2014/2016
Director (Doc & Drama)	Prank Patrol (13 episodes)	YTV Show/2006 – 2008
Director/Writer	Attack of the Brainsucker	12 min short/2013/HD
Cameraman	Dark Angel, Scary Movie, 13 Ghosts, Romeo Must Die, etc	HD/35 mm/1997-2003
Director/Writer	Trailer Park Unicorn	12 min short/ 16mm/2006
Director	Birthday Party/Into the Woods/ BabyM/Jesus Hopped the A Train	Theatre/2005-2008

OTHER INTERESTS

Punk music • Always looking for a dance floor • Theatre • Children's education • Literature • Graphic Novels