

■ Cinematographer

Christopher Chomyn



As cinematographer on the feature films, "Flying By," "Mr. Sadman," "American Primitive," "Sea of Dreams," "Lockdown," "Picture Bride," "Phantasm III" & "IV," and "Taxi Dancer," Chris made his reputation for creating compositions that convey the subtext of each moment and draw the audience into the story. His painterly approach masterfully integrates light, shadow, color and movement to bring the director's vision to life, enhance the performances of the actors and seduce the audience into surrendering their subconscious. In his capable hands, locations become characters and characters become real.

Originally from New York (though he says he's from Maine), Chris moved to California in 1985. He began working as a production assistant, which included driving screen legend Doris Day to and from the set each day. Before long, he became a set lighting technician and eventually he earned his first credit as cinematographer. His diverse body of work includes films and television programs, as well as commercials, music videos, documentaries and interactive projects.

Chris earned his MFA in Production from the UCLA School of Theater Film and Television. He has led cinematography workshops and seminars for Walt Disney Feature Animation, Eastman Kodak, The International Cinematographer's Guild, UCLA Extension, Loyola Marymount University, Film Independent, the International Film and Video Workshops in Rockport, Maine and the Center for Educational Exchange with Vietnam through the Ford Foundation. Chris has been a Film Independent "Project Involve" mentor. He is an alternate on the National Executive Board of the IATSE, Local 600 – International Cinematographers Guild where he also serves on the diversity committee and public relations committee.

Chris currently holds a faculty appointment as a Senior Lecturer at the USC School of Cinematic Arts where he has been teaching cinematography and visual communication since 1997. As part of the USC faculty, Chris chairs the University Committee on Work and Family Life.

Chris is an avid sailor which he says is the perfect training for one destined to a life embracing the unexpected. He is inspired both by life and art. Chris lives with his wife and two daughters in Los Angeles in their 1893 "Queen Anne" Victorian Cottage.

More about Chris, including examples of his work as well as "behind the scenes" photos and video clips of Chris on set can be found on his website: www.chrischomyn.com.

