

MATTHEW J. BLECHA

Director & 1st Assistant Director

Biography

June, 2020

Matthew Blecha is an award-winning filmmaker, director and assistant director. In 1989, he earned a bachelor's degree from Queen's University in film studies, after which he moved to British Columbia. In BC, he has enjoyed a long and steady career as an assistant director for film and TV. Matthew has worked on various Canadian and US shows in both BC and Alberta including *Needful Things*, *the X-Files*, *Jake & the Kid*, *Stargate SG-1*, *Mysterious Ways*, *the L.A. Law Reunion*, *J-pod* and more recently, *Spooksville* and *Signed, Sealed & Delivered*.

In 1997, Matthew wrote and directed his first short film; "Sombrio" starring Martin Cummins and Elana Nep, which screened in film festivals in Europe and Canada. In 2003, Matthew wrote and directed "The Mall Man", which was selected to take part in the Director's Guild of Canada's "Kick Start" program for emerging directors. The film, starring Fred Ewanuick and Leah Cairns, also screened in numerous festivals including those in Edmonton, Yorkton and Halifax.

After having a young family and assistant directing for 14 years, in 2017, Matthew wrote and directed "Super Bingo" starring Matt Mazur and Lexi Redman. The film won a number of awards including best film at the Okanagan Indiefest and audience favorite at the Short Circuit: Pacific Rim Film Fest in Victoria. In 2019, he directed "The Still Life of Annika Myers", starring Barbara Wallace and Brian Taylor, which has screened and earned several awards in festivals in Canada, the US and Asia

Matthew is as passionate about story-telling through the medium of film as he is about the multi-faceted process of filmmaking itself. His attention to detail and the care and respect he extends to his all colleagues is what makes him stand out. He continues to aspire to make meaningful and engaging films. Matthew lives in Victoria, BC, with his wife and three children.