

Richard Arsenault
Filmmaking Biography

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Richard Joseph Arsenault began making films in a suburb of Pittsburgh called Wexford, Pennsylvania. From his early claymation, pixilation, and live action work, Richard has been combining technology with creativity for thirty four years.

Richard's first film Pickilation was completed in 1976 at the age of thirteen. Richard was enthralled and intrigued with live action pixilation and stop motion photography.

Richard Arsenault at the age of 14 was the creator of Richland High School's first film club in Gibsonia, Pennsylvania. Richard and his classmates Steve Bittle, Dan Munchnock and Scott Dowling co-wrote and co-produced three films in three years from 1980 to 1982..

These first films that Richard Arsenault directed and edited include the comedy Dragon Quest 1980, a homage to Monty Python's The Holy Grail a story of two brothers seeking to kill the dragon for fame and glory.

The comedy The Maltese Hamster 1981 was a spoof on James Bond. where main character Lance Flintlock tries to solve the mystery of the International Gag Terrorists with a clue tattooed on the hamster .

Kings Bane 1982 is a dramatic one-hour medieval 'epic' with a cast of students featuring authentic costumes, horses, elaborate locations, and a full student orchestral score. Kings Bane is a story about a son avenging the death of his father. Kings Bane was written by Scott Dowling and Steve Bittle and directed and edited by Richard Arsenault.

Moving on to college, Richard began his matriculation in the University of Bridgeport's film department in Connecticut and then transferred to USC Cinema to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Cinema. The University of

Southern California's Film School was perfect for Richard. He studied under such greats as Edward Dymtryk, Oliver Stone and Bob Gale.

His senior project in 1986 was a *high school rock musical* entitled SPATS named for the leather shoe covering that marching band members are required to wear on their feet. Written and directed by Richard Arsenault, SPATS was popular with the USC faculty and students. Richard Arsenault and Tom Bajoras co-wrote songs for the story such as "The Majorette's Song" with lines such as "we walk alike- we talk alike- we go out with the best guys-we only wear whatever cloths the magazines advertise" "Demented" a rap song, and "Stand Up for Your Heart" a slow song for the moment when the boy gets the girl. Original choreography by Jodi Williams and original music by Tom Bajoras and Richard Arsenault plus an all student cast made it a hit. Then, the tragic death of Richard's mother temporarily put his directing career on hold. Richard pulled it together but finished USC in a haze.

After USC, Arsenault worked as a video technician and video editor on some feature films and television including Die Hard, Beverly Hills Cop II, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and pilots like The Wonder Years .

Richard then worked with celebrities, musicians, and comedians, creating demo reels for Matthew Perry, Heather Locklear, Victoria Principal, Danny Gans, Rick Rossovich, Vince Gill, Pauly Shore, The Righteous Brothers and Crosby Stills and Nash. Richard has interviewed Sir Elton John, John Lithgow, Dana Delaney, Robert Picardo, Christian Slater and Bruce Willis.

Arsenault moved in the direction of educational and documentary film making. He helped Taco Bell Corporation create its first international video training department -- one of the first and largest in the world.

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He also worked with other major corporations from Mitsubishi to American Airlines to create training and educational television.

Arsenault went on to become one of the most prolific educational/documentary filmmakers in history, producing, directing, and writing about 500 videos for companies such as TMW Media and Ready Reference Press. Being one of the pioneers of reality television, and developing many of the cutting edge styles popular in television today leads Richard to his unique editing style.

Arsenault is a pioneer in network television. As lead editor for E! Entertainment television, he redefined their style and quality and brought their ratings to new heights. Richard Arsenault's work on True Hollywood Stories is homaged and referenced by others to this day. His myriad television credits span almost every network, from MTV, VH1, and Nickelodeon, to CBS, NBC and FOX, to Discovery Networks, Travel Channel, WB, FX, Oxygen, Style, He specializes in increasing ratings through his producing and popular editing techniques.

Adept at "day of air" programming for various daily shows, he has developed one of the fastest editing styles in the industry and has become one of the leading AVID editors to this day. His work with Extra and their strict deadlines helped to define his style.

Ellen holds of Richard's favorite pieces. Arsenault edited for The Ellen Degeneres Show in Season 1 and 2. The piece was literally saved from the trash bin at the last minute. The other editors threw up their hands on this unsavable piece. Richard's magic with the AVID saved the day in Will Ferrel comes to Ellen on a Saturday. This very funny piece can be seen at www.youtube.com/raproducer

On American Idol, Richard was lead producing editor for the winning singer Fantasia, Season 3 and helped

attract an audience of *34 million* viewers. Producers noticed Richard's attention to detail and enjoyed creating television history together.

His interests include high-definition interactive internet delivery, developing new film making genres, opening new distribution networks for film and television, developing improved theatrical systems for exhibition, discovering and nurturing new musical and performance talent, and developing new film and television projects with upcoming talent.

Richard, making his way back to feature film making, he produced and edited SURVIVING ME directed by Leah Yananton. This film is currently making the rounds in film festivals world wide.

Samples of his work and web design can be viewed at his web sites www.richardarsenault.com and www.youtube.com/raproducer

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