

LISANNE SKYLER

Lisanne Skyler is an award-winning writer/director of fiction and nonfiction films that have screened at Sundance, South x Southwest Film Festival, the Venice Film Festival, AFI Film Fest and the New York Film Festival, and aired on HBO, Sundance Channel, PBS and around the world. Across different genres and platforms, her films engage audiences with complex social and economic issues through intimate character portrayals and dynamic visual style.

Skyler's nonfiction films include NO LOANS TODAY (1995 Sundance Film Festival) about a pawnshop in post-riot South Central LA, first broadcast on PBS's POV series and released digitally in 2013; DREAMLAND (2000 PBS/POV), about gambling addiction in Las Vegas; and the critically acclaimed, Oscar-shortlisted HBO Documentary Film BRILLO BOX (3¢ OFF) about art, value and the decisions that shape family history. BRILLO BOX debuted on all HBO platforms in 2017 and now plays around the world.

In 2000, Skyler was nominated for an Independent Spirit "Someone to Watch" Award for writing and directing the feature GETTING TO KNOW YOU, and received a FIPRESCI Special Jury Award from the Stockholm Film Festival for a "compassionate, humane adaptation of the literary universe of Joyce Carol Oates." Starring Heather Matarazzo and Zach Braff as teen survivors of domestic violence, the film was selected for Sundance Film Festival and the Venice Film Festival, theatrically released in Italy, and aired on Sundance Channel, receiving "Two Thumbs Up" from Roger Ebert and Richard Roeper.

Skyler's short films include the 1970s drama CAPTURE THE FLAG (2010 Hamptons International Film Festival), starring Scott Cohen, Jane Stiles, and Lola Kirke, which received the Nantucket Film Festival Showtime Tony Cox Award; the documentary A FEW THINGS ABOUT ROBERT IRWIN (2017 AFI Docs) for the LACMA Art + Film Gala, honoring Robert Irwin and Kathryn Bigelow and co-chaired by Leonardo DiCaprio and Eva Chow; and SECRET SUPERHERO (2018), a social action film about CPS case worker Chanetta Curtis, commissioned by the Arizona Department of Child Safety.

As a screenwriter, Skyler has written or consulted for producers such as Mike Figgis, John Penotti, Nellie Bellflower and Elizabeth Friedman. A graduate of UC Berkeley, and a distinguished alumna of the San Francisco State University School of Cinema, Skyler has been profiled on the PBS/KQED series *Independent View*, has served on juries or committees for AFI Film Fest and Sundance, and taught at the AFI Directing Workshop for Women. Skyler lives in Tucson, with her husband and two sons, where she serves on the faculty of the University of Arizona and on the board of The Loft Cinema.