



Writer / Director / Producer

GIOVANNI ZELKO

www.giovanizelko.com

After working more than 20,000 hours on film sets in Hollywood during the past ten years as a crewmember, Giovanni Zelko proves himself ready to take the helm as Director with his first 35mm film, *Theogony*.

The son of European immigrants, Zelko was born and raised outside of New York city also while spending many summers in his parents' native countries of Italy and Slovenia, giving him a unique mixture of European and American sensibilities that are expressed in his various works as an artist. He was educated at Boston University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science for Film (see his book on film theory, *Living the Dream*, as well as his five feature screenplays and five T.V. teleplays). He also minored in English literature (see his book of poetry, *A Modern Decameron*). During his four years of study, he also pursued a concentration in European medieval history (see his documentary script, *The First Crusade & The Apocalypse*). An accomplished photographer, Zelko has shot commercial work in Los Angeles, and has exhibited fine-art gallery work of his travels to 40 countries (see his online gallery displaying over 1,300 images). A soon to be published hardcover book of his photography is due out later in 2008 (see a sneak peek of *Body of Poetry* online).

"I never realized how helpful it was to be a 'jack of all trades' until I began directing!" says the writer, director, producer of *Theogony*. Zelko's passion for filmmaking began to blossom at a very early age as a freshman in high school, where he first started shooting 8mm stop-animation films and began editing. "My high school media classes were great. We learned how to light and shoot 8mm film, edit current movies down into trailers, and learned different dark-room printing techniques for photography. I can't say enough about the profound effect that photography has had on me in relation to films. I always loved photography and quickly saw filmmaking as an extension of it. Photography forces you to become better at telling a story one image at a time. In movies, instead of perceiving 24 frames flying by each second, I see each and every frame of film as standing on its own. Obviously, as a photographer, I bring my expertise of creating worlds of still images into the arena of moving images. I have grown immensely as a filmmaker by perfecting my craft as a photographer."

His enthusiasm for filmmaking produced two early films, *Bloodline* and *My Shadow*. "Although I intended it to be more of a horror film, I look at it today fifteen years later and can't help but laugh at some scenes!" At the age of 16, Zelko wrote, directed, produced, starred in, shot, stunt-coordinated, costumed, sound scored, and edited a 45 minute horror about vampires that he shot on video for \$300. This impressive early film, *Bloodline*, helped earn him his academic scholarship to the prestigious Boston University Film School. Once there, Zelko wrote, directed, produced, shot, and edited his second film, *My Shadow*, an 8½ minute long 16mm film. This second film helped him acquire his internship in Los Angeles at Roger Corman Studios, which launched his film career in earnest. "I've worked as a lighting technician on all sorts of movies and T.V. since arriving here in L.A, and have been extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn from some of the world's finest directors, producers, and actors. I look back on the last ten years as an extended graduate program!"

www.theogonythemovie.com

FILMS:

Avatar (2008) Directed by James Cameron
Tenacious D & The Pick of Destiny (2005) Jack Black and Tim Robbins
Cursed (2004) Directed by Wes Craven, starring Cristina Ricci
Along Came Polly (2003) Ben Stiller and Jennifer Aniston
Crossroads (2002) Britney Spears
Bandits (2001) Directed by Barry Levinson, starring Bruce Willis, Billy Bob
Held for Ransom (2000) Dennis Hopper
Charlie's Angels (2000) Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, Lucy Liu, Bill Murray
The Next Best Thing (2000) Madonna
For Love of the Game (1999) Directed by Sam Raimi, starring Kevin Costner
The Debtors (1999) Randy Quaid and Michael Cain
Godzilla (1998) Directed by Roland Emmerich, starring Mathew Broderick
3 Ninjas: High Noon at Mega Mountain (1998) Hulk Hogan and Lonie Anderson
Wicked (1998) Julia Stiles
Eat Your Heart Out (1997)
Santa with Muscles (1996) Hulk Hogan
Safehouse (1996) Patrick Stewart
New Adventures of Emmanuel (1995)

TELEVISION:

Mad Men (2008) (Jon Hamm) AMC Television
Shark (2007) (James Woods) Fox Studios
Studio 60 (2006) (Mathew Perry & D.L. Huhgley) Warner Brothers
The West Wing (2005) (Martin Sheen & John Spencer) Warner Brothers
Book of Daniel (2005) Aiden Quinn, PILOT
House (2004) (Produced/Directed by Brian Singer) Fox Studios
Weeds (2004) PILOT
The West Wing (2003) (Martin Sheen & John Spencer) Warner Brothers
Angel (2002) Paramount Studios
The West Wing (2001) (Martin Sheen & John Spencer) Warner Brothers
Six Feet Under (2001) HBO
Replikate (2001) Ali Landry
The Beast (2000) PILOT, Directed by Alex Graves, Disney
Running Mates (2000) Tom Sellick and Faye Dunaway
Providence (1999) NBC
Annie (1999) Directed by Rob Marshall
Jack and Jill (1998) PILOT, Amanda Pete
George Wallace (1997) Directed by John Frankenheimer (Angelina Jolie) TNT
Total Security (1997) Steven Bochco Productions, starring Jim Belushi, Fox Studios
Babylon 5 (1996)

MUSIC VIDEOS:

Madonna, Usher, Eminem, Insync, Aliyah, Snoop Dog, Dr.Dre, Brian Setzer

DOCUMENTARY: (videographer)

Usher, Mariah Carey, Sean P. Diddy, Jay-Z

PARTIAL FILMS:

Space Cowboys (Clint Eastwood), Ali (Will Smith), Family Man (Nicholas Cage), The Insider (Al Pacino), Beauty Shop (Queen Latifa), Mystery Men (Ben Stiller), Mr. Woodcock (Susan Sarandon).