

THROUGH THE WINDOWS

is a documentary about Twin Peaks Tavern—the bar that changed the face of the gay community in the 70's by uncovering its windows—and the men who dared to be seen.

We are currently looking for partners to invest in this project for distribution and education.

“...it was the end of the mystery and the beginning of openness.”



FOR INVESTORS

We invite investors to join a dynamic effort to expand the footprint and impact of "Through The Windows."


Our goal is to create curriculum and an educational guide for schools, colleges, universities and community organizations. This guide would cover the themes discussed in the film and provide a format to create awareness in communities and promote conversation.



A photograph of three men sitting at a table in a bar. The man on the left is wearing a grey cap and a striped shirt. The man in the middle is older, with white hair and glasses, wearing a blue jacket over a white shirt. The man on the right is wearing a white cap and a dark jacket over a red shirt. They are all smiling and looking at each other. On the table are several glasses, a water bottle, and a small plant. The background is a window looking out onto a street with a white car and some buildings.

FILM SYNOPSIS

Our film weaves together the stories of this historic bar—the first known gay bar in the U.S. to have uncovered windows—its rich culture and the patrons who have considered it an essential part of their family life for almost 40 years. Wait staff, owners and patrons chronicle a vast time capsule of gay life and openly share personal experiences. The result is a triumphant film bounding with original stories that have almost disappeared.



*"...the only sign of there being a gay bar
was a blue lightbulb over an
unmarked door..."*

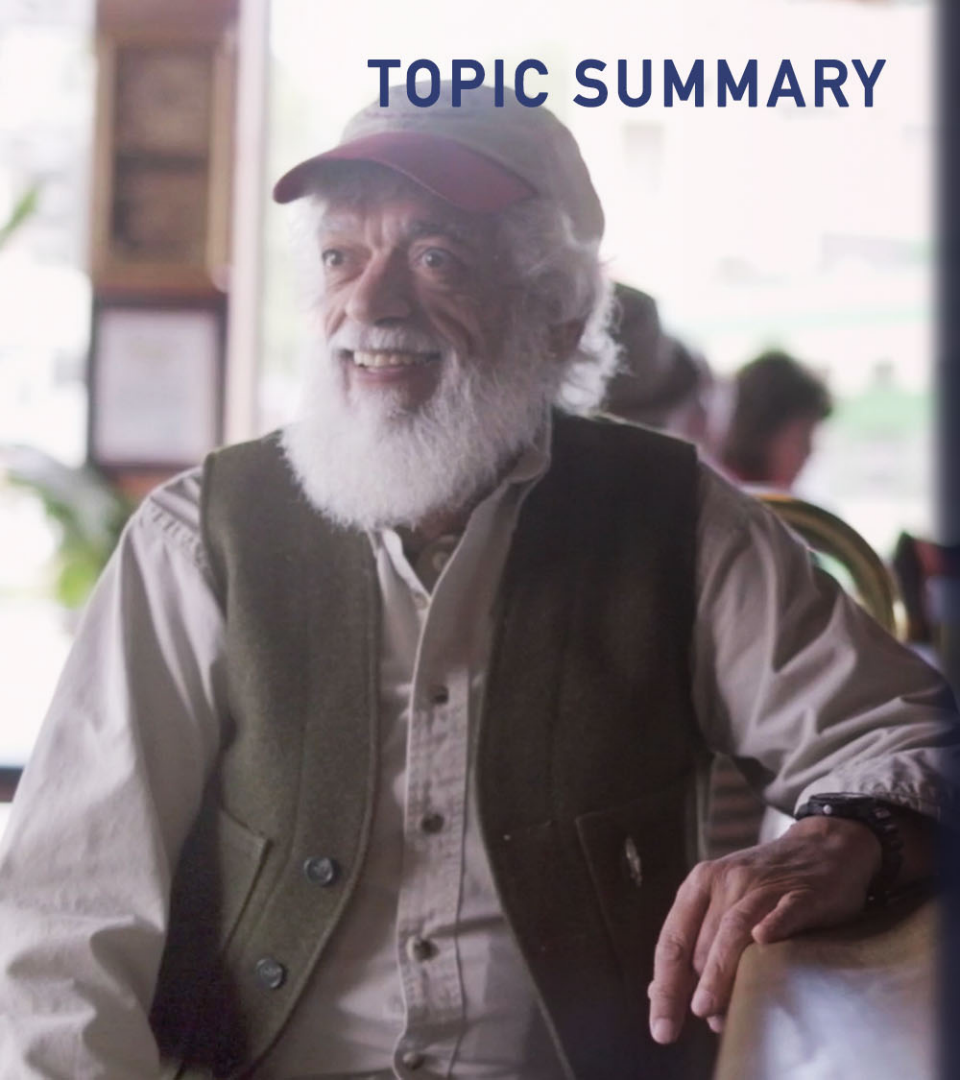
Our interviews provide unique glimpses and insights of the gay community at a forgotten time—when there was no language to describe what it meant to be gay. When gay bars were unmarked or down back alleys. When being gay was not only taboo, but also illegal.

Through the interview process we were inspired by these stories, but what we came to realize is the impact Twin Peaks has had, not only on the community within the bar, but on the culture of gay bars in the Castro and the community as a whole. The bar has come to be a cornerstone of the community—a place that changed the face of gay bars in the 70's, a refuge during the Aids crisis in the 90's and throughout it all, a gathering place.

“...our very own Cheers for Queers”



TOPIC SUMMARY



“Through The Windows” is a historic film which shines a light on a generation of people still alive.

When basic civil rights of all LGBTQ people are still being threatened, we believe it’s more important than ever to remind people not only of our history, but also our presence. And our film does just that.

We learn through the characters’ stories that Twin Peaks Tavern became a place that “normalized gay” by allowing the public to see in. These were people who during the 70’s dared to be seen. As queer filmmakers we continue that dare by bringing our own voices into the open through our film.



ARTISTIC APPROACH

As we started filming this project, we wanted to develop a consistent and strong cinematic language.

Structurally and stylistically we were inspired by the David Lynch Interview Project. Structurally we mirrored the interview pattern of the project—every story comes together as a picture of that individual.

Stylistically, we were inspired by the way David Lynch plays with light. The bar has prominent open glass windows with numerous mirrors. Utilizing natural light and a very shallow depth of field, we were able to focus closely on our interviewees and feel the surrounding soft light and elements of the bar behind them.



DISTRIBUTION PLAN

While we believe that “Through The Windows” will speak to a broad audience, we see our target audience in three-fold:

- 1) young, straight and queer community who have missed a window into gay culture,
- 2) the larger LGBTQ community as a whole, and
- 3) non-LGBTQ Generation X audiences with close connections to the LGBTQ community who likewise shared the experiences and struggles of a community going through crisis and coming of age.

To reach our target audience we are working with local LGBTQ groups to help promote and create buzz around the film.



We will initially screen the film at national and international film festivals and follow up with screenings at prominent art centers and on national public or cable television.

Our website allows us to both market the film and connect with our audience, as well as sell DVDs directly.

In addition, we are marketing "Through The Windows" via Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION


We are developing an educational program to pair with screenings for schools, universities and community organizations.

This combination will be highly effective for education and empowering individuals, families and nonprofits. By creating an educational guide to pair with the screening of our film, we can help promote conversation around LGBTQ history as well as the current political and social changes that are occurring today.

Investing will directly support grassroots organizations to book screening venues and travel for speakers to participate in the program, as well as ensure marketing the film to the widest possible audience.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

*"It's a film that sticks with you... I woke up thinking about it
and felt like I got to know the guys..."*

A person's arm is visible on the left, giving a thumbs up. In the center, a tall glass of beer sits on a bar. To the right, a pair of rainbow-colored sunglasses lies on the bar surface. The background is a blurred bar scene with other patrons.

"It was elegant and emotional."

"...it was a feel-good with depth... a lot of love and a lot of truth."

CAST



CREW





BRET PARKER Co-Director, Producer

Bret Parker, co-founder of Artfarm Productions, is a veteran in the film industry with 23 years under her belt at Pixar Animation Studios. Outside Pixar, she created and directed work for the groundbreaking dance troupe, Illuminate, as well as wrote and directed a animated short film about climate change in partnership with the Marine Mammal Center and California College of the Arts. She is shifting her focus to documentary filmmaking and hopes to bring her unique perspective as a queer woman to the screen. "Through The Windows" is her directorial debut in documentary film.



PETEY BARMA Co-Director

A self-described storyteller and co-founder of Artfarm Productions, Petey Barma is a director committed to bringing fresh stories from her perspective as a queer female to the screen.

As an award-winning teacher, she spent the last 30 years teaching literacy and understands the craft of storytelling inside and out. Her current focus is to open the lens on the marginalized communities who have not typically appeared on screen. "Through The Windows" is her directorial debut.



ADAM HABIB Director of Photography

Adam Habib is a cinematographer working in both 3D animation and live-action film. His work has screened at festivals around the world, including SxSW and Bucheon International Animation Festival, and earned him a nomination at the Camerimage Festival. His credits at Pixar Animation Studios include “Inside Out” (as camera lead) and the Oscar-nominated short film, “Lou” (as DP). Adam earned his MFA from the USC School of Cinematic Arts and was recently an Independent Filmmaker Project Fellow. He is currently a Director of Photography on an upcoming Pixar feature.



ANNA WOLITSKY Editor

Anna Wolitzky has been a feature film editor at Pixar Animation Studios for over 20 years. After studying literature and photography she chose filmmaking as the best fit for her interest in storytelling: it combines the employment of both writing and visual imagery, as well as sound. She adores the collaborative nature of filmmaking and working with talented artists that bring stories to life on the big screen. As a veteran editor, she has enjoyed bringing her sensibilities and expertise to “Through The Windows,” and in doing so, has helped to preserve stories that are an important part of Bay Area queer history.



JAKE MONACO Composer

Jake Monaco's musical fingerprints can be found on some of the biggest film scores of the past decade. Most recently he composed scores for Fox's action comedies "Keeping Up with the Joneses" and "Let's Be Cops," Fox Searchlight's comedy "Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie" and "Kindergarten Cop 2." Additional work includes classroom comedy "Struck by Lightning," romantic drama "Kilimanjaro," murder mystery "Out to Kill," President Obama's re-election film, "The Road We've Traveled," and "Piper," the Oscar-winning Pixar short for which Jake arranged, orchestrated and produced the score.



CHRIS RILEY Impact Producer

Chris has created strategic and outreach campaigns for many documentary films, including “The Genius of Marian,” “Amplify Her” and “Buried Above Ground.” Prior to impact producing, Chris ran a variety of electoral campaigns. She now brings her passion for strategic planning, community organizing and social activism to the documentary world. She is committed to elevating social justice stories across issues of women’s rights, economic justice, and LGBTQ civil rights to help create lasting impact.

TWIN PEAKS

“THROUGH THE WINDOWS”

For additional information contact:

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Or visit our website:

throughthewindows.com