

BRAD RUSHING

Cinematographer, Filmmaker and Artist

Taking Over Hollywood!



Photo by Mike Dronge



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MIHM-Tell us a little bit about you, where are you from and what inspired you to pursue a career in the entertainment industry?

BR-I have always been creative. I love to draw and I enjoy creative writing, and playing and writing music. As a filmmaker my passion is cinematography, but I dabble with editing, visual effects, graphics and sound design. It's great having a broad understanding of the process and helps me better compliment the rest of the creative team with my work.

MIHM- Tell us about the movie "A California Christmas" and what magic touch did you bring as a Director of Photography?

BR-My process is intuitive. I commit to understanding the characters and their world, guided by the director's vision. I am empathic, which can make the process easy, but also sometimes affects me with especially moving performances, like the scene in "A California Christmas" between **Amanda Detmer** and **Lauren Swickard** in a truck outside the cancer clinic. I was operating the camera, only two feet away during that scene. I was so affected that I wanted to shove the camera aside and give them both a hug. I translate that resonance into imagery. As the audience's proxy where do I want to stand in that moment? How close do I want to be to a character? How exposed and vulnerable should I be as the viewer in that moment to most profoundly experience the performance.

MIHM-If you could work with somebody you admire, celebrity, politician, musician, leader or anybody else who would it be and why?

BR-I have to pick two! I'd love to work with **Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson**. **Dr. Tyson** has a wonderful erudition, warmth and playful sense of humor. He is also "one of us" in the sense that he is just as much a fan of science and sci-fi fan culture as his admirers I would also very much love to work with **Paul McCartney**. He is another beacon of love, positivity, inclusion and optimism. What a delight it would be to collaborate directly with him on a project.

MIHM-Define what success means to you?

BR-My dream of success, which I am still chasing, is a career dominated by passion projects and financial independence. There are many projects I have contributed to that I am proud of. "A California Christmas" is one of the highlights. The fact that I have been a full time working cinematographer since 1999 is an achievement I appreciate and the many friends I have met working all over the U.S. and across the world. Finally, and maybe most significantly, it is a sublime honor when my work fills audiences with happiness, thoughtfulness and inspiration. I truly care about people and wish them all well.

MIHM-What other projects are you working on right now?

BR-Shaun and I just shot two very cool and exciting TV series pitch teasers which I am so proud of and desperately wish I could share (but I can't). I am also developing some passion projects including a high concept sci-fi with **Shaun Piccinino** and **Gabriel Theis**, and a wonderful period biopic with talented screenwriter **Gerard Myles**.



Photo by James Markham Hall Jr