

# SHIRLEY THOMPSON

## DOCUMENTARY EDITOR + PRODUCER

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### ■ overview

Award-winning documentary editor and producer with 40 years of experience in broadcast and independent media. I collaborate closely with filmmakers to craft a compelling and memorable story that moves viewers to action.

### ■ professional experience

#### **Editor/Producer, Shirley Thompson Editorial**

Freelance editor since 1989 collaborating with directors from Alaska to New York City. I edit and produce documentary films as well as trailers and sample reels for documentaries. I also work as an editorial/story consultant for films. Based in Honolulu since 2010. Formerly Dallas and San Francisco.

Recent films I have edited and/or produced include: *The Last Rodeo* (2022), *Embers of Awakening* (2021), *Reel Wāhine of Hawai'i* (2021), *Savvy* (2020), *Crossing Spaces* (2019), *Finding Kukan* (2018), *Kū Kanaka* (2018), *Winning Girl* (2015), *Eating Alaska* (2010), *Pidgin: The Voice of Hawai'i* (2009). View my portfolio at <https://shirleythompson.com>.

#### **Director/Producer/Writer, Chop Chop Media, Honolulu, 2011- 2014.**

Created high-impact web videos in the early days of social media for business with my spouse; cameraman, colorist and graphics guru Stanford Chang. Clients included University of Hawai'i, ProService, Locations, Hawaiian Airlines.

**Avid Certified Instructor, 1994 - 2006**, Trained hundreds of editors introductory to advanced editing software skills in the Avid Certification Program.

#### **Cameraperson/Editor/Producer, WWL-TV (CBS), New Orleans, LA.**

September 1988 - September 1989. On-air promotions and PSAs.

### ■ education

**Loyola University, New Orleans, LA.** Graduated cum laude May 1984 with a Bachelor of Arts in both Communications and Political Science.

### ■ professional affiliations

**Hawai'i Women in Filmmaking**, since 2011, currently on the Board of Directors.

**New Day Films**, 1993 - present, 6 years active on the Steering Committee.

**San Francisco State University**, Lecturer, 1998 - 1999, co-taught editing in the MFA program with filmmaker and professor Pat Ferrero.

**Bay Area Video Coalition**, Instructor, 1993 - 1998, taught editing classes.

### ■ selected awards

Dupont Columbia Award for Journalism, two-time Northern California Emmy winner, multiple Best of Festival awards, Golden Gate Award - San Francisco Int'l Film Festival, Special Jury Award, Hawaii International Film Festival

### ■ personal

Childhood: New Orleans, Louisiana. Heritage: Latina/Caribbean American. Mother from Chile, Father from Cayman Islands/Nicaragua. I can edit in Spanish. Social butterfly. Love to cook and entertain. Love to travel. Love live local music.

*References available upon request.*

### **Producer/Editor Documentary Credits (abridged, full credits on IMDB)**

**"Reel Wāhine of Hawai'i,"** Series Producer. Short film portraits of top women filmmakers produced in collaboration with Hawai'i Women in Filmmaking. Directed three of the films featuring producer Heather Giugni, camerawoman Victoria Keith and producer Myrna Kamae. June 2017 – present.  
Official selection, Hawai'i International Film Festival. Honolulu Biennial special presentation.

**"Savvy,"** Editor. Feature documentary. Women take charge of their personal finances in order to live their best lives. Robin Hauser, director. April – November 2020.

**"Finding Kukan,"** Editor/Producer/Writer. Feature documentary. The story of a lost 1941 Oscar-winning film and the Chinese woman from Hawai'i who produced it. Robin Lung, director. October 2011 – August 2016,  
Special Jury Award, Hawai'i International Film Festival. Official selection, DOCNYC, Jury Award, CAAMFEST.

**"Kū Kanaka/Stand Tall"** Editor/Post Supervisor. Documentary short. A portrait of Native Hawaiian activist Kanalu Young. Marlene Booth, director. June 2015 - August 2016. Hawai'i International Film Festival official selection.

**"Winning Girl,"** Editor/Post Supervisor. Feature Documentary. A 12 year-old female wrestling and judo prodigy from Hawaii strives to become a world champion. Kimberlee Bassford, director. July 2012 – October 2014.

**"Breadfruit & Open Spaces,"** Producer/Editor. Documentary. Micronesians establish a new life on Guam while maintaining their traditional culture and identity, struggle to own their land. Lola Quan Bautista, director. Best Documentary Short, Guam International Film Festival. May 2012 – May 2013.

**"Pidgin: the Voice of Hawai'i,"** Editor. Pidgin, a language spoken by 60% of people in Hawai'i, and the unique multi-ethnic island culture it carries. Marlene Booth, director. Audience Award Best Documentary Hawai'i International Film Festival. May 2008 – December 2008.

**"Eating Alaska,"** Producer and Story Consultant. Feature documentary on one woman's quest for the "right" thing to eat. Ellen Frankenstein, producer/director. July 2005 – November 2008.

**"Special Circumstances,"** Producer, Editor and Writer for documentary about a former Chilean political prisoner who returns to confront his perpetrators. Marianne Teleki, director. October 2005, March – Sept. 2006.

**"By Invitation Only"** Editor. Documentary about Mardi Gras queens in the elite Carnival organizations of New Orleans. For Palmetto Pictures, Rebecca Snedeker, Producer/Director. October 2001 - December 2001.

**"Tangled Roots"** Editor of documentary about three generations of a Jewish and a German family, the legacy of war and the Holocaust. For Spirit Productions & Oxygen Media, Heidi Emberling, Producer/Director. April 2001 - September 2001.

**Historical documentaries for KRON including: "San Francisco at the Movies, Bogart & Beyond"** March 2001 - April 2001. Emmy award. **"San Francisco at the Movies, the Silent Era"** December 2000 - February 2001 and **"San Francisco in the 1920's"** February 1999 - April 1999. (Emmy Award).

**"Surfing for Life"** Editor for feature length documentary about surfers who are still stoked & surfing at 70, 80 and even 90 years old. 1999 Best Documentary Hawai'i International Film Festival. National PBS broadcast, April 2001. For David L. Brown Productions, David Brown, Director, Roy Earnest, Producer. May 1999 - December 1999.

**"It's Elementary: Talking About Gay Issues in School"** Editor for feature length documentary on combating homophobia at the elementary school level. Numerous Best documentary awards, screened at the White House, used in over 2000 schools. For Women's Educational Media, Debra Chasnoff, Director. March 1995 - April 1996.

**Frontline, "School Colors"** One of five editor team on 2 1/2 hour documentary about race, multiculturalism and integration at Berkeley High School. Winner of a 1995 DuPont Award for Excellence in Journalism. For Telesis Productions & the Center for Investigative Reporting, broadcast October 18, 1994. Scott Andrews, Director and Stephen Olsson, Producer. March 1994 - October 1994.