

MICEÁL O'DONNELL — ARTIST RÉSUMÉ

Baltimore, MD

Email: cagesafe@yahoo.com | Phone: (504) 339-3376

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Filmmaker, writer, animator, and arts educator with a multidisciplinary background in fine arts, creative writing, animation, and community-driven filmmaking. Work has screened at major festivals including MdFF, NOFF, and Sidewalk. 2025 Saul Zaentz Story Lab Fellow and multi-year Baltimore Screenwriting Competition winner. Experienced instructor with a long history of running acting/directing workshops that have supported several emerging artists, including participants who later worked in major studio films.

EDUCATION

BFA, Fine Arts — Saint Joseph's University (1996)

Creative Writing — Richard Stockton College of NJ

- Two semesters with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Stephen Dunn

SELECTED AWARDS & HONORS

- Saul Zaentz Story Lab Fellow (2025)
- MSAC Grants: Individual Artist Award (2019), Creativity Grant (2021), Professional Development Grant (2023)
- Baker Artist Award Finalist (2018)
- Baltimore Screenwriting Competition: 1st, 2nd & 3rd place (consecutive years)
- USCG Achievement Medal

FILM & MEDIA PROJECTS

Heart Attack! (2025) — Director & Animator

- Premiered at Sidewalk Film Festival

Church Hat (2024) — Director & Animator

- Starring Sheryl Lee Ralph (Emmy Award winner)

Star in the Mirror (2021) — Writer & Director

- Premiered at Maryland Film Festival

Man Cannot Live Without Phone (2022) — Writer, Director & Actor

Television

RAFA Racing Club – IMSA 2025 Circuit — Producer

TEACHING, WORKSHOPS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Acting for Directors (2007–2010; 2017; 2020; 2023)

- Long-form acting/directing workshop using Meisner & Adler technique
- 2007–2010 New Orleans cohort included Jason Mitchell, later cast as Eazy-E in *Straight Out of Compton*
- Produced a full-length feature film as the class project (New Orleans)
- Multiple Baltimore cohorts created short films that screened at festivals

Rock Wall Director, Y of Central Maryland

- Supervises 70+ staff; develops programs, competitions, and youth training
- Expertise in leadership, coaching, and community engagement

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (2000–2004)

Training Petty Officer, Boat Coxswain, Search & Rescue

- Led multiple search and rescue missions
- Awarded the USCG Achievement Medal

FESTIVAL SCREENINGS

- Sidewalk Film Festival
- Maryland Film Festival
- New Orleans Film Festival

SKILLS

Directing (live action & animation); Story development; Stop-motion animation;

Acting technique (Meisner, Adler); Script breakdown; Rehearsal leadership;

Editing (Premiere Pro, DaVinci Resolve); Storyboarding; Arts education;

Team leadership; Community programming