

## Matthew Campbell Downes Writer + Director

I have been a 'visual storyteller' all my life, initially working as an illustrator and comic artist in NZ, Tokyo and then in New York for 10 years where I transitioned to writing and directing content, film and animation both commercially and for personal projects. Based back in New Zealand since 2005 I am now very much focused on filmmaking. I'm passionate about films relating to Aotearoa's rich music scene - past and present. I make humorous films with strong cultural themes - stories about people and places, how lives are shaped by experience, and how culture is created from circumstance and the cross pollination of ideas.

### 2023. 'Hometown Sounds'

A sonic journey through Seattle with the sounds and mentors that shaped Seattlehip-hop legend Jake One. 14 mins / 155K views

### 2023. 'Cookin Soul 'It's magic'

Beatmaker extraordinaire Cookin Soul reveals how he hit the US Hip Hop charts out of nowhere selling beats via Myspace mixtapes. 12 mins / 135K views

### 2022. 'The Dinner Agreement'

Lafa 'Best Indie Drama' and 'Best Director 2023', shortlisted for 'NZIFF Best Shorts 2023' and 'Rhode Island IFF' (currently 'in Festival').

### 2020. 'Serato 20th Anniversary Doco'

Short doco chronicling the massive cultural impact that Serato (Aotearoa's own 'world leading' DJ and music production software) has had on the global electronic music scene over the last 25 years.

22 Mins / 340K views YT + FB

### 2017. 'The Dregs'

NZIFF Best shorts 2017, FIFO Tahiti 2018, Lafa Best 'Indie Drama' 2018. Lonely misfit Stephen forms a punk band only to instantly lose control to school bullies.

### 2012. 'Underworld Cartoons'

Directed and produced a series of 16 short cartoons adapted from 'Underworld' by Kaz - emmy nominated cartoonist and head writer for Nickelodeon's 'Sponge Bob Square Pants'. 16 x 30s / 90K views YT



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