

James Allen Smith

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SUMMARY

Deeply experienced content creator, director, and producer with proven track record of working with and leading teams to realize clients' vision in a fast-paced and often ambiguous field. History of delivering high-quality storytelling across multiple platforms for global organizations under tight deadlines and budgets from strategy through distribution.

EXPERIENCE

Manner of Speaking (2009 – Present)

Filmmaker, Creative Director

- Lead a team of 20+ as producer and director for a series of 4 national television ads for Zulily under tight budgets and deadlines.
- Produced and directed several series of documentary-style customer and patient-driven stories for Microsoft, Sur La Table, Seattle Children's Hospital, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Boston Scientific, Path, Amgen, and Scientific American amounting to several hours of videos for corporate clients.
- Managed teams of 40+ as field producer and writer for broadcast TV including the Emmy nominated show "Hoarders". I've written over 20 hours of broadcast TV.
- Produced and directed "Floored" a feature-length documentary that enjoyed major media coverage and played at festivals and theatrical runs around the world. It spanned broadcast and streaming releases, including Netflix, Hulu, and Amazon Prime.
- Developed an international tour and distribution strategy for "Floored" that spanned over 2 years in 6 languages, bringing in proceeds of over \$325K USD.
- Contributed to films featured in festivals around the world including, Sundance, Fantasia Festival, Austin Film Festival, Seattle International Film Festival, MountainFilm Telluride and London SciFi Festival.

DesignIt (2017 – 2020)

Producer

- Lead a team of 4 video professionals for the Customer Success team at Microsoft.
- Lead creative and produced videos from concept to delivery for the Microsoft 365 team.
- Leading by example from both the office and the field, ability to work at all levels of video production and familiar with all responsibilities across positions.
- Owned end-to-end creation of as many as 8 simultaneous internal vision and marketing videos, keeping creative, leadership, and compliance in sync and on schedule.

INDUSTRIES

- Technology
- Entertainment
- Commercial
- Broadcast
- Medical
- Documentary

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Team leadership
- Creative Direction
- Client Communication
- Mentorship
- Team building
- Vendor management
- Process development
- Video production process
- Video editing
- VFX supervision
- Design management
- Adobe Creative Suite

SOFT SKILLS

- Relationship building
- Team leadership
- Self-directed
- Results oriented
- Entrepreneurial
- Equity and inclusive driven

EDUCATION

- BFA Painting & Media, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, 1995

WORK SAMPLES

- Kindred at Home, "Anthem" - I produced, directed, and edited this along with several other video deliverables to help the client quickly and passionately convey their mission to prospective clients: <https://vimeo.com/553526023>
- Microsoft Teams, "HireView" - I produced this video to help the client communicate the broader capabilities of their product in a personable and succinct way: <https://vimeo.com/468223604>
- Microsoft 365, "Tony's Chocolonely" - I produced this Amsterdam shoot remotely during Covid in the Summer of 2020, coordinating with multiple stakeholders and creatives to talk about how Tony's uses Microsoft to help them raise awareness of slave labor: <https://vimeo.com/463134902>
- Boston Scientific, "Jake" - This video is part of a series of patient stories I was commissioned to create to share the personalized, individual care patients receive. I produced, directed and edited this piece: <https://vimeo.com/207848293>

- “Haskell”, short narrative film –I wrote, produced and directed this 10-minute short film about a man who has the ability to manipulate time that had its premiere at Fantasia, one of the world’s largest and well known genre festivals:
<https://vimeo.com/186349385>
- “Floored”, documentary feature – This film was 5 years in the making. I was introduced to the bombastic and cut-throat world of open-outcry floor trading and immediately began work on creating a raw and emotional film about the people who lived the life. I produced and directed: <https://youtu.be/IW37sEkXMMc>