

MARK JEAN

Mark Jean's early passion for filmmaking led him to San Diego State University where he earned a B.S. in Telecommunications & Film. He then attended The American Film Institute on full scholarship earning a Masters Degree in Directing.

A versatile director, Jean has helmed independent features, MOW's, television pilots, and episodic dramas and comedies. He has directed a wide variety of genres, from the psychological thriller **TAKEN BACK**, with Moira Kelly and Amanda Tapping, to the Christmas comedy **FINDING MRS. CLAUS**, starring Mira Sorvino and Will Sasso, to the true-life dramas **FINDING A FAMILY**, starring Kim Delaney, and **DUKE**, starring Steven Weber.

Accolades for Jean's directing include: the *GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY AWARD* for a series of interstitials for Fox Children's Network; The Houston International Film Festival's *GOLD AWARD* for **HOMECOMING**, starring Anne Bancroft and Bonnie Bedilia; numerous film festival awards including *1ST PLACE* New York Film Festival, The Houston International Film Festival's *GOLD AWARD*, and Chicago International Film Festival's *GOLD AWARD* for his Disney short **WHO OWNS THE SUN**; and *BEST FEATURE FILM* at the Sprockets Toronto Film Festival for the family comedy **FINN ON THE FLY**.

He has also written and co-written numerous screenplays, including the historical drama **BEAST OF BATAAN** for producers Mel Brooks and Jonathan Sanger, **HOMECOMING**, which garnered a WGA nomination for *BEST LONGFORM ADAPTATION*, and the adaptation of the young-adult novel **GEMINI SUMMER**. A novelist himself, Jean's fantasy-adventure **PUDDLEJUMPERS**, published by Hyperion Books, won *Voya's TOP SHELF FICTION AWARD*.

Recent films include **SHUFFLETON'S BARBERSHOP**, a father-son reconciliation story starring Danny Glover, and **THE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT**, a romance with Kellie Martin and Cameron Mathison. Films directed in 2014 include **THE NINE LIVES OF CHRISTMAS** and **MOM'S DAY AWAY**.