

Kevin Longa

Producer, Director, Editor & Cinematographer

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Summary

As an independent filmmaker of both scripted & unscripted content, Kevin has two decades of experience creating massive projects with defined budgets & resources. Scripted works include managing 100-person productions with helicopters, road closures, explosions, pyro, etc. With unscripted, created award-winning documentaries—revealing undiscovered stories of risk-takers who make our food worldwide.

Experience

Producer & Founder

2013 - Current

TASTE Documentary Productions

- Directing, producing & editing award-winning short films for the TASTE international food docuseries
- Filmed 70 documentary short films across 30 countries worldwide in Asia, Europe and the Americas—from Bhutan to Budapest to Brooklyn. ► Filmed & edited TASTE trailer: <https://youtu.be/AgB5XeyHpM4>
- Producing films about dictator-fighting restaurateurs in Myanmar, Michelin-starred chefs in Europe, cricket farmers in Thailand, snail farmers in Austria, cops-turned-cooks in Bhutan, hunters in Borneo, felons-turned-fine dining chefs, Jewish bakers who fight anti-Semitism in Hungary and dozens more
- Built relationships and trust with interview subjects from across the world with various ages, races, creeds, religions, sexual orientations, disabilities, gender identities and socio-economic backgrounds
- Developing, producing, editing and pitching 30-minute TV pilots & sizzles for TV broadcast/streaming
- Managed an international team of post-production editors, location & story scouts and interns across multiple time zones: London, India, Taiwan, NYC, LA, SF, Austin, Seattle and more
- Accepted to the Google Cloud Platform for Startups program where our team collaborated on over two dozen film edits remotely & concurrently, including 100s of teasers & trailers for social media (2020-2022)
- Co-developed an AI program that can automatically translate & transcribe English & foreign language dialogue and interviews utilizing Google Cloud Platform's Video Intelligence & Speech-to-Text APIs along with Python and Terminal/PowerShell code
- Garnered press from publications such as Food & Wine Magazine, Edible, Huffington Post, PBS and more
- Raised funds via Kickstarter (200% over-funded), private investors and sponsorships
- Cultivated viewers and fans on 6 continents via viral and grassroots marketing campaigns

► Filmed & edited new Appetite TV show sizzle: <https://vimeo.com/316956829> | pw: f00d

Documentary Filmmaker

2016 - 2019

AmeriCorps - NYC, SF & Paris

- Filmed, produced and edited stories of marginalized youth who learn culinary skills through the AmeriCorps non-profit organization Sprouts "Chef-In-Training" Program
- Documented the stories of former felons, gang members, prostitutes and street youth who have gone on to work in New York, Paris and the SF Bay Area's top restaurants as interns, mentees and full-time cooks
- Managed a small, nimble team of documentary editors, line producers and production assistants
- Produced award-winning short films with defined government and non-profit budgets

• Created short film "Dictionary of a Food Hero" on Amazon Prime ranked as top 3 (out of 1000s of entries) in Amazon Prime's "All Voices Film Festival" ► Alt video link: <https://vimeo.com/111272258> | pw: r3al/f00d

Freelance Documentary Production & Editing

2014 - Current

Longa Productions

- Produced, directed & edited marketing videos for clients in food, beverage, startup, VR and tech fields

Producer & Unit Production Manager

2008 - 2012

Film and Photography Society (FPS), UCLA

- Founding member of FPS and Producer & UPM of 5 award-winning student films
- Assisted hiring cast & crew for each project—while also maintaining high morale on 12+ hr shoot days
- Facilitated call sheets, logistics, schedules, sets and below-the-line budgets as Unit Production Manager

► Watch FPS Reel: <https://vimeo.com/351839071>

Education

New York University, Tisch School of the Arts, Kanbar Institute of Film & TV

2022

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

2008 - 2012

Skills

Production - Comprehensive knowledge of the full film production workflow: from pre-production to post-prod to distribution

Camera Operation - Sony A7S, PXW-FS7 & NEX FS700; Canon DSLRs & C300; RED; Panasonic EVA 1; DJI Inspire, Mavic & Ronin; GoPro Hero & Omni; Samsung Gear 360, etc.

Video Editing & 360 Video - Premiere Pro, Avid & Final Cut Pro; DaVinci Resolve; Kolor: AutoPanoVideo & AutoPano Giga

Distribution - Film Festival Strategy (over 45 film festival acceptances worldwide), Independent Film Distribution, Digital VOD

Marketing/Web/Print - Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Bridge & InDesign, HTML, CSS, Python 3.0, Terminal code, PowerShell code, Google Cloud Platform (especially GCP Storage, Cloud Video Intelligence API & Speech-to-Text API), Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, Twitter, Snapchat, Mailchimp, Squarespace, Wordpress, Vimeo, Pinterest, Kickstarter, Crowdfunding, Amazon Video Direct & Amazon Prime Video

Activities

- Staged at Chez Panisse Restaurant, Berkeley, CA—birthplace of the farm-to-table movement
- Mentor & Teacher for student filmmakers
- Public Speaker: experience speaking before audiences of a half-dozen to 1,000s of people
- Culinary tour guide, Avital Tours: SF, LA & NYC
- Recipient of UCLA International Center's Outstanding Domestic Student Award—their highest honor, given to the best US Mentor out of 400 domestic hosts to international students
- Musician: Tuba, Flute, Alto Sax & Baritone Sax; UCLA Marching & Varsity Band Alumni
- Produced first feature-length food documentary film in high school

Awards



Film work has earned over 45 international film festival selections, nominations and awards.

See detailed list on Instagram [@tastewithkevin](https://www.instagram.com/tastewithkevin)