Derrick Sims

Raised in the rural American south, a childhood love for making movies followed me to university where an IMAX proprietor discovered one of my short films. My film showed it before the IMAX revival screenings of Ang Lee's *Ride With the Devil,* & in turn, a full-time life of filmmaking began.

Features came calling in 2006, and I soon shifted to Los Angeles. The writer/director bug bit in 2011 with the feature film *Come Morning* and later with 2016's *The Perfect Host: A Southern Gothic Tale*. Post production on *Host* brought me to New Zealand, the place I've called home for over a decade.

Select Filmography

2026	*The Pact*	Feature	Co-DP / CamOp	Sony FX6 + G Series Zooms
	Songs for Severed Heads	Short	DP / Colourist	RED Dragon + Blazar Catos
	Whanganui Collegiate Rowing	Advert	DP / CamOp	RED Dragon + Sigma Aizu Primes
	Te Wake Wairua o Kurahaupō	Feature	DP / CamOp	RED Dragon + Zeiss Super Speeds
2025	*Little Spoon: The Extra Mile*	Advert (USA/NZ)	Director / CamOp / DroneOp	Sony FX9 + G Series & IRIX Lenses
	Untitled Tim Curry Project	Feature	DP / CamOp (NZ Unit)	RED Dragon + Samyang Cine Primes
	A Dog's Show	Feature	CamOp (VFX Unit)	RED Dragon + Canon Cine Primes
	Undisclosed Willem Dafoe Project	Feature	DP / CamOp / DroneOp	Sony FX6
	Shadow of the Deathbird	Television	Director / DP / CamOp / DroneOp	RED Dragon + Zeiss Ultra Primes
	Out There in Hustler Country	Advert x15	Director / DP / DroneOp / Editor / Colourist	RED Dragon + Zeiss CP.3
	Nga Tawa	Advert	Director / DP/ DroneOp / Editor / Colourist	RED Dragon + Samyang Cine Primes
2024	*Aaradhna: Sweet Surrender*	Promo	DP	RED Dragon + Zeiss Super Speeds
	Zeffer Cider / HamiltonJet / Würth / Lineage	Advert x5	Director / DP / CamOp / Editor	RED Dragon + Zeiss CP.3 Primes
	RE: News / Ohinga	Television x5eps	DP / CamOp / Director	RED Epic + Samyang Cine Primes
	Inhale | Exhale by Vincent Ward	Art Film	Editor	
	NFT: Cursed Images	Feature (UK)	Editor / Colourist	
	Through a Glass, Lightly	Short	Producer / Director / DP / Editor / Colourist	RED Dragon + Samyang Cine Primes
	Kea Kids	Television x30eps	CamOp	Sony FX6 + G Series Zooms
2023	*Water Horse*	Feature (AU)	Colourist	
	1978	Feature	First Assistant Camera (pickups)	RED Dragon + Zeiss ZF.2
	Juicy Fest	Event	CamOp	Sony HDC 5500 + Fujinon Zooms
2022	*Q+A with Jack Tame*	Television	CamOp	Sony FS700 + E Series Lenses
	All Out	Music Video	Director / DP / Editor	BM Ursa Mini 4.6k + Sigma Primes
2021	*Gravel and Tar*	Event	CamOp (Lead Car)	BM Ursa Mini 4.6k + EOS Zooms
	The Invisible Woman	Short	Producer / Director / DP / Editor	BM Ursa Mini 4.6k + EOS Zooms
2019	*The Reapers*	Short	Director / DP / Editor / Colourist	Canon C200 + Canon Primes
	7 Days	Television	CamOp	Sony ENG + Fujinon Zoom
2018	*The Perfect Host: A Southern Gothic Tale*	Feature	Producer / Director / Writer / Editor / Colourist	ARRI Alexa + Zeiss Standards
2017	*UCOL : BCM*	Advert	Director / DP / Editor	BM Ursa Mini + Canon Cine Primes
	Small Blacks TV	Television	CamOp	Sony FS5
2016	*The Remains*	Feature	DP / Colour Consultant	RED Epic M + ARRI Alura Zooms
	Dayspring by Hallmark	Advert	DP / Editor / Colourist	RED Dragon + Zeiss Contax
2015	*Walmart Pay*	Advert (National)	DP / Editor / Colourist	RED Dragon + Zeiss Contax
	Classroom 6	Feature	DP	Nikon D4 + Nikkor Primes
	Little Sparks	Television	Co-Writer / DP / Editor / Colourist (6 Eps)	ARRI Amira + Fujinon Zooms
	Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art	Advert x2	DP	GH4 + Botlink Octocopter
	Reunion	Feature	DP	RED Epic + Zeiss Super Speeds
2014	*The Professor* by Walmart	Promo	DP / Editor	ARRI Amira + Fujinon Zooms
	Preying for Mercy (dir. by Bill Duke)	TV Feature	CamOp (A Cam)	Panasonic AF100 + Zeiss ZF
2013	*The 37*	Feature	CamOp	Sony FS700 + Sony Primes
	A Christmas Wedding	Feature	DP	RED Scarlet + Zeiss ZF
	University of Arkansas	Corporate/Ad	DP / Editor / Colourist	Canon C100 + Canon Zooms
2012	*Come Morning*	Feature	Director / Writer / DP / Editor / Colourist	RED One + Cooke S4s
	Making Light in Terezin	Feature (CZ)	DP / Co-Editor / Co-Colourist	Canon 5DmkII + Canon Lenses
2010	*Late Bloomer*	Feature	DP / Editor / Colourist	Panasonic HVX200
2009	*The River Within*	Feature	DP / Editor / Colourist	Panasonic Varicam + Fujinon ZA22
2007	*War Eagle*	Feature	CamOp	

Honours + Awards

Official Selection (2025)	Doc Edge
Silver | Documentary + Factual Series (2024)	NZ Cinematographers Society
Best Cinematography + Best Editing (2024)	Top of the South Film Festival
Official Selection (2022/23/24)	Wairarapa Film Festival
Wellington City Finalist x2 (2019/2021)	Vista 48hrs NZ
Telly Award x3 (USA) (2015/16)	Harps Heroes, Harps Holiday
American Cinematographer	Aug. '13 "Wild Horses" w/ Bob Richardson
Best of Fest (2014)	Charles B. Pierce Film Festival
Official Selection (2014)	Dances With Films | Los Angeles
Official Selection (2013)	White Sands Film Festival
Jury Prize - Best Cinematography (2013)	Oxford Film Festival
Official Selection (2012)	Austin Film Festival

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