

# MAKE PEACE OR DIE



# MEDIA KIT

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## **ABOUT THE FILM**

### **LOGLINE**

**A MARINE CORPS VETERAN MAKES IT HIS MISSION TO HELP GOLD STAR FAMILIES OF THE FALLEN, AND FIND HEALING HIMSELF.**

### **GENRE**

**DOCUMENTARY**

## **ABOUT THE FILM**

### **RUNTIME**

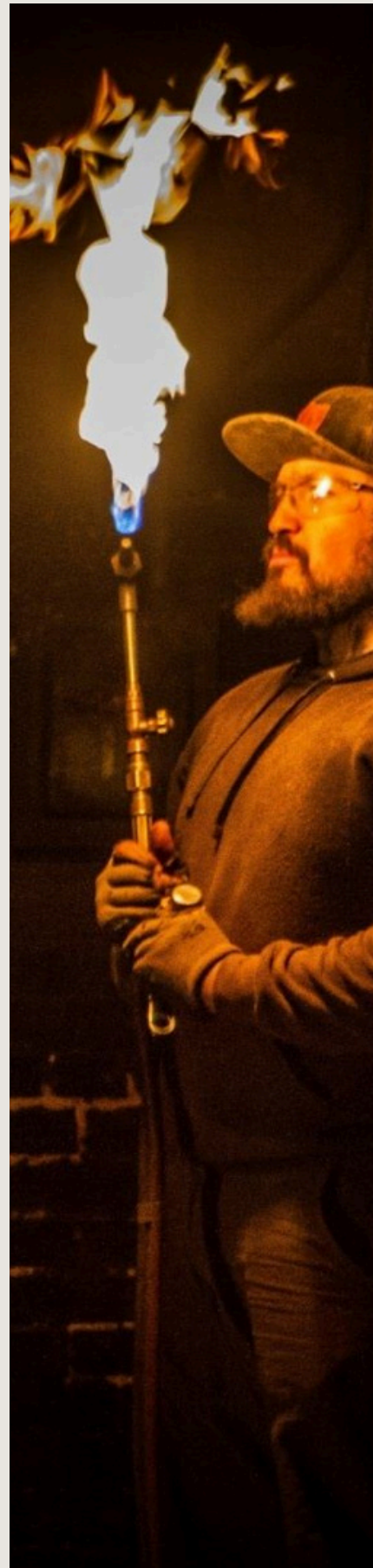
**1 HOUR 25 MINUTES**

### **DIRECTOR**

**MANNY MARQUEZ**

### **SUBJECT MATTERS**

**VETERANS, WAR, MENTAL HEALTH**



# SYNOPSIS

FROM THE TIME THAT HE WAS A SMALL CHILD, ANTHONY MARQUEZ KNEW HE WANTED TO JOIN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS. HE FULFILLED THAT DREAM, AND IN 2011, WAS SENT TO THE SWELTERING SANDS OF THE SANGIN VALLEY, AFGHANISTAN.

HIS UNIT ULTIMATELY LOST 17 MARINES WHILE DEPLOYED.

ANTHONY RETURNED TO THE STATES, AND SOON BACK TO CIVILIAN LIFE. ALTHOUGH HOME, NOTHING WOULD EVER BE THE SAME. THE FACES OF THE MEN THAT DIED HAUNTED ANTHONY. THE HURT THEIR FAMILIES FELT TUGGED AT HIS OWN HEART. WHY WAS HE ALLOWED TO COME HOME, TO LIVE ON, BUT THOSE 17 MEN HAD TO DIE?

HOW COULD HE MEMORIALIZE THE 17?



# SYNOPSIS

THAT IS WHEN ANTHONY HAD THE IDEA TO CARVE WITH HIS CHAINSAW A “BATTLEFIELD CROSS,” FOR EVERY GOLD STAR FAMILY FROM HIS UNIT AFFECTED BY LOSS. HE WOULD THEN HAND DELIVER EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE CARVINGS TO THE FAMILY, A JOURNEY THAT WOULD TAKE NEARLY THREE YEARS. THIS BECAME ANTHONY’S NEW MISSION AS A MARINE: TO HONOR THE FALLEN.

IN THE FALL OF 2021, ANTHONY SET OUT ON THE ROAD ONCE AGAIN. THAT BEING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIT’S DEPLOYMENT, HE REVISITED ALL 17 FAMILIES THAT RECEIVED A CARVING. ALONG THE WAY, HE ALSO TOUCHED BASE WITH MARINES THAT MADE IT HOME, LIKE HE DID, AND RECOUNTED THEIR JOURNEY TOGETHER.

DOING THE CARVINGS, AND MEETING WITH ALL THE FAMILIES HAS HELPED ANTHONY ON HIS PATH TO HEALING AS HE HAS HELPED THE GOLD STAR FAMILIES HEAL. THE MISSION TO REMEMBER THE FALLEN WILL NEVER END.



# ANTHONY MARQUEZ: PRODUCER

ANTHONY SERVED IN THE UNITED STATE MARINE CORPS FROM 2007 - 2012.

HIS LAST DEPLOYMENT WAS TO SANGIN, AFGHANISTAN IN 2011. DURING THAT TIME IN SANGIN, HIS UNIT, 1ST BATTALION 5TH MARINES, SUFFERED GREAT LOSSES ENDURING OVER 190 WIA. ALONG WITH THE WOUNDED, 17 MARINES BROTHERS WERE KILLED ON THE BATTLEFIELD. THEY ARE THE XVII THAT THIS FILM IS ABOUT.

ANTHONY'S FAMILIARITY WITH THE 17 FAMILIES AND CLOSENESS TO THE STORY MADE HIM THE PERFECT PRODUCER FOR OUR FILM. HE IS ALSO OUR PROTAGONIST, AND WE FOLLOW HIM ON THE PAINFUL JOURNEY OF REMEMBERING THE FALLEN.



# BEN LEISER: PRODUCER

**BEN LEISER HAS BEEN BEHIND THE SCENES PRODUCING MEDIA IN COMMERCIALS & FILMS IN LOS ANGELES AND AROUND THE GLOBE, FOR ALMOST THREE DECADES.**

**RAISED IN A SMALL RURAL ILLINOIS TOWN OUTSIDE CHICAGO, BEN WAS FROM THE SINGULAR JEWISH FAMILY IN THE AREA WHO STARTED THE LOCAL MERCANTILE STORE (LATER FURNITURE) IN THE 1800'S THAT STILL OPERATES TODAY. AS A YOUNG ADULT HE WENT TO WORK AT THE MERCANTILE EXCHANGE IN CHICAGO BEFORE HEADING TO CALIFORNIA WHERE HE EVENTUALLY MET MANNY MARQUEZ AND HIS FUTURE CAREER IN PRODUCING. THIS LAUNCHED A HISTORY OF PROJECTS SPANNING ADVERTISING, TELEVISION, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND FILM. IN 2014 BEN AND MANNY RELEASED THEIR FIRST DOCUMENTARY PSYCHOPATH, ABOUT A GROUP OF UNLIKELY MISFITS BUILDING A HAUNTED ATTRACTION IN RURAL OKLAHOMA. IT WAS DURING THE FILMING OF THAT DOCUMENTARY THAT BEN ALSO FORMED A LASTING RELATIONSHIP WITH ANTHONY, YEARS BEFORE ANTHONY'S FIRST DEPLOYMENT. BEN REJOINS MANNY AND THE TEAM TO TELL A MUCH DIFFERENT STORY.**



# MANNY MARQUEZ: DIRECTOR



MANNY GREW UP IN OKLAHOMA, AND IS OF MEXICAN & NATIVE AMERICAN (CHOCTAW) DECENT. HIS PARENTS WERE SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS. THEIR DEDICATION AND WORK ETHIC, COMBINED WITH HIS FAITH AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND, ARE ALL ELEMENTS MANNY HAS BROUGHT TO HIS FILMMAKING.

HE STUDIED FILM AT THE ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN. IT WAS HERE MANNY DEEPENED HIS LOVE FOR CINEMA, AND WAS CONVINCED THAT EVERY DAY PEOPLE WITH A STORY TO TELL IS WHERE HE NEEDED TO TRAIN HIS CAMERA.

MANNY NOW LIVES IN TULSA, OK WITH HIS WIFE AND SIX CHILDREN. HE DIRECTS SHORT-FORM DOCUMENTARIES FOR AN ARRAY OF CLIENTS RANGING FROM PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES, FINANCIAL FIRMS, BREWERIES, AND BEYOND. HE ALSO DIRECTS BROADCAST COMMERCIALS AND MUSIC VIDEOS. HIS FEATURE FILM PSYCHOPATH WAS RELEASED IN 2014, AND HIS AWARD WINNING SHORT FILM OPERATION ALLIE WAS RUNNER UP AT THE 2018 BIG SKY DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL, AND SELECTED FOR THE THE GI FILM FESTIVAL SAN DIEGO. *MAKE PEACE OR DIE: HONOR THE FALLEN* IS HIS SECOND FEATURE FILM.



# PRESS PHOTOS



*ANTHONY MARQUEZ WORKING ON A BATTLEFIELD CROSS TO  
FOR A GOLD STAR FAMILY.*



*ANTHONY MARQUEZ WORKING IN A HISTORIC WAREHOUSE IN  
DOWNTOWN TULSA, OK.*

# PRESS PHOTOS



*ANTHONY MARQUEZ AT THE GRAVE OF LCPL. ROBERT GRENIGER, FORT SNELLING NATIONAL CEMETERY, MN.*



*MARINES GATHERED ATOP FIRST SGT'S HILL, CAMP PENDLETON, CA*

# PRESS PHOTOS



*ACTIVE DUTY MARINES FROM THE 1ST BATTALION, 5TH MARINES, CARRY A BATTLEFIELD CROSS FROM 1ST SGT'S HILL WITH ANTHONY MARQUEZ.*



*A MARINE STANDS AT THE SUMMIT OF 1ST SGT'S HILL, CAMP PENDLETON, CA.*

# TRAILER

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# AWARDS & FESTIVALS



**BEST FEATURE DOCUMENTARY - CIRCLE CINEMA FILM FESTIVAL**

**VETERAN'S VOICE AWARD - GI FILM FESTIVAL SAN DIEGO**

## **CONTACT**

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**FOR FILM INQUIRIES,**

**CONTACT:**

**MANNY MARQUEZ**

**XVII FILMS, LLC**

**[XVIICARVINGSFILM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:XVIICARVINGSFILM@GMAIL.COM)**

## **CONNECT**

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