

THE DSLR FILMMAKER'S HANDBOOK

2nd Edition

Real-World Production Techniques

Barry Andersson

 **SYBEX**
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Real-World Production Techniques

Second Edition

Barry Andersson

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Dedication

To my kids, who put up with me, inspire me, challenge me, and make me laugh every day. I love you both more than you will ever know.

Acknowledgments

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Lastly, I have to thank my great friend and DSLR video champion Mitch Aunger and his website Planet5D.com. It is the must-read blog and information resource on the Web. Bookmark the site and visit it often.

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Happenstance Type-O-Rama. I also want to thank the technical editor on this edition, Robert Correll.

About the Author

Barry Andersson is an award-winning independent filmmaker and trainer. His career started with live television video production, ranging from international live interactive broadcasts to live sporting event production. About the same time Andersson started in video production, he also started to produce and direct 35 mm motion-picture short films. Working with everything from 1/2", 3/4", Beta, and high-definition video to 8 mm, 16 mm, and 35 mm motion-picture film, he has knowledge of both the video and traditional film workflows. Early in his career he shot over 100 weddings and since then has directed several award-winning short films, several television pilots, episodic television, numerous commercials, and one of the first DSLR feature films. Mr. Andersson's client list includes ESPN, PBS, Discovery Channel, NBA, Disney, Skype, and Samsung Electronics, to name a few.

Follow Barry Andersson:

Instagram: @barryandersson

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Introduction

This book is a culmination of untold long hours fiddling with cameras and trying to get a shot to work on a variety of DSLR cameras. Since the first edition, these methods have been honed and battle tested over the course of close to 100 productions ranging from low-budget to Fortune 100 companies.

The transition from shooting with film or standard video to working with a DSLR is an exciting and daunting prospect. It is a combination of technological knowledge and a lot of trial and error. This arena is constantly changing as innovations are added or new cameras enter the market. However, we are at a point where there is a DSLR core knowledge base that will provide a foundation for any project. Currently, most DSLR knowledge comes from word of mouth or from “some blog or forum that I once read.” Tips and disinformation are given equal footing, and ultimately everyone is stuck holding a camera on the first day of shooting wondering whether the information that they have been gleaning in bits and pieces is actually going to work. This book cuts to the chase; if it’s in here, it’s going to work. This book attempts to cram that core knowledge of DSLR video into one volume.

It offers information on every subject that you need to be aware of to shoot a DSLR project. This book addresses the practicalities that a filmmaker needs to know to actually be able to complete a DSLR project or that a videographer needs for a shoot. You will find out how to pick gear, set up the gear, and choose and manipulate lenses and various tools to improve your shooting. As you plan all aspects of your shoot, the book will give you direction to ensure that you have your bases covered. Whether you have never