

Tanya Brunel

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Tanya Brunel, Métis from Red River region in Manitoba, has been developing and producing motion picture, television and digital media content with a focus on Indigenous stories since 2001.

Tanya started as a Production Manager and Line Producer on multiple documentary series and in the fall of 2005 she produced her first dramatic feature film entitled *Mr. Soul* about a serial killer who preyed on Native women. Prior to that Tanya produced 4 seasons of *Cool Jobs*, a youth series which sought to demystify the workforce for Indigenous youth - and won a Blizzard award in 2000 for Best Children's Program at the Manitoba Motion Picture Industries Association biannual awards.

While continuing as a Line Producer on numerous documentaries, in 2007 Tanya also took a position as the Performing Arts Program Coordinator at the Manitoba Arts Network, the provincial programming body representing community arts councils with a mission to foster arts and culture in rural and northern Manitoba. She increased community presenter participation in the North, increased Indigenous participation from performers and community presenters, and implemented an electronic block booking before leaving the organization in 2009 to concentrate full time on her growing family.

In 2015 Tanya returned to developing and producing content for motion picture, television and digital media industries with the multiple award winning films *Juliana & The Medicine Fish* and *The Corruption of Divine Providence*. Tanya recently produced a 6 part premium drama series *LITTLE BIRD* created by Jennifer Podemski and Hannah Moscovitch for Crave and APTN, winner of the 2024 Canadian Screen Award for Best Drama Series.

An alumni of Trans-Atlantic Partners, Producers Without Borders, Banff Diversity of Voices Initiative, and Banff Spark Accelerator for Women in the Business of Media; Tanya was a Program Manager for the National Screen Institute 2022 Telus Storyhive Indigenous Storyteller Edition and current board member of the Reelworld Screen Institute. Tanya was twice nominated for the Canadian Media Producers Association (CMPA) Established Producer Indiescreen Award (2020, 2023) for her work as a Producer.

SELECTED FILM & TELEVISION PRODUCTION CREDITS

PRODUCER

White Bear Films

MANY WOUNDS (2024)

An Ojibway teen learns to be a warrior so he may protect his family.
Inspired by the New Zealand film *Once Were Warriors*
(Feature Film x 90min.)

****currently in postproduction****

- Super Channel, Hollywood Suite

PRODUCER

Flying Up Moon Inc.

DUSK & DAWN (2022)

Twin flames Dusk and Dawn rekindle their love on grad night, and along with their wallflower crew they evade the past, discrimination, and the town cop who is determined to throw them in the drunk tank.

(Feature Film x 90min.)

****currently in postproduction****

- CBC, APTN

PRODUCER
CO-WRITER
White Bear Films Inc.
Vigilance Productions Inc.

THE COVER UP (2022)

The Indigenous community seeks truth and justice for those crimes committed at residential schools. The majority of perpetrators -priests and nuns- went free and died without confessing their sins. The Cover Up seeks to identify some of the still living predators in an attempt to understand why men and women of the cloth who made solemn vows to live by Christian virtue chose not to.

(Feature Documentary x 90min.)

****currently in postproduction****

- TVO, APTN, Knowledge Network, Hollywood Suite

PRODUCER
OP Little Bird Inc.
Rezolution Pictures Inc.

LITTLE BIRD (2022)

A multigenerational family saga exposing the devastating impact and repercussions of the 60's Scoop through the lens of one Indigenous family; examining both the depth of their trauma and the remarkable power of their resilience. (Limited Series 6 x 60min.)

- Crave, APTN, Fremantle
- Official selection, International Panorama, Series Mania 2023 *winner Audience Choice Award
- 2023 MIPCOM Diversify TV Awards winner Race & Ethnicity Scripted
- 2023 DGC Awards Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Dramatic Series: Elle-Maija Tailfeathers
- 2023 Playback Show of the Year
- 2023 WGC Awards: Zoe Hopkins
- Nominated 19 Canadian Screen Awards *winner Best Drama Series, Best Direction Drama Series (Elle-Maija Tailfeathers), Best Photography Drama (Claudine Sauve), Best Picture Editing Drama (Maxime Lahaie-Denis), Best Sound Fiction, Best Production Design Fiction, Best Costume Design (Charity Gadica), Best Achievement in Makeup (Nina McArthur), Best Achievement in Hair (Pina Robinson), Best Lead Performer Drama Series (Darla Contois), Best Supporting Performer Drama (Braeden Clarke), Best Ensemble Performance Drama, Best Achievement in Casting Fiction,

PRODUCER
Rezolution Pictures Inc.
Logical Mayhem Inc.

COMING HOME WANNA ICIPUS KUPI (2022)

Coming Home explores Indigenous resilience, the reclamation of Indigenous narrative sovereignty, and the impacts of the Sixties Scoop; as experienced through the *Little Bird* series' Indigenous creatives, cast, crew, and community members.

(Documentary 1 x 88min.)

- APTN, Crave, Fremantle
- Winner 2024 Canadian Screen Awards Donald Brittain Best Social/Political Documentary

PRODUCTION ACCOUNTANT
Scream Squad Films Inc.
NBC/Universal

BRING IT ON: HALLOWEEN (2021)

Line Producer: Eve Wowchuk

PRODUCER

White Bear Films Inc.

Co-producer: Maynard Kraak
West Five Films

SH Aidan (2020)

A joint task-force of Special Forces Operatives is dropped in to war-torn West Africa on a hostage rescue mission, the op goes horribly wrong when they come face-to-face with an ancient creature thought only to exist in myths and legends. (Feature x 90min.)

International Treaty Co-production with South Africa.

****currently in pre-production****

- Film Option International, Hollywood Suite

PRODUCER

White Bear Films Inc.

Co-producer: Benjamin Hayden,
Manifold Pictures Inc.

THE FIRST ENCOUNTER (2019)

When forces from the other side of an alternate universe begin to seek for a young Métis woman, she must choose to stay in her small-town life or return to the dimension she is truly from. (Feature x 100min.)
Interprovincial co-production with Alberta. ****currently in post-production****

- Hollywood Suite

PRODUCER

High Definition Pictures Inc.

THE CORRUPTION OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE (2017)

When a sixteen year old stigmatic Métis girl is kidnapped from a small French Canadian town 3 different religious factions vie for control over her upon her eventual return. (Feature x 100min.)

- APTN, Hollywood Suite, Film Option International, Vortex (A71)
- Official Selection 2020 Reelworld Film Festival, Nominated Best Picture
- Official Selection 2020 Whistler Film Festival, nominated Borsos Award for Best Canadian Feature, Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Performance, Best Cinematography
- Official Selection 2021 Garden State Film Festival Winner Best International Narrative Feature
- 2021 Frostbite International Indie Fest March Winner Best Feature Film, Best Female Actor (Elyse Levesque), Best Male Actor (David LaHaye)
- Official Selection 2021 Bare Bones International Film Festival, Nominated Best Foreign Origin Feature Film
- Official Selection 2021 Nice International Film Festival, Winner Best Editing, Nominated Best Feature Film, Best Hair Makeup Body Design, Best Editing, Best Supporting Actor (Paul Amos), Best Lead Actor (David LaHaye), Best Feature Film.
- Official Selection 2021 Deep Focus Film Festival, Honorable Mention
- Official Selection 2021 Medellin International Film Festival, 2021 Canadian Film Fest, 2021 Julien Dubuque International Film Festival, 2021 Gimli Film Festival, 2021 Native Spirit Film Festival, 2021 SciFi Film Festival
- Official Selection 2021 American Indian Film Festival, Nominated Best Director (Jeremy Torrie), Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress (Tantoo Cardinal)
- Official Selection 2021 LA Skins Fest
- Official Selection 2021 Buffalo Dreams Film Festival, Winner Outstanding Male Performance (David LaHaye), Nominated Outstanding Screenplay (Jeremy Torrie), Outstanding Director (Jeremy Torrie), Outstanding Female Performance (Elyse Levesque and Ali Skovbye), Outstanding Horror Feature
- Official Selection 2022 Esoteric Film Festival, Winner Best Feature Film (Director Jeremy Torrie)
- Official Selection 2021 Huntington Beach Cultural Cinema Showcase, Award of Distinction

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
High Definition Pictures Inc.

JULIANA & THE MEDICINE FISH (2016)

12 year old Juliana attempts to save the family business by entering a high stakes fishing tournament. (Feature x 100min.)

- APTN, CBC, Hollywood Suite
- Official Selection, 2020 Florence Film Awards, Honourable Mention Director Jeremy Torrie
- Official Selection 2020 Art Color Digital Cinema International Film Festival, Winner Best Feature Film
- Official Selection 24th Red Nation International Film Festival 2019, Nominated for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress
- Official Selection Kids First! Film Festival 2019
- Official Selection ImagineNative Film Festival 2017
- Official Selection American Indian Film Festival 2017, Nominated Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actress

LINE PRODUCER
PRODUCTION ACCOUNTANT
High Definition Pictures Inc.

THE PSYCHOPATH NEXT DOOR (2014)

Most of us think of the psychopath as a serial killer -but most psychopaths are not physically violent criminals - they live among us undetected. Charming, manipulative and ruthless, these are the “snakes in suits” who don’t rob the bank, but instead become a director of it. (Documentary x 60min.)

- CBC
- Highest rated DocZone since 2011
- Aftermath Foundation 2015 Media Award Recipient

PRODUCER
High Definition Pictures Inc.

PATH OF SOULS (2012)

How far would you go for love? A woman tracks her dead husband into the afterlife and travels the treacherous Path of Souls into the Underworld of the Dead. (Feature film x 100min.)

- Superchannel, APTN
- Winner: Best Picture at the Cowichan International Aboriginal Film Festival;
- Winner: Best Director at the 37th Annual American Indian Film Festival;
- Best Director Award at the Winnipeg Aboriginal Film Festival;
- Official selection in 20 film festivals;
- Selected to Perspective Canada at Cannes and Berlin.

PRODUCER
High Definition Pictures Inc.

FLESH OFFERING (2008)

A young artist who devotes her life to keeping the world in harmony between the forces of good and evil. (Feature film x 90min.)

Co-producer: Anne-Marie Gelinas,
6893619 Canada Inc.

- Film Option, Emerging Pictures, Superchannel
- Winner: Best Director at the 35th American Indian Film Festival

PRODUCER
LINE PRODUCER/PRODUCTION
MANAGER
High Definition Pictures Inc.

THE SPIRIT OF STOLEN SISTERS (2008)

A personal documentary about how witnessing his mother suffer through domestic violence led filmmaker Jeremy Torrie to writing and directing a film about violence against women. (Documentary x 40min.)

- APTN

PRODUCER
Medicine Fish Films Inc.
High Definition Pictures Inc.

JULIANA AND THE MEDICINE FISH Pilot (2007)

Drama pilot about 12 year old Juliana and her quest to save the family business by entering a high stakes fishing tournament. (Pilot x 40min.)

- APTN

PRODUCER
PRODUCTION MANAGER
Just Another Indian Productions Inc.
High Definition Pictures Inc.

SUPERVISING PRODUCER
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
First Voice Multimedia

PRODUCER
PRODUCTION MANAGER
PRODUCTION ACCOUNTANT
High Definition Pictures Inc.

PRODUCER
PRODUCTION ACCOUNTANT
OFFLINE EDITOR
High Definition Pictures Inc.

LINE PRODUCER
PRODUCTION ACCOUNTANT
High Definition Pictures Inc.

LINE PRODUCER
PRODUCTION ACCOUNTANT
High Definition Pictures Inc.

PRODUCER
WRITER, DIRECTOR
PRODUCTION MANAGER,
ACCOUNTANT
Cool Jobs Inc.

MR. SOUL (2005)

Low budget Feature about a serial killer who preyed on native women and how ultimately the dead are not powerless.

- APTN

LA VOIX DES MECHIFS: Season 2 (2005)

13 part, half-hour documentary series exploring Métis communities across the prairies. Produced in English, French and Mechif

- Coordinated schedules of all crew, arranged shooting schedule, arranged postproduction edit schedule, offline editor for select episodes.
- Broadcast on APTN, SCN

THE JERK STORE Pilot (2004)

Sketch comedy series pilot starring Paul Rabliauskas

MANITOBA MOMENTS: CINDY KLASSEN (2004)

Half hour documentary about world champion speed skater Cindy Klassen.

- Prepared budget; dealt with various funders (Canadian Television Fund, Telefilm, MB Film & Sound); dealt with insurers and lawyers re: E&O insurance; hired crew; supervised all production expenditures
- Assembled rough cut
- Broadcast on CTV/CKY

MANITOBA MOMENTS: EXILES ON MAIN STREET (2004)

Half hour documentary about two aboriginal people making a difference in Winnipeg.

- Secured all stock footage and negotiated rights, dealt with insurers and lawyers re: E&O insurance, dealt with various funders; I also performed the duties of Production Accountant preparing the budget and supervising all production expenditures
- Broadcast on CTV/CKY

TAKIN' CARE OF BUSINESS: THE LIFE & TIMES OF RANDY BACHMAN (2004)

Documentary about Randy Bachman; singer, songwriter, a rock n' roll legend. (Documentary x 40 min.)

- Prepared budget; hired key creative and crew; secured all stock footage and dealt with insurers and lawyers re: E&O insurance; negotiated music rights and contracts; supervised all production expenditures
- CBC

COOL JOBS: Seasons 1 – 4 (2000-2005)

43 part, half-hour youth series that demystifies the workforce for youth through informative interviews, comedic animations, cool info and an interactive website

- Facilitated training program in conjunction with the Aboriginal Broadcast Training Initiative and the Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development.
- Broadcast on APTN and distributed by McIntyre Media
- Recipient of the 2001 Blizzard Award for Best Children's Programming

LINE PRODUCER High Definition Pictures Inc.	HONDA ELEMENT NORAM SNOWBOARD SERIES (2003) 4 part, half-hour sports series that follows Canadian snowboarders through the various NORAM events (Documentary Series x 120min.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Broadcast on Global Extreme
PRODUCER'S ASSISTANT High Definition Pictures Inc. / The Film Works Ltd.	COWBOYS & INDIANS: THE KILLING OF J.J. HARPER (2003) MOW depicting the events surrounding the “accidental” shooting of a prominent Aboriginal leader by a member of the local police force. (MOW x 90 min.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Broadcast on APTN and CBC
POSTPRODUCTION COORDINATOR First Voice Multimedia	LA VOIX DES MECHIFS: Season 1 (2002) 13 part, half-hour documentary series exploring Métis culture, dance, music, cuisine, education and history. Produced in English, French and Mechif <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Set up tape database; logged footage for editors; dubbed masters to various formats; coordinated schedules/training of postproduction assistants ▪ Broadcast on APTN
DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT Les Productions Rivard Inc.	WORLD'S APART...JOINING TOGETHER (2002) Feature length Documentary that explores the relationship between the Inuit of Canada and the Mayans of Belize as they work together to maintain cultural diversity in their respective environments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assisted the Director throughout postproduction ▪ Broadcast on APTN, SCN and Vision
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER I.C.E. Productions Ltd.	POWWOW TRAIL (2000-2001) 11 part documentary series exploring the tradition surrounding Native American powwows. TRT 11 hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Broadcast on APTN; acquired by PBS; distributed by Arbor Records
DIRECTOR Craig Broadcast Systems May 1997 – June 2000	M.T.N. NEWS / A-CHANNEL MANITOBA NEWS (now City TV) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directed and Switched the daily noon hour program “Manitoba@Midday”, the 6:00 and 10:00 newscasts and occasional weekend newscasts

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / AFFILIATIONS / AWARDS

Member of Canada Media Producers Association (CMPA) and OnScreen Manitoba (OSM)

Program Manager – National Screen Institute 2022 Telus Storyhive Indigenous Storyteller Edition

Board Member – Reelworld Screen Institute

Consultant – Shine Network & National Screen Institute PACT (Pledge – Activate – Cultivate – Thrive) online course designed to provide non-Indigenous people in the film and television sector with cultural humility and competency training to prepare them for working with Indigenous productions and content.

2023 CMPA Indiescreen Awards – Established Producer Award Nominee

2020 CMPA Indiescreen Awards – Established Producer Award Nominee

2020	BANFF DIVERSITY OF VOICES INITIATIVE ▪ Banff World Media Festival 2020	Banff, AB
2020	BANFF SPARK ACCELERATOR FOR WOMEN IN THE BUSINESS OF MEDIA ▪ Banff World Media Festival 2020	Banff, AB
2018	BANFF DIVERSITY OF VOICES INITIATIVE ▪ Banff World Media Festival 2018	Banff, AB
2017	ERICH POMMER INSTITUTE ▪ Trans Atlantic Partners 2017	Berlin, Germany / Halifax, NS
2005	NATIONAL SCREEN INSTITUTE / TELEFILM CANADA ▪ Spark Plug Program	Toronto, ON
2003	MB MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION (MMPIA) ▪ Los Angeles Media Exchange	Winnipeg, MB Los Angeles, CA
2003	NATIONAL SCREEN INSTITUTE ▪ Global Marketing Program Stream 1	Winnipeg, MB Toronto, ON
2000 - 2001	FILM TRAINING MANITOBA ▪ Production Accounting with Vista Software ▪ Set Etiquette and Protocol Workshop ▪ Creative Financing ▪ Script Breakdown Workshop	Winnipeg, MB
1996 – 1997	ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ▪ Certificate, Media Production	Brandon, MB